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Extra Credit: Video Reflection

The video shown in class was an interesting and thought provoking introduction into the class. Some of the information in the video was especially powerful. I learned the unfortunate information that 9 million children under the age of 5 die each day and 25 million children do not get immunization. Although I was aware of the issues brought up in the video, it managed to keep my attention with the presenter’s use of statistical analysis of aid and its effects. The analysis of the current situation and whether or not aid helps alleviate poverty was more than adequate in my opinion. The presenter did point to situations that showed the flaws with certain methods of aid, such as bed nets being used for the wrong purpose and postponement of immunization due to busy lives. She also showed the effects of incentives to help boost aid productivity. These points in the presentation helped to give merit to both arguments and ultimately lead me to understand the situation. It also revealed how her analysis came to the conclusion of aid being a slow process and how its effects could end poverty. She supported it with ample evidence such as the statistic that 20 million children were dewormed in 2009. Even though I do not completely agree that aid will end poverty because of scarcity and mismanagement of resources, I can respect her argument for aid and do consider it a valiant attempt to tackle the herculean tasks associated with poverty. It was overall, a fascinating presentation and I would recommend the video to others, so that they can ponder on the answer to the question of what to do about poverty.