

1: Barbie as an Agent of Socialization | Soapboxie

But whatever ambivalences Dickens, like his contemporaries, had about poverty and the poor, one of his greatest achievements was to bring the problem of poverty to the attention of his readers through introducing varieties of poor persons into almost all of his novels, and showing the "deserving" majority of the poor, bravely struggling.

Over the past decade, however, microfinance in the region has gained momentum, with improvements in the regulatory environment, an increase in the operational efficiency of microfinance providers and continued donor interest in supporting the sector. Analysis of the true impact of microfinance is decidedly mixed, however. Some researchers have found that microfinance services, including credit and savings, have done little to alleviate poverty across sub-Saharan Africa – and in some cases have even exacerbated it; but others believe that microfinance is a necessary tool in creating the kinds of microenterprises that help lift people out of poverty, especially in environments with few formal employment opportunities. Recent research reveals a number of characteristics of microfinance that can affect its implementation across the continent, including: Taking this body of work together, some patterns stand out. Most studies also see an increase in ownership of consumer durables and business assets, especially if home repair and livestock ownership both of which provide services into the future count as durables, although the relative importance of consumer durables and business assets varies. What is also striking is the lack of strong evidence linking this business creation to increases in consumption. Indeed, there is no evidence of large sustained consumption or income gains as a result of access to microcredit. There is also no evidence of substantial gains along other dimensions of welfare, such as education and health. At least in the one- to three-year horizon, we see no evidence of microcredit transforming the lives of its beneficiaries. The following is a representative sample of studies investigating ways microfinance is affecting poverty alleviation and development across sub-Saharan Africa: We systematically reviewed the evidence of the impacts of micro-credit and micro-savings on poor people in sub-Saharan Africa. The available evidence shows that microfinance does harm, as well as good, to the livelihoods of the poor. Taking the case of Uganda and by using a consensual people-centered relevance test to assess the impact of microfinance on poverty alleviation, microfinance is shown not to improve the well-being of microfinance clients much, with only marginal well-being gains achieved by clients. However, a subsequent gender power relations analysis reveals that in spite of these marginal well-being gains, women clients achieved more emancipation. The article therefore calls for a rethinking of the microfinance outreach campaign in Africa, and of the controversy between the adoption of a business or welfarist approach to microfinance, suggesting that social emancipation should be pursued in its own right rather than waiting for poverty reduction to occur first. Using primary data, the paper analyzes the growth of microcredit which operates through microfinance institutes in 34 countries of the region. Extensive use of microfinancing has shown to reduce extreme poverty among the users of microcredit. Use of microcredit at the grassroots level creates a class of microentrepreneur with characteristics similar to the model of entrepreneurship developed by Schumpeter. The study concludes that there is a prospect for the growth of microentrepreneurship in at least 13 countries of SSA allowing for new employment opportunities, savings among borrowers, and reduction of extreme poverty. Instead of a direct focus on the consumption needs of the poor, we suggest an indirect approach to satisfying these needs, by providing the poor with credit and consulting services for entrepreneurial businesses that focus on the needs of buyers. Loans to the poor who lack collateral are increasingly based on group lending techniques that rely on joint liability to secure repayment, which have come to be known as microfinance. We suggest that in addition to credit, financial services for the poor must include strategic advice and assistance to select markets, and make the products goods and services for sale in their output markets with the financial services bought in their input markets. Financial services for the poor must include not only money to invest in a business but also consulting services to help the business succeed. Microfinance plays an important role in the financial market in many African countries. Although microfinance is expected to significantly affect macro variables, we lack enough empirical research on impact analysis at the macro level, such as the effect of microfinance on inequality and vulnerability. Results indicate

