

# DEMOGRAPHY IS CORRUPT!!

*but not individual demographers!!*

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There are too many evil *Demons* - reasons for the Hardinian taboo - for an 'insider' to escape them. It can only be lifted by an 'outsider' over a long time, and since they are Demons, only by the grace of God. A *Demon* is anything which holds the taboo in place, of which there are now 57 and rising.

I once asked Jack Caldwell, Africa's most eminent demographer, how much of [Middle] Africa he thinks is demographically trapped? He replied that most of it is, and did not wish to be quoted. Whose interests do I put first? His, or Africa's? To his very great credit, John Cleland admits that his discipline is corrupt, but not as corrupt as development economics -- he is correct. Consequently demographic entrapment remains tightly taboo

We humans have a great reluctance to accept that, although 'carrying capacity' may apply to the animals, it does not apply to us. Both demography and development economics have built this assumption into the very foundations of their disciplines -- a 'convenient' assumption, since it exonerates them from needing to think about what happens when carrying capacity is exceeded -- 'demographic entrapment'.

Failure to think about 'carrying capacity' has so paralysed demography that it has deprived it of the opportunity of doing anything to restrain unrestricted population growth. The Hardinian taboo has prevented it from being 'pro-active', and in doing so has infantilised it as a merely descriptive science.

When I first began investigating demographic entrapment, I was told by Phillip Payne, then Professor of Nutrition at the School, that he was always telling his colleagues in demography what a narrow discipline they have made it, and so I have found it.

So what might this 'proactivity' be? It has to be a message to the community to the effect "Reduce your fertili-

## THE INTELLECTUAL INTEGRITY OF THIS SCHOOL DEMANDS THAT DEMOGRAPHIC ENTRAPMENT BE ADDRESSED

### ENTRAPMENT DEFINED

*A subsistence community is \*demographically trapped if its population (a), exceeds: (b) the carrying capacity of its local ecosystem (too many people for the land to support), AND (c) their ability to migrate to new land, AND (d) the ability of their economy to produce goods and services, which they can exchange for food and other essentials. The outcome of \*entrapment is the severest poverty, stunting, starvation, and commonly violence..*

\*Entrapment has a *definitive stage* when there already is starvation and/or violence, and a *warning stage* when these can be confidently expected because, under present conditions, the population is increasing fast. [There is also a valid alternative definition, #entrapment]

**THE HARDINIAN TABOO** is a curious, unwritten social convention that demographic entrapment shall not be discussed, without any overt reasons for this ever being given, or anybody ruling that it should be outlawed. It is a forbidden 'no go' area that flaunts scientific conventions, and makes entrapment impossible to handle if these are to be strictly applied. It is an 'event horizon', a 'black hole', in the social sciences from which nothing escapes. In view of the starvation and violence at issue, it is also **INTENSELY EVIL**. Consequently, lifting the taboo becomes 'a spiritual endeavor'.

ty or starve!" Miraculously, or perhaps not so miraculously, when one comes to think about it, trapped communities seem to take this extraordinary well. They seem to know what 'the writing on the wall' is anyway, and are happy to discuss it.

Such messages need a name. It is suggested that they be called '**CRUNCH MESSAGES**', 'crunch' implying 'crisis'.

Here is one which I have delivered many times in the Congo DRC, and in East Africa, where it has always been well taken.

*Should I or should I not, say to you my friends in Africa, that, if you don't reduce your fertility, if necessary to one child only, you can expect the direst poverty, starvation and violence, if indeed you are not experiencing it already. I argue that I have to, and that not to do so is the gravest dereliction of duty in public health. If you want to lynch me, you are welcome, I trust that I will proceed to my martyrdom with a good courage."*

I have not been lynched-  
**SO FAR!!!!**

*Demon 52* is the 'one-child-no-strong-state Demon', which argues that population control, and particularly one-child families, are only possible in strong states with the power to implement them, and that they are therefore impossible in Africa, because it has no strong states, the implication being that, since nothing can be done, let's forget the problem!

