

World Scene

FOCUS ON MALNUTRITION,
A MAN-MADE DISEASE

(For Classroom and Group Discussion)

Malnutrition, in large part, is due to an uneven distribution of food between countries and within countries.

In this twelve part series, we will be looking at the causes and possible cures for malnutrition.

Malnutrition is a man-made disease. It is not the only one but in terms of the number of people affected and of its consequences for human well-being, it is the most serious and shameful of them all. It is a social disease which has been with man since he has been a social being. More specifically, it is a disease of human societies. Wild animals do not seem to suffer from it to a significant degree; only domesticated animals which have become completely dependent on man for their food, such as dogs or cattle, can be seriously affected.

Unlike most other animals, man is omnivorous. After birth, he is completely dependent on his mother for food; mother's milk is the most

important source of nutrients at least during his first months of life. Afterwards, he can live on a great variety of foods, and this is one of the factors that has made possible mankind's adaptation to the most diverse ecological regions all over the planet. Yet there are many areas, particularly in the tropics and subtropics, where a large majority of the population is suffering from malnutrition. What are the reasons for this? and what could be done to correct the situation?

The causes of malnutrition are built into the very nature of society as it functions today; in the socio-economic and political structures, both nationally and internationally. It has been repeatedly said that scarcity of foods is the main factor responsible. This may be true at the family level for those populations affected, but it is not true on a global basis, nor is it true for most of the countries where malnutrition is still a serious problem. It is rather a problem of uneven distribution between countries and

within countries. Even in those countries which cannot produce enough food to feed their populations properly, the main problem is not a physical inability to do so, but the socio-economic structure which restricts the capacity of large sectors of the population to produce or buy the food they need. Many countries suffer severely from malnutrition, yet there are "surpluses" of foods on the market and some food-stuffs are even major items for export.

Key Questions:

1. *What are three main issues in this article?*
2. *What does this article suggest that you can do about our world situation?*
3. *How many words did you look up in the dictionary? (If we do not use a dictionary daily, and for every word whose full meanings we may not know, we cannot grow individually and assure the best use of our resources for group freedom and a better America.)*

The Active Consumer

TV SERIES TACKLES THORNY TOPICS

America's 220 million consumers have a potent weapon in their battle against inflation. A weekly television program is helping arm viewers with the facts about buying products and services so they can get the most for their dollars.

The program, called "Consumer Survival Kit," is the only consumer series on nationwide television. It begins its fifth season on more than 200 Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) stations in January. Check local TV listings for the day and time it airs.

Programs in the 1979 schedule will cover such consumer concerns as food-buying and fast-food restaurants, appliance repairs, paying for a college education, medical malpractice, estate-planning, prescription drugs, home-buying, auto accessories, weight control, travel, tenants' rights and borrowing money. The premiere program on medical insurance for the elderly features First Lady Rosalynn Carter. Future programs will feature appearances by Vincent Price, Benny Goodman and Victor Borge.

Last season a new feature, "Survivor of the Week," highlighted stories from viewers about individual successes against frauds and rip-offs. This and other innovative segments are in-



FEATURED ON "CONSUMER SURVIVAL KIT" are (l. to r.) host Larry Lewman and investigative reporters Fran Dorn, Patrick McGrath and Rhea Feikin.

cluded in the new 26 half-hour shows for 1979.

The series' contribution to consumer education has brought it thousands of complimentary letters, numerous accolades from journalists and educators, and dozens of awards and citations. Twice it has won the American Bar Association's prestigious Silver Gavel Award.

Consumer Survival Kit also offers 80 program-associated "survival kit" publications on such topics as paying for a college education, home buying, diet and weight control, borrowing money and travel that are available for one dollar each. To order kits or get a free list of publications, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to: Kathi Ash, Maryland Center for Public Broadcasting, Owings Mills, Md. 21117.

THEN and NOW

A century ago, prosperous Americans such as Ebenezer Maxwell of Philadelphia built magnificent mansions that were the glory of their era to show off their wealth.

Today, many people are working hard to restore these beauties of the past. Among them is Paul Oversmith, who is helping make the Maxwell mansion the first of its kind open to the public in Philadelphia.



THIS MAGNIFICENT MANSION is being restored with the help of volunteers like Paul Oversmith.

A manager of product development for Sun Information Services, a unit of Sun Company, Oversmith applies the financial knowledge he developed in business to his volunteer work as treasurer of an organization that's restoring the mansion.

So far, nearly \$270,000 has been spent on refurbishing the house and gardens. Sections of the mansion that are not restored will be used for classrooms and displays.

Courses in restoration and repair techniques will teach home owners how to preserve and refine the charms of an older home today.

Happy Hours 5 to 7 P.M., Mon. - Fri.

"Café Rouge Lounge"

Inside the Moulin Rouge Hotel
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PERCY CARSON
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