that the number of microfinance institutions has a negative impact on the Gini index in Central African countries. When the microfinance institutions in the country become dense, inequalities decrease. However, research provides conflicting evidence and shows that empowerment may not, or may only be partially achieved. This study explores if variations in the socio-cultural, economic and microfinance organisational contexts explain why some programmes are more successful than others by comparing the results of two microfinance providers in Ethiopia. The study demonstrates that variations in formal and informal rules indeed matter for how microfinance programmes work out. The study also shows that microfinance programmes may enable women to generate extra income and improve their asset base but may also perpetuate inequalities as well as reconfirm a gender-specific division of labour. We use a unique four-round panel dataset on farm households in northern Ethiopia that had access to microfinance, observed on two key poverty indicators: Fixed-effects and random trend models are used to reduce potential selection biases due to time-invariant unobserved heterogeneity and individual trends therein. Results show that borrowing indeed causally increased consumption and housing improvements. A flexible specification that takes into account repeated borrowings also suggests that borrowing has cumulative long-term effects on these outcomes, implying that short-term impact estimates may underestimate credit effects. Like many microcredit programmes, the majority of women in the study were full-time housewives before joining the scheme. Others had left their jobs following retrenchment, prejudice or gender discrimination. In all cases, they started their own businesses with little or no business experience or education. Whilst some appear to have embraced the new opportunities, others have struggled. In all cases, microcredit and the associated learning processes produced contradictory and ambivalent feelings of success and failure, hope and disappointment, progress and exclusion. The article explores these ambivalences in order to critique development initiatives that are based on universal notions of autonomy and self-determination in contexts shaped by dependence and structural inequality. Africa, research roundup Last updated:

2: DIY-Bio – economic, epistemological and ethical implications and ambivalences

Among public institutions, the library has great potential for helping the poor and disenfranchised. For many, the library is the only refuge for information, literacy, entertainment, language skills, employment help, free computer use and even safety and shelter.

Contact Author Source Barbie is one of the most iconic women in history, and she is entirely made of plastic. The seemingly perfect, yet anatomically impossible physical standard she places on girls and women can be very devastating. Unfortunately some even go as far as to consider Barbie a heteronormative standard. Additionally Barbie is one of the first seemingly realistic dolls little boys and girls compare real women to. Her hourglass figure, perfect skin and long blonde hair are one of a kind. Little girls want to be like Barbie and why not? Not only is Barbie perfect, so are her friends, family and boyfriend, Ken. This is problematic because Barbie is one of many agents of socialization that children are exposed to. The toys and dolls children play with are very influential on how they perceive social constructions, such as gender. A child is a very impressionable being from birth through adolescence, therefore the media s he is exposed to, including Barbie, is partially responsible for the socialization of said child. Particular aspects of Barbie that are gendered include: Barbie is just a doll, but she is one that girls will continue to emulate today and in the future. This is troublesome because the physical standard Barbie sets is so high it cannot be reached. However her popularity is always on the rise in America: Considering how negative of an influence Barbie is on girls, this rate is alarming. Nearly every American child has had the opportunity to play with or at least see a Barbie doll. Adolescents realize the potential for unhealthy effects of exposing children, especially girls, to Barbie, yet little girls are gifted Barbie dolls every year. Or do we stop caring? I do not and cannot answer these questions for I cannot speak for all of humanity; however in my opinion it seems as if many adults attempt to cloak the negative influences of Barbie by the good ones. Additionally little girls ask for Barbie dolls on their birthday or Christmas because the doll is marketed enormously with a great reputation to back. I have noticed many accentuate the hundreds of professions she has had in an attempt to mask her as a poor role model. She was pretty, lovable, could do any profession, Even though she was kind of anorexic. In the s she ran for president, because having her be president could potentially spark a politically motivated uproar. Posing Barbie in a sundress and blazer with high heeled booties, fake black rimmed glasses, a white construction helmet to match her dress and a hot pink tube filled with blueprints is hardly a proper representation of the hard manual labor that goes into becoming and being an architect in real life. The concept of dressing up does not stop with little girls and their Barbie dolls. In other words, Barbie is an agent of socialization for girls. In their study, Kuther and McDonald warn against the potential dangers: On one hand, she pursues any career Mattel Inc. On the other hand, she is an overly sexualized play toy that marginalizes women and the many careers women would like to pursue while simultaneously setting the anatomically impossible physical standard for all females. Despite the following and fan base Barbie has, she is nothing like her creator, Ruth Handler. While Barbie was a Teutonic titan, Ruth was a short, Jewish woman. Barbie was a shopper; Handler was a workaholic. She wanted to demonstrate how women are expected to be impossibly perfect. Furthermore Handler designed and put into the world one of the most popular emblems of all-American beauty. Unfortunately though if that was the case Handler would have assumed wrong. It is not the fault of creator Ruth Handler for producing one of the most controversial play toys in American history. It is not the fault of manufacturer Mattel Inc. There is not fault, per say, in this situation which can make it hard to understand. What we all must do is just realize, understand and accept that Barbie is in fact a doll, not a human being, therefore we should not compare ourselves or other human beings to her. First and foremost her physical features are anatomically unattainable. Lastly and most importantly, unlike Barbie, humans are not perfect. Human imperfections account for variance among human lives, personalities and interests – we are perfectly imperfect, a paradox that some people do not understand and occasionally sun. However we all must remember that there is beauty in individuality, more so than any plastic doll. Did you learn anything new after reading this essay? Did you have a lot of strong female influences in your life? Were the only "positive" female influences in your life