The challenge therefore is to see if 'disentrapment programs', can be implemented at a community level. A few months ago a meeting at GLUK, the great Lakes University of Kenya, decided that they could, but only as part of a 'development package' which built on a community's strengths.

This was a **HUGE** demographic breakthrough. Miraculously, therefore 'demographic proactivity' is acceptable in Africa, whatever the demographers may say. So let's get busy and see if it works?

Here then is the outline such a 'community disentanglement program':

- A **MASSIVE** publicity campaign so that everybody in a trapped community understands its entrapment, and the need to reduce their fertility, so as to avoid the starvation and violence that will result if they don't. This includes the newspapers and the radio, especially in the local languages. It also includes the mobile phones, which many people now have. These need to start with a short 'crunch message jingle', "Reduce your fertility or starve".

This campaign needs to involve the schools, the churches, and all the NGOs. There is no need for a new NGO, all the existing ones need to see disentanglement as their major concern.

- A request be made to China for financial and ideological [political] help. Without China's help, it is difficult to see where the necessary funds for massive family-planning services will come from.

**Evil** William Blake is said to have argued that good has to be done by 'minute particulars', that is in little bits, and that to try to attack 'the general evil', as by trying to lift the taboo on demographic entrapment, is the work of a 'scoundrel'. My thesis is that, by spitting up the taboo into its many Demons, it has become merely rather a large 'minute particular' and is potentially liftable. Am I correct? Technically, this is the most interesting feature of the taboo. Nasty stuff, evil!

We are in combat with overpowering evil  
In dealing with evil one must have the right tools

- A request be made to His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI that the Roman Catholic Church should allow those of its members, who live in communities which are exceeding the carrying capacities of their ecosystems, to use any family planning method they wish, including the postcoital ones.

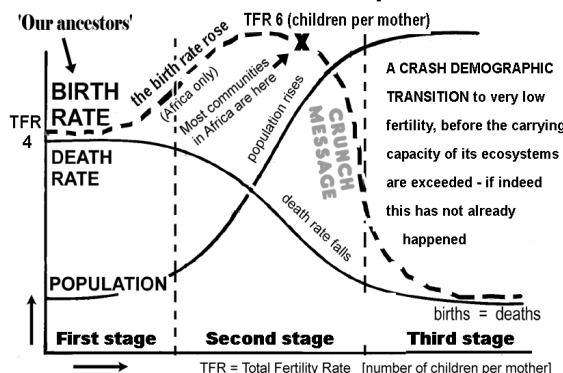
So which Demons are doing the bugging in London? I suspect that it is *Demon 24*, which is the fear that, if Middle Africa finds itself demographically trapped, there will be massive migration northwards, which will overwhelm the EU. (Garret Hardin's lifeboat).

**We African demographers have been duped!** We have been sold a corrupt demography. We never imagined that the London School of Hygiene, or Johns Hopkins could be intellectually corrupt -- but unfortunately they are. *This corruption is hugely detrimental to the welfare of our communities.* We must on no account let the North get away with it-- the taboo must be lifted, and disentanglement programs proceeded with. Note that, having spent very many years working in and for Africa, I consider myself an African. Besides, we are all Africans. Man evolved here. I also consider myself, *for the moment only !!!*, a demographer.

This leaves the North with a difficult dilemma. Does it leave the taboo in place, so that starvation and violence can do their worst in Middle Africa-- **WHICH IS WHAT THIS SCHOOL IS DOING NOW?** Or does it lift the taboo, and do all it can to help us with the crash demographic transition in the figure. In some influential Northern circles, this may be the most powerful of all the Demons, so powerful that it is never mentioned.

I have already sent the definitive paper lifting the Hardinian taboo to *The Lancet* three times, on the third occasion with 60 African signatures wanting disentanglement programs preceded with. If it is rejected a fourth time, I intend to mount a vigil to the death on its doorstep ['My London flat?']. *What a privileged way to die!* Alas, I could perhaps find myself a martyr, impaled for all eternity in a stained glass window.

**The challenge before Africa is therefore this:**



**Oh SHIT!** We are called on to partake of the Divine nature, and to acquire the Holy Spirit of God.