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The Malthus Factor: Poverty, Politics and Population in ...

The Malthus Factor: Poverty, Politics and Population in Capitalist Development. Eric Ross. New York: Zed Books, 1998.264 pp.

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The Malthus factor: population, poverty, and politics in capitalist development. The Malthus factor. : Eric B. Ross. Zed Books, 1998 - Business & Economics - 264 pages. 0 Reviews. This book represents a major critique of the way Malthusian thinking has influenced capitalist development policy in the modern period, as well as in the past.

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The Malthus Factor is packed with detailed examples of how wide-ranging Malthus' impact on society has been, from discussions of the connections between the Green Revolution's fertilizer requirements and linkages between munitions industries and fertilizer industries, to links between the rise of the American Eugenics movement and the historical demise of American midwifery, to the roles of the Rockefeller and Ford Foundations in funding the Eugenics movement.

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In the First Edition of his Essay (1798) Malthus reasoned that the constant threat of poverty and starvation served to teach the virtues of hard work and virtuous behaviour. " Had population and food increased in the same ratio, it is probable that man might never have emerged from the savage state," [15] he wrote, adding further, "Evil exists in the world not to create despair, but activity."

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[An Essay on the Principle of Population - Wikipedia](#)

Malthusianism is the idea that population growth is potentially exponential while the growth of the food supply or other resources is linear. It derives from the political and economic thought of the Reverend Thomas Robert Malthus, as laid out in his 1798 writings, *An Essay on the Principle of Population*. Malthus believed there were two types of ever-present "checks" that are continuously at work, limiting population growth based on food supply at any given time: preventive checks, such as moral

[Malthusianism - Wikipedia](#)

Throughout these years of political upheaval, Madagascar's social and economic growth became severely damaged. Discriminatory Laws. Racial, gender and ethnic discrimination are directly related to how politics affects poverty in some countries of the world and it needs to be addressed if it is to successfully decrease inequality and poverty.

[How Politics Affect Poverty | The Borgen Project](#)

The goal of Thomas Malthus, the 19th century originator of a theory about population, was to absolve the state and wealthier segments of society from responsibility for poverty. The briefing explores the theory's subsequent uses in eugenic, anti-immigration, environmental, Cold War and Green Revolution

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interests.

The Malthus Factor | The Corner House

Finally, the book examines how the political economy of underdevelopment is currently being obscured by alarm over the environmental impact of over-population, and how such Malthusian concerns represent the poor, not as victims of capitalist development, but as perpetrators of environmental destruction. Author Bio.

The Malthus Factor

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John Smith's - Malthus Factor, The: Poverty, Politics and ...

Malthus offers a political theory of poverty that rests on two principles: firstly, that poverty is originated by the poor themselves (that is, via their reproductive behaviour) and, secondly, that only external pressures on the poor can correct any

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imbalance between population and resources, namely moral pressure (sexual restraint) or violent circumstances (famine or war).

Book: The Malthus Factor

The Malthus Factor is packed with detailed examples of how wide-ranging Malthus' impact on society has been, from discussions of the connections between the Green Revolution's fertilizer requirements and linkages between munitions industries and fertilizer industries, to links between the rise of the American Eugenics movement and the historical demise of American midwifery, to the roles of the Rockefeller and Ford Foundations in funding the Eugenics movement.

This book represents a major critique of the way Malthusian thinking has influenced capitalist development policy in the modern period, as well as in the past. Taking an historical and comparative view, it highlights the strategic role of Malthusian ideas in the defence of capitalist political economy when confronted by struggles for equality and human progress. The leading historical example the author takes offers a major reassessment of the origins of the Irish Famine. His contemporary case study focuses on the Green Revolution, which the author analyses in terms of a broad Western strategy of capitalist agricultural development in the face of peasant insurgency. He examines how Malthusian

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arguments portrayed agricultural modernization as a humanitarian attempt to forestall a food crisis in the developing world when, in reality, he argues the agenda was to defer land reform and bolster existing rural class structures. Finally, the book examines how the political economy of underdevelopment is currently being obscured by alarm over the environmental impact of over-population, and how such Malthusian concerns represent the poor, not as victims of capitalist development, but as perpetrators of environmental destruction.