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celebrities, or something of the sort? There are many different questions you can ask yourself in order to take a stance on Barbie, as an agent of socialization. The only question I have is: Retrieved from Newspaper Source Plus database. Women in Higher Education, 20 1 , The life of Barbie. The Journal of the History of Childhood and Youth, 2 3 , Adolescence, 39 , Retrieved October 28, , from Barbie website:

3: Microfinance and poverty alleviation in sub-Saharan Africa - Journalist's Resource

Chapter 2 is, however, a useful bridge between Crassons's first chapter on Langland's ambivalences about poverty and her third chapter on the surprising economic theories evident in some Wycliffite sermons.

Received Nov 5; Accepted Apr This article has been cited by other articles in PMC. Abstract Since , we witness the emergence of the Do-It-Yourself Biology movement, a global movement spreading the use of biotechnology beyond traditional academic and industrial institutions and into the lay public. Practitioners include a broad mix of amateurs, enthusiasts, students, and trained scientists. At this moment, the movement counts nearly 50 local groups, mostly in America and Europe, but also increasingly in Asia. Do-It-Yourself Bio represents a direct translation of hacking culture and practices from the realm of computers and software into the realm of genes and cells. Although the movement is still in its infancy, and it is even unclear whether it will ever reach maturity, the contours of a new paradigm of knowledge production are already becoming visible. We will subsequently sketch the economic, the epistemological and the ethical profile of Do-It-Yourself Bio, and discuss its implications and also its ambivalences. Introduction Since , we witness the emergence of the Do-It-Yourself Biology movement, a global movement spreading the use of biotechnology beyond traditional academic and industrial institutions and into the lay public. According to cultural anthropologist Sophia Roosth, who attended both the rise of synthetic biology and the subsequent birth of the first DIY-Bio group in the Boston-Cambridge area as a participant observer, the former actually spawned Do-It-Yourself Biology Roosth , In these international contests, university student teams compete to make synthetic systems that work in living cells. In , he declared: Take a moment to buy yourself a molecular biology lab on eBay Carlson That year, Carlson was the first to build a lab in his garage from equipment bought online. The DIY-Bio movement has developed under the influence of at least four related movements. Second, DIY- Bio is part of the citizen science movement, be it that DIY-Bio projects are not initiated and supervised by scientists within academic institutions like most traditional forms of citizen science but have a genuinely bottom-up character Ahteensuu and Blockus Third, DIY-Bio represents a direct translation of free software and hacking practices from the realm of computers and software into the realm of genes en cells Delfanti , DIY-bio has largely adopted the general principles of the hacker ethic such as sharing, openness, decentralization, free access to computers or tech, and world improvement Levy Fourth, DIY-Bio has affinity with the maker movement that represents an expansion of the hacker culture and ethics from software to hardware development. Wohlsen , The question is therefore whether such overlapping features as transparency and openness, participation and sharing, co-production of experts and lay people, grassroots entrepreneurship et cetera add up to something like a novel, alternative paradigm of knowledge production outside of the academia and industry walls. We have also analyzed documents manifestos, websites, and codes from within the movement. In addition, we have made a site visit to the Waag Society in the heart of Amsterdam. The economic profile â€” DIY-Bio versus BIG-Bio Despite the fact that, mainly through the iGEM channel, synthetic biology has been instrumental in the subsequent birth of its non-academic sibling, the two branches of constructive biology remain located at different sides of the institutional divide. As a pursuit performed in million-dollar university labs, academic synthetic biology undoubtedly belongs with its industrial counterpart to BIG-Bio, leaving its younger sibling outside this privileged institutional complex. The emphasis is on economic productivity; cells are considered as genetically engineered machines and living factories to create economically viable materials for chemical and pharmaceutical industries and the energy sector. The ethics and practices of the DIY-Bio movement are inspired by the hacker movement, with its emphasis on access, sharing, collaboration and decentralization. The movement is organized around ideas of crowd sourcing, peer production, open source software, hardware and data. For one thing, there is a relationship of dependency concerning cheap, second-hand products for amateurs Meyer , As a result of the technological accelerations within BIG-Bio business, laboratory equipment quickly becomes out-of-date and is today available at a low cost. On the one hand biohackers act as rebels who challenge the status quo by advocating free access and sharing; on the other hand they may also act as profiteers who resist external

interference from public regulations, corporate interests, or academic institutions, in order to accumulate economic profit as well as personal prestige Golinelli and Henry Open source projects are not necessarily anti-capitalist, but may even extend the scope of capitalist exploitation Delfanti , 52; Delgado , The combination of rebellion and profitable entrepreneurship can be illustrated by innovators from Silicon Valley, the breeding ground and test bed for internet multinationals such as Facebook, Google, Twitter, Yahoo, Airbnb and Uber. Instead, it has handed extraordinary power and wealth to a tiny handful of people, while simultaneously, for the rest of us, compounding and often aggravating existing cultural, social and economic inequalities. Somehow, before long, the biotech-software startup Genome Compiler Corporation also got involved. In the first half of , three biohackers affiliated with Biocurious as well as with Genome Compiler captured the public imagination by conducting a crowd-sourcing campaign to raise money for developing bioluminescent plants that would glow in the dark. The idea looked just cool the promotional video showed images of glowing trees from the movie Avatar , but it was also presented as a step towards a more sustainable future when streets would no longer be lit by electric lamps but by glowing trees Kickstarter Once the project succeeded in reaching its goals, each subscriber would receive envelopes with seeds of the genetically modified plants, to be planted in their own backyards or wherever they liked in the end the project initiators decided to use seeds of Arabidopsis plants instead of trees. By June , hackers had already subscribed, bringing in almost Meanwhile, however, the project had also drawn the attention of anti-biotech and environmental watchdogs like the ETC. Group and Friends of the Earth. They accused the project managers of setting up an unregulated experiment with the deliberate environmental release of hundreds of thousands specimens of a novel synthetic organism across the United States by cynically exploiting a regulatory loophole and urged them to immediately stop this mischievous adventure. The critics failed however to stop the project in its tracks at the time of writing, April , the seeds are not yet ready to be shipped to the subscribers. In this case the community group Biocurious was used as a launching pad for a commercial project by a startup company intent on helping to create a consumer synthetic biology market. One commentator, Christina Agapakis, highlighted the apparent paradox that for this company the entire Glowing Plant project was actually about selling a future of open-source DIY-Bio and synthetic biology the DNA designs, the methods used and the parts to be synthesized in the project would all be released open source in order to promote the widespread use of its proprietary genome compiling software Agapakis A European example In Europe, where the California-style techno-libertarian ethos is much less strong, aspiring entrepreneurs are also less inclined to use existing DIY-Bio community groups as springboards for launching biotech startups: This is not to say that such groups always want to stay aloof from the business world. Both parties decided in to collaborate in assay technology development on the basis of open-source principles Biologigargen At first sight, one would therefore expect that DIY-Bio fits well into the epistemological profile of post-normal science, a participatory approach that has received much attention in recent years. According to Silvio Funtowicz and Jerome Ravetz, who introduced the notion of post-normal science in , under current conditions of high uncertainties and high decision stakes the puzzle-solving routines of normal science in the Kuhnian sense are no longer appropriate. A shift from normal to post-normal science is called for. The most prominent characteristic of post-normal science is the extension of the peer community. The main focus of post-normal science is on the dialogue between science and society, on joint deliberation and decision-making through focus groups, Delphi panels, round tables, consensus conferences et cetera. Heroes of the Computer Revolution: Scientific literacy is not science education. Whereas abstract science proceeds according to the methods of the engineer, the modus operandi of concrete science is that of the bricoleur or tinkerer. An engineer works according to a preconceived plan, with a precise goal for the desired end, and uses material designed specifically toward that end; the tinkerer, by contrast, works without a clear plan by making creative and resourceful use of whatever materials are at hand to produce new objects that possess some kind of unexpected functionality. In a similar vein, the American evolutionary biologist Stephen Jay Gould has claimed that evolution is more a bricoleur than an engineer. By way of tinkering DIY-Biologists have succeeded in producing inexpensive alternatives to expensive biotechnology equipment, decreasing the costs of setting up a laboratory by a factor of 10 up to In , Aull set up a lab in her bedroom closet for the price of around dollars, using tossed-off gear. To distil water,

