

Poverty

It's happening in front of our very eyes.
It's been happening for years so it shouldn't be a surprise.
Poverty heavily impacts the lower class.
Those in debt lose everything they worked so hard for in a flash.
Their food is simple scraps or pieces of our leftover trash.
No roof over their heads or blankets to keep them warm.
Nothing to protect them from diseases and harm.

10% of the world's population,
Lives on less than \$1.90 to \$5.50 a day.
How can one survive on such low pay?
Half of the 736 million people living in extreme poverty,
Live in the following five countries:
India, Nigeria, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, and Bangladesh
What has the world come to, to be in such a mess?

This year particularly,
Due to COVID-19,
Poverty has increased significantly,
For the first time since the year 1990.
It is expected that over 150 million people will go broke.
Falling into the category of extreme poverty, it isn't a joke.
Many hard-earned businesses lost, homes up for auction
This has been going on for years, even before this virus had begun.

Approximately 297,000 children under the age of five die in these countries every year
They mostly die due to poor hygiene, health, and lack of medicine and food
These poor children are living in a world full of fear
They don't even have access to clean water, plumbing, or clothes
The malnutrition in their bodies clearly shows
These children don't get to experience the fun that life has to offer
Because they live in poverty and have to suffer.

About 13% of people globally do not have access to electricity,
and 40% of people do not have access to clean fuels for cooking.
I see this especially, living in a place like New York City.
There are so many suffering, begging for meals and money.
They are dirty, craving a warm meal, and are starving.
How did they end up this way? What went wrong?
Unfortunately, it is our economy, which isn't that strong.

Several organizations try to help those in need.
They run clothing drives, serve hot meals, and even raise money.
But those in other countries, especially the kids so young and carefree,
Do not deserve to live in a world where they are left starving.
To help out all you need to do is offer a helping hand.
Donate old clothes, shoes, blankets, money, and foods in a can.

Remember, they are human,
Just like the rest of us, but they have lost everything.
Now it's time for us all to go and do a good deed.

Poverty is a serious global issue that is occurring in many poor nations. There are millions of people left starving, without homes or access to essential resources. I chose this topic because I feel that poverty has really increased in our world due to coronavirus. After researching about global poverty, I was awe-struck by the horrific information I had discovered. I was devastated to see children my age and younger from other countries so frail and dirty. I hope that one-day global poverty will come to an end, and we can help those who have lost everything.

Source of information used in poem: <https://www.dosomething.org/us/facts/11-facts-about-global-poverty>