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how such Malthusian concerns represent the poor, not as victims of capitalist development, but as perpetrators of environmental destruction.

This book follows that debate, which also involved people such as Burke, Paine, Wollstonecraft, Coleridge, Wordsworth, Shelley, Byron, Ricardo, Mill and Darwin. In the final chapter, the question of who was right is examined from the vantage-point of our own times, while particular attention is given to the close connection between population pressure and war.

Provides more than eight hundred alphabetical entries that cover issues relating to poverty around the world.

Markets and Malthus: Population, Gender, and Health in Neo-liberal Times explores the ideas and institutions that were framed at the 1994 United Nations population conference in Cairo and traces their trajectories sixteen years down the line. Why were Third World feminists profoundly critical of the Cairo consensus and process? How has the health of people around the world been affected by neo-liberal economic policies? What have these meant for women's rights, including reproductive rights? The book presents detailed case studies from various countries ranging from India and China, to Egypt, Tanzania, Uganda, and across Africa to Argentina, Peru, and throughout Latin America, as well as overarching themed essays. From the politics of abortion and immigration to rising levels of

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fundamentalist violence and sex selective abortions, the volume explores a range of issues from several vantage points. It offers startling new insights into these issues by linking them to neo-liberal economic policies that have profoundly shaped health policies globally. This book is essential reading for students of gender studies, public health, and demography, as well as policy-makers and activists.

The political economist Thomas Robert Malthus (1766-1834) first rose to prominence in 1798 with the publication of his *Essay on the Principle of Population*, in which he blamed rising levels of poverty on the inability of Britain's resources to support its growing population. Dealing with issues of social, economic and political history this work offers a fresh and insightful investigation into one of the most influential, though misunderstood, thinkers of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries.

Though Robert Malthus has never disappeared, he has been perpetually misunderstood. Robert Mayhew offers at once a major reassessment of Malthus's ideas and an intellectual history of the origins of modern debates about demography, resources, and the environment, giving historical depth to our current planetary concerns.

Building on the successes of *Understanding Global Social Policy* (Yeates ed. 2008)

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and its companion text, the Global Social Policy Reader (Yeates and Holden ed. 2009), the second edition of this leading textbook in social policy identifies and reviews the key issues, debates and priorities for action in global social policy as a field of academic study and research and as a field of political practice and action. All first edition chapters have been systematically revised and updated to reflect major developments in the fast-paced area of global social policy making over the past five years, and include new material on the Millennium Development Goals, the Social Protection Floor and the 'greening' of global social policy. This much-needed second edition includes new chapters on global poverty and inequality, social protection, criminal justice and education. Written by an international team of leading social policy analysts, Understanding Global Social Policy is the leading textbook in the field and provides a comprehensive and accessible overview of international actors and social policy formation in global context. It is essential reading for undergraduate and postgraduate students, researchers, policy makers and practitioners seeking to identify key issues in contemporary social policy and locate them within a global framework of analysis and action.

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and that, within the mechanics of these intersections, we find important re-examinations of how we might think about this ongoing humanitarian issue.

This thought-provoking and clearly argued text provides a critical geopolitical lens for understanding global environment politics. A subfield of political geography, environmental geopolitics examines how environmental themes are used to support geopolitical arguments and physical realities of power and place. Shannon O’Lear considers common, problematic traits of such familiar but widely misunderstood narratives about human-environment relationships. Mainstream themes about human-environment relationships include narratives about presumed connections between human population trends and resource scarcity; ways in which conflict and violence are linked to resource use or environmental degradation; climate security; and the application of science to solve environmental problems. O’Lear questions these narratives, arguing that the role or meaning of the environment is rarely specified, humans’ role in these situations tends to be considered selectively, and little attention is paid to spatial dimensions of human-environment relationships. She shows that how we tend to think about environmental concerns often obscure value judgments and constrain more dynamic approaches to human-environment relationships. Environmental geopolitics demonstrates how we can question familiar assumptions to generate more just and creative approaches to our many relationships with the environment.

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