she used a rice cooker and a whiskey tumbler; to separate DNA, she built an electrified box from a picture frame and a plastic box lined with aluminium foil; to be able to see the DNA she used a blue Christmas light. Etcetera! Using these rather basic tools, Aull was able to build a hemochromatosis test. Her father had an advanced case of hemochromatosis, one of the most common hereditary diseases in the U. Unfortunately, her self-test that cost a fraction of the commercial DNA test turned out to be positive idem, 9! At the time when she set up her lab, Aull could not confine herself to building her own gear, but had to purchase some specialized laboratory equipment, including a Polymerase Chain Reaction PCR machine. This machine uses repeated cycles of heating and cooling to produce millions of copies of a specific DNA sequence in approximately two hours. This situation changed dramatically with the introduction in of OpenPCR, an open source tool developed by Tito Jankowski and Josh Perfetto from the California-based hackerspace for biotech. By making equipment more affordable, DIY-Bio groups can reach out to the lay public with hands-on training and education that would otherwise be accessible only to university students and those in industry. Because open innovation in the context of DIY-Bio emerges from the ground up, its benefits will come more quickly to those at the bottom. The DIY-Bio community promises in particular to be a source of cheaper and simpler solutions for problems of environmental degradation, health care, food safety, and food security. An early example of a cheap and simple application concerning food safety is the Melaminometer that was developed in by Meredith Patterson, the aforementioned author of the Biopunk Manifesto. Patterson succeeded in engineering yogurt bacteria so that they will glow green in the presence of melamine, a toxic chemical found in Chinese infant formula that sickened , infants in Her test would cost Chinese families no more than one dollar and be easy to use. They built their first prototype using the heater element from a hair dryer and some other stuff they picked up at the home improvement store Home Depot for 40 euro. A good example concerns the very first Indian Scanning Tunneling Microscope STM , which was built in , seven years after the first one, for which the inventors were awarded a Nobel Prize Bijker Like bricolage, Jugaad is about looking for new meanings and uses for existing objects by reconfiguring materialities to overcome obstacles and find solutions, a form of innovation that is of vital importance for a society such as India where resources are scarce and access is limited. In other words, synbio is considered as a biological counterpart to chemical, mechanical and electrotechnical engineering. A key element in this engineering approach is the reduction or elimination of biological complexity by simplification and decontextualisation. Another prominent option of simplifying the design process is the creation of standardized, interchangeable components, the aforementioned BioBricks, a kind of genetic Lego Bricks, any two of which can be combined in either order to generate new bricks. As Sophia Roosth has argued, the contrast between tinkering and engineering is more complex than one would expect. According to Roosth, the fact that biohackers may on occasion use some of the standard biological parts developed by synthetic biology, by no means implies that they will lose their distinct epistemic profile. In the end she sees no paradox or contradiction in the coexistence of two contrasting epistemic profiles: But this may change in the near future. Some authors would give a negative answer to this question. This would mean that any coexistence of contrasting epistemic profiles that may occur today is unlikely to endure. The claimed epistemic contrast between synthetic biology and DIY-Bio can also be nuanced from the other side by examining the methodological style of the former more closely. For some time now, synthetic biologists have recognized that rational design " creating entire bacterial genomes from scratch " is prohibitively difficult because of the vast complexity of living systems, of which we have only limited knowledge. They have discovered evolution as a very powerful design strategy. This strategy merges evolutionary tinkering with rational engineering - nature generates a library of mutants, from which man selects the ones that work and can provide us with desired substances. Thus far public discussions on synthetic biology have essentially been about risk issues - about biosecurity and biosafety Dana et al. Professional ethicists also raise questions about the ontological and moral status of biosynthetic organisms: Are they natural or artificial? Do they possess inherent worth or only instrumental value? Kaebnick and Murray The hands-on approach of DIY-Bio opens up the debate for issues that are hardly or not at all addressed and discussed by the general public or by professional ethicists. During this workshop, the participants jointly investigated their own genetic heritage, using the latest methods in genetics. They explored the boundaries of the do-it-yourself movement and

