Issue 04: Why Might the World Face an Overpopulation Problem?

1. Summarize the arguments of Malthus and the Neo-Malthusians (Robert Kaplan, etc) about the connections between population growth and resources:
2. Summarize the arguments of Malthus’ critics concerning:
   1. The general impact of population growth:
   2. The finiteness of resources like food:
   3. The development of food production:
   4. The real population growth curve:
3. What are the two main means to achieve lower birth rates, and what are the advantages/disadvantages of each? Complete the table below.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Means to lower birth rate |  |  |
| Advantages |  |  |
| Disadvantage |  |  |

Which of these policies should governments pursue in the following countries?

Somalia, Kenya, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan