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**Watch the following two videos and then briefly (350 words or less) compare the take home messages from each and indicate which one you feel is most realistic.**

The Kurzgesagt video presents a more optimistic view on the problem of human population around the world. The presenters argue that current population growth trends are an inherent part of human development, and that current population growth arose from countries that went through the early phases of the demographic transition model (DTM). In their opinion, most countries (including the UK, Bangladesh, Iran, South Africa, etc.) are in the last stage of the DTM, where the population has plateaued or even declined. The remaining countries should be reaching the fourth stage soon. They also state that the percentage of people in extreme poverty has never been this low, and that a higher population would lead to more societal developments since every extra person is a helping hand

The Khan Academy video also discussed the downward trend of population growth, from the peak of 2.2% in 1962 to 1.1% currently. This is due to advances to education, where as women are becoming more educated, they are actively choosing to create offspring later in life, if at all, thus reducing the overall birth rates, and the easy access of birth control. Additionally, as more people move towards an urban lifestyle, each child represents an additional cost for the parents, rather than an asset. All this creates a negative feedback loop, where more people have fewer offspring, creating a downward spiral for overall population growth.

However, in contrast to the Kurzgesagt video’s optimistic take, Hanks (the presenter) sheds light to the limit in resources on the planet. Although humans will be able to survive the population boom, other organisms will not since humans are using up most of the planet’s resources. This is leading to a “one of the biggest extinction events in recent geological history”. He suggests that although the human population will stop growing in due time, we should think about ways to coexist with other organisms starting now.

We personally believe Hanks is more realistic since we can already see the adverse effects of human population growth on other organisms (extinction and endangerment) and the environment (climate change).