discussed the ethical implications of the use of do-it-yourself methods in biotechnology, pharma and healthcare for future society. During another workshop organized by the Waag Society participants were engaged in the production of in vitro meat, that is meat that has been cultivated from stem cells. But if you succeed in replacing this animal medium by a vegetable medium such as algae or fungi, can one then still speak of meat?

4: Content | World Community Development Conference

Home > The Complex Nature of Addiction and Recovery > Danger of Ambivalence in Recovery. Danger of Ambivalence in Recovery Ambivalent Attitude towards Sobriety. Even when those people who are addicted to alcohol or drugs realize that this behavior is causing them suffering it can still be hard for them to quit.

January by Vince Giuliano Why the pursuit of anti-aging science? I take a short break from science in this blog entry and look at myths about aging and how aging is viewed in popular folklore – ancient and current. These myths are important because aging science exists in our more-general culture and efforts to suggest an impending possibility for life-extension are often met with misplaced negative reactions. The reputation of aging in our culture is generally not a good one. Facts about aging are often misperceived. Aging is usually ignored, viewed in a context of resignation, or felt to be irrelevant until it is imminent. Diseases and accidents are seen to be the main causes of death even though those diseases and accidents are ones of old age. Myths about aging, old ones and modern ones, provide insights into where our culture has been and where it is now with respect to aging. Narratives of desire, narratives of disgust illustrates how some of the current ambivalences about aging have very early roots. One such division, between youth and old age, formed a persistent theme in Greek myth, poetry and theatre. Youth – neotias – was sweet, beautiful and heroic. To leave youth meant one quickly passed the threshold to old age – gems. Old age was ugly, mean and tragic. There was no middle ground, no third age. Sparta, the city state least inclined toward literature, litigation, art and trade provides an instructive contrast. Here an unchanging politics engendered an unending respect for those older than oneself. This was institutionalized in the powers of the Gerousia or Council of Elders. This picture of an almost modern nation masks another of massive inequality, alongside sickness and disease that have not been experienced in the West for generations. Life expectancy at birth was short: In other words, the demographic regime was not unlike that experienced in countries today such as Botswana through the causes of AIDS, international debt, poverty and inequality – a far cry from the modern Western world where average life expectancy becomes ever-higher and runs well into the seventies. A key question for understanding Rome is how society viewed those few people who survived into old age and experienced a life-span not unlike our own today. This departure from public life was double-edged: Moving out of public life in effect led to a loss of social power and status in the eyes of those still in power. Retiring from public life was no easier for individuals in the Roman period than it is for some today – many of whom continue to work after their sixty-fifth birthday. Despite this, and the fact that there was no social marker, no rite of transition to mark this phase, there was pressure for older men to stand down in favour of younger. Saturn was the god of Roman mythology who ruled over old age, but he was a very multi-faceted god with numerous other duties ref. In the good-old-days, aging was generally seen as a crummy deal Although we like to think that aging was seen in romantic terms in the good-old-days, the opposite seems to be true, at least in Western societies. From Aging and Death in Folklore: Surviving folklore reflects widespread resignation as to the inevitability of impoverishment, sexual impotence, failing health and vitality, and the loss of family and community status. No one expected the impossible. You cannot teach an old dog new tricks. There is no fool like an old fool. An old man who takes a young wife invites Death to the wedding. Nothing good will come from an old man who still wants to dance. For an old man to marry is like wanting to harvest in the wintertime. Age is a troublesome guest. Age is a sickness from which everyone must die. Youth rises, age falls. A young woman with an old husband is a wife by day and a widow by night. When