

Health, Development, and Human Rights

Prejudices Against Foreign Aid

As you read the material for the next class, keep the questions below in mind. To answer these questions you will have to reflect critically on what you have read and possibly re-read important passages. Keep in mind that there are two basic kinds of information that you need to look for in the readings:

1. What are the main points or conclusions that an author accepts with respect to a particular issue?
2. What are the reasons, important considerations, and evidence that lead the author to accept that conclusion?

For our purposes, *it is information of the second sort that will be our primary concern* since our most basic task is to *evaluate the reasons and evidence* that are offered to support accepting one possible conclusion about an issue, rather than another.

Although I strongly suggest that you write out brief answers to these questions, you do not have to turn in written responses. You do, however, need to be prepared to speak intelligently to these issues in the next class meeting.

Readings

- Thomas Pogge, *World Poverty and Human Rights*, "General Introduction".

Questions

1. What sorts of reasons does Thomas Pogge give to explain why we tend to not pay attention to the sufferings of the global poor? In general, what two moral prejudices does Pogge accuse those in affluent countries of embracing?
2. How does Pogge try to discredit these two prejudices in order to argue that we do have a moral duty to provide foreign aid to the global poor?