**Chapter 8**

**The Human Population**

**Lecture Outline:**

1. The Science of Demography
   1. Demography-The applied branch of sociology that deals with population statistics and provides information on the populations of various countries or groups of people
   2. Current and future population Numbers
      1. World population has increased 82 million from 2009 to 2010 Not due to higher birth rate but to a lower death rate/higher life expectancy
      2. Zero population growth-when the birth rate equals the death rate
      3. Carrying capacity-The maximum number of individuals of a population that a particular environment can support for an indefinite period, assuming no changes in the environment
      4. It is estimated the Earth can support a range from 4 billion to 16 billion
      5. Current population is about 6.0 billion
      6. Human Migration
         1. Has increased dramatically during the past few decades
         2. Job searching, improving living standards, escape war or persecution all causes of migration
         3. Deteriorating environmental conditions brought on my unsustainable population growth cause of migration
         4. Not enough jobs in many countries’ economies to support population growth
2. Demographic of Countries
   1. Highly developed countries have low rates of population growth, lowest birth rates and are highly industrialized relative to the rest of the world
   2. Highly developed countries have lowest infant mortality rate-the number of infant deaths under age 1 per 1000 live births
   3. Developing countries fall into 2 subcategories
      1. Moderately developed-Mexico, Turkey, Thailand
         1. Infant mortality rates and birth rates are higher than highly developed countries but are declining
      2. Less developed-Bangladesh, Niger, Laos, Ethiopia
         1. Highest birth rates, highest infant mortality rates, and shortest life expectancy
   4. Replacement-level Fertility-The number of children a couple must produce to “replace” them.
   5. Total Fertility Rate-The average number of children born per woman, given the populations birth rate
   6. Demographic Stages
      1. Preindustrial Stage-birth and death rates were high, population grows at a modest rate
      2. Transitional Stage-lowered death rate, rapid growth rate due to high birth rate
      3. Industrial Stage-decline in birth rate, slower growth rate, relatively low death rate
      4. Postindustrial Stage-low birth and death rates due to improved living standards
   7. Population growth momentum-The potential for future increases or decreases in a population based on the present age structure
   8. Aging population-higher percentage of people who are chronically ill or disabled, require more health care and social services
      1. Produce less wealth increasing a countries tax burden, strains social security, health and pension plans
3. Population and Quality of Life
   1. Sustainability of the 9.15 billion population projected for the year 2050 is unknown
   2. Population and Chronic Hunger
      1. Food security-condition in which people do not live in hunger or in fear of starvation.
      2. Food insecurity-condition in which people live with chronic hunger and malnutrition
      3. Economic development-an expansion in a governments economy, viewed by many as the best way to raise standards of living
         1. Politicians and economists view as the best way to tackle the worlds food problems
4. Reducing the Total Fertility Rate
   1. Culture and Fertility
      1. Culture-the ideas and customs of a group of people at a given period; culture which is passed on from generation to generation, evolves over time
      2. High total fertility rates are tradition in many cultures
      3. For a society to endure it must produce enough children who can survive to reproductive age
   2. The Social and Economic Status of Women
      1. Gender Inequality-The social construct that results in women not having the same opportunities or privileges as men/exists in most societies
      2. In most countries women are not guaranteed equality in legal rights, education, employment and earnings or political participation
      3. Gender Parity-in education is the right of every child boy or girl to attend school-181 countries currently participate
      4. Laws, customs and lack of education often limit women to low-skilled, low-paying jobs
   3. Marriage Age and Fertility
      1. Generally there is a correlation between marriage age and total fertility i.e.: In Pakistan the average age of marriage is 17 and the total fertility rate is 4.0. In Denmark the average age of marriage is 30 and the total fertility rate is 1.8.
      2. Education increases a women’s options and decrease total fertility rate
   4. Family Planning Services
      1. Services that enable men and women to limit family size, safeguard individual health rights, and improve the quality of life for themselves and their children
      2. Provide information on reproductive physiology and contraceptive use
      3. Contraceptive use is strongly linked to lower total fertility rates
5. Government Policies and Fertility
   1. In recent years the governments of at least 78 developing countries have prioritized population growth
      1. Sponsoring family planning projects
   2. China and Mexico: Contrasting Population Growth Measures
      1. China has largest population in the world
         1. Introduces aggressive plan to lower population-offered incentives to couples having only one child per family
         2. Births dropped from 5.8 births per woman in 1970 to 2.1 births per woman in 1981
         3. Plan was controversial because it compromised individual freedom of choice
      2. Mexico was traditionally a pro-population growth government.
         1. In the 1960s government became alarmed at fast rate of population growth
         2. Introduced educational reform, family planning and healthcare programs
         3. Birth rates reduced from 6.7 births per woman in 1970 to 2.2 births per woman in 2010
6. Millennium Development Goals
   1. Eradicate extreme hunger and poverty
   2. Achieve universal primary education
   3. Promote gender equality and empower women
   4. Reduce child mortality
   5. Improve maternal health
   6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
   7. Ensure environmental sustainability
   8. Develop a global partnership for economic development
7. Achieving Population Stabilization
   1. Developing countries should increase the amount money allotted to public health and family planning services
   2. Governments should take steps to increase the average level of education, especially of women and women must be given more employment opportunities
   3. Highly developed nations should face their own population problems, unsustainable consumptions by affluent people and increase the reuse and recycling of materials