the old cow dances, her claws rattle. When the wolf grows old, the crows ride him. We cope, or so it might seem, by pretending that death does not exist ref. From the same source, Aging and Death in Folklore: Various demonic personages, notably changelings and the devil himself, can be rendered powerless by tricking them into revealing their age. More significantly, in pre-industrial Europe superstitions abound that cast suspicion at old people, especially women. Proverbs and popular superstitions state the claim succinctly: It is not good if one goes out in the morning and encounters an old woman. He who walks between two old women early in the morning shall have only bad luck the rest of the day. To meet old women first thing in the morning means bad luck; young people, good luck. Many men

would rather let themselves be beaten to death, than to pass between two old women. A person on his way to an important undertaking will have bad luck if he encounters an old woman. Encountering a young girl will bring him good luck. She then told the husband that his wife was plotting to cut his throat while he slept. The man pretended to sleep. Seeing his wife silently approaching with a razor, he struck her dead with a stick. Such tales help explain the widespread superstition, documented above, that if the first person you saw in the morning was an old woman, you would have bad luck. The myths discussed and refuted there are: Old age means losing all my teeth. Losing those few extra pounds will extend your life. The examples and comments are drawn from a NIH questionnaire. Baby boomers are the faster growing segment of the population. There are more than 3 million Americans over the age of 65. That number is expected to quadruple by the year 2040, when there will be more than 12 million people in that age group. The population age 85 and older is the fastest growing age group in the U.S. Everyone becomes confused or forgetful if they live long enough. But at least other problems can bring on the same symptoms. A minor head injury, high fever, poor nutrition, adverse drug reactions, and depression also can lead to confusion. These conditions are treatable, however, and the confusion they cause can be eliminated. You can become too old to exercise. Exercise at any age can help strengthen the heart and lungs and lower blood pressure. It also can improve muscle strength, and, if carefully chosen, lessen bone loss with age. Heart disease is a much bigger problem for older men than for older women. The risk of heart disease increases dramatically for women after menopause. By age 65, both men and women have a one in three chance of showing symptoms. The older you get, the less you sleep. Researchers found that sleep tends to become more fragmented as people age. Most older people are depressed. Most older people are not depressed. In a few families, scientists have seen an extremely high incidence of the disease and have identified genes in these families which they think may be responsible. As your body changes with age, so does your personality. Older people might as well accept urinary accidents as a fact of life. Usually, it is caused by specific changes in body function that can result from infection, diseases, pregnancy, or the use of certain medications. A variety of treatment options are available for people who seek medical attention. Falls and injuries just naturally happen to older people. Falls are the most common cause of injuries among people over age 65. But many of these injuries, which result in broken bones, can be avoided. Regular vision and hearing tests and good safety habits can help prevent accidents. Knowing whether your medications affect balance and coordination is also a good idea. Everyone eventually gets cataracts. People at any age can learn new information and skills. Research indicates that older people can obtain new skills and improve old ones, including how to use a computer. There are many current myths and half-myths about aging science and the impact of life extension on society. This list is my own. Aging is part of the natural order. Facts: True and true also for death. But lifespans vary greatly by species and human lifespans have varied significantly and can probably be extended significantly. Aging is inevitable; nothing can be done about it. Again, the inevitability is historically true but not necessarily true in the future. Things can be done today to modulate the rate of aging within limits. Lifestyle and dietary interventions can significantly delay physiological aging as can many poor habits accelerate it.

