



DVA1501 - Ass 06 - NOTES

Development Studies (University of South Africa)



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SEMESTER 1

ASSIGNMENT 06

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Module code: DVA 1501

Module title: Introduction to Development Studies

Semester: 01

Due date: 17.04.2020

Unique number: 755862

Title: Define globalisation and discuss how it has contributed to poverty and inequality in developing countries.

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INTRODUCTION

This unit introduces us to the global issues of wealth, power, poverty and inequality. At the same time, wage differences are huge between the wealthy and poor countries and between urban and rural spaces, in the developing countries in particular. Lack of clearly secured property rights tends to stifle economic development, as inhabitants of those countries cannot make individual decisions about their lives and the lifestyles they wish to pursue.

To the extent that wealth, power, and poverty are interlinked - sometimes in a negative way - those that are wealthy wield power and determine policies that, at times, negatively affect others and then cause and/or contribute to conditions of poverty.

Firstly, extreme inequality inside a society implies that those who control wealth have control over the lives of others. Secondly, the fairness of political institutions is weakened in situations of persistent inequality. Thirdly, inequality goes hand-in-hand with unequal access to economic, social and political opportunities.

Farouky (in Walters 2014) a filmmaker and photographer explains: "I see inequality as the abuse of power. It's the failure of a society to value its citizens equally, and the success of institutions. Inequality is one of the roots of injustice, and one of the biggest contributing factors to crime and violence."

DEFINE GLOBALISATION

Globalisation is a process of interaction and integration among the people, companies, and governments of different nations, a process driven by international trade and investment and aided by information technology. ... Likewise, for centuries, people and corporations have invested in enterprises in other countries. Globalisation is nothing new, but a continuum of earlier forms of the North expanding into other lands.

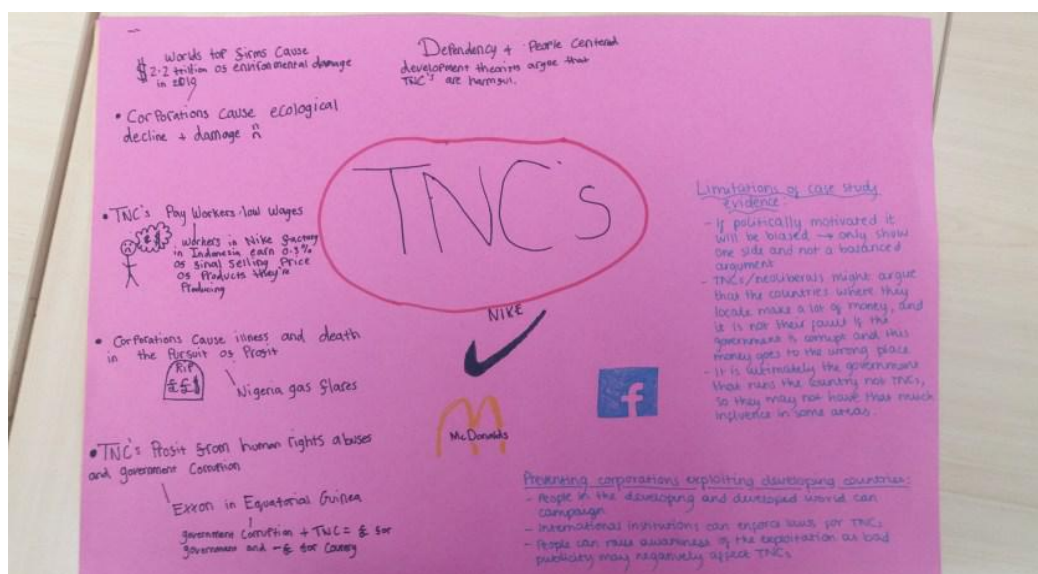
DISCUSS HOW GLOBALISATION HAS CONTRIBUTED TO POVERTY AND INEQUALITY IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

- **Poverty:** Can be defined as lack of economic, social, political and environmental assets, situations where people live lives of indignity, unable to provide for themselves and their families, and with jobs that fail to pay them a living wage. While poverty can be visible - as evidenced by shacks, homelessness, unemployment, casualised labour, poor infrastructure and lack of access to basic services.

Poverty can also be explained using the concepts of absolute poverty, moderate poverty and relative poverty.

- **Absolute poverty** implies that households are unable to meet the basic needs for survival.
 - **Moderate poverty** refers to conditions of life in which basic needs are met, but just barely.
 - **Relative poverty** is generally perceived to be a household income level below a given proportion of average national income.
- **Inequality:** can be seen as the social and economic stratification of society. It is usually said that inequality can be reduced/eliminated by closing income gaps, such as increasing workers wages. Inequality is measured also in terms of opportunities. The opportunities that exist for countries to trade in the international arena are one example of inequality.

USE EXAMPLES OF ILLUSTRATE HOW TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS (TNCs) EXPLOIT DEVELOPING COUNTRIES



CONCLUSION

Inequality and poverty are measured in many ways including incomes, consumption, literacy levels, land holdings and life expectancy. The measure that is used depends on the purpose of the study. As a way of introducing you to these measures, we will use gross GDP per capita, adult literacy and life expectancy as measures of inequality among nations or states.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. DVA1501/1/2018-2025 - Introduction to Development Studies
2. Google

12 ADDENDUM

ASSIGNMENT CHECKLIST

Attach this assignment checklist to each of the completed **essay-type** assignments that you submit for marking. If you want to submit more than two essay-type assignments and need more checklists, please make extra copies for yourselves. A copy of this checklist in MS word format is available under the **Additional Resources** tab on myUnisa.

Answer all the questions by putting a cross/tick in the appropriate column.

QUESTION	YES	NO
1. Have I included a table of contents?	✓	
2. Does my assignment consist of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● an introduction?● a main section (or body) with appropriate sub-headings?● a conclusion?	✓ ✓ ✓	
3. Have I included a list of reference that complies with the following requirements? <ul style="list-style-type: none">● I have listed all the sources to which I referred?● I have provided full details according to the guidelines given in Tutorial Letter DVAALLD/301.● Have I listed the sources alphabetically?	✓ ✓ ✓	
4. Have I used references to acknowledge all the sources from which I have borrowed ideas?		✓
5. Did I write in my own words to avoid plagiarism?	✓	
6. Have I checked to see whether all my sentences are arranged in a logical order so that my lecture will be able to follow my arguments?	✓	
7. Did I limit my assignment to the number of words or pages stipulated in the assignment question?	✓	
8. Have I written my full particulars on the assignment cover sheet?	✓	
9. Have I written the correct assignment number on the cover sheet?	✓	
10. Have I left enough time for my assignment to reach the university before the due date?		✓

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