5: Poverty - Wikipedia

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Malnutrition Rises in the costs of living make poor people less able to afford items. Poor people spend a greater portion of their budgets on food than wealthy people. As a result, poor households and those near the poverty threshold can be particularly vulnerable to increases in food prices. For example, in late increases in the price of grains [] led to food riots in some countries. While the Goal 2 of the SDGs aims to reach this goal by [] a number of initiatives aim to achieve the goal 5 years earlier, by The partnership Compact , led by IFPRI with the involvement of UN organisations, NGOs and private foundations [] develops and disseminates evidence-based advice to politicians and other decision-makers aimed at ending hunger and undernutrition in the coming 10 years, by The program will initially be implemented in Bangladesh, Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Laos and Niger and will help these countries to improve information and analysis about nutrition so they can develop effective national nutrition policies. It includes different interventions including support for improved food production, a strengthening of social protection and integration of the right to food into national legislation. This is often a process that begins in primary school for some less fortunate children. Instruction in the US educational system, as well as in most other countries, tends to be geared towards those students who come from more advantaged backgrounds. One is the conditions of which they attend school. Schools in poverty-stricken areas have conditions that hinder children from learning in a safe environment. Researchers have developed a name for areas like this: Higher rates of early childbearing with all the connected risks to family, health and well-being are major important issues to address since education from preschool to high school are both identifiably meaningful in a life. Poor children have a great deal less healthcare and this ultimately results in many absences from the academic year. Additionally, poor children are much more likely to suffer from hunger, fatigue, irritability, headaches, ear infections, flu, and colds. Safe, predictable, stable environments. Ten to 20 hours each week of harmonious, reciprocal interactions. Enrichment through personalized, increasingly complex activities". Harmful spending habits mean that the poor typically spend about 2 percent of their income educating their children but larger percentages of alcohol and tobacco For example, 6 percent in Indonesia and 8 percent in Mexico. Participation decision making and Social capital Poverty has been also considered a real social phenomenon reflecting more the consequences of a lack of income than the lack of income per se Ferragina et al. This idea has received theoretical support from scholars and extensive testimony from people experiencing poverty across the globe Walker []. Participation and consumption have become ever more crucial mechanisms through which people establish and communicate their identity and position in society, increasing the premium attached to resources needed to participate Giddens []. In addition, the concept of social exclusion has been added to the lexicon of poverty related terms, describing the process by which people, especially those on low incomes, can become socially and politically detached from mainstream society and its associated resources and opportunities Cantillon []. Equally western society have become more complex with ethnic diversity, multi-culturalism and life-style choices raising the possibility that a single concept of poverty as conceived in the past might no longer apply Ferragina et al. Shelter[edit] Street child in Bangladesh. Aiding relatives financially unable to but willing to take in orphans is found to be more effective by cost and welfare than orphanages. Slums , Street children , and Orphanages Poverty increases the risk of homelessness. Even while providing latrines is a challenge, people still do not use them even when available. By strategically providing pit latrines to the poorest, charities in Bangladesh sparked a cultural change as those better off perceived it as an issue of status to not use one. The vast majority of the latrines built were then not from charities but by villagers themselves. Instead, the poor buy water from water vendors for, on average, about five to 16 times the metered price.

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