Thoughts on Singer Solution to World Poverty

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| When does a person get to say they’ve ethically contributed enough? | There are an infinite amount of tragedies. Suffering children from 2-6 is an infinitesimal fraction. Am I expected to take every problem with equal merit? Am I expected to know and understand all problems? How can I judge which problems are the most moral to care for? |
| Zeno’s Paradox | In order to get to B from A we go half way each time, and ultimately never get there.  As the cost for human happiness is exponential, it would require an infinite amount of money as we get close.  e.x. Saving kids from 2-6 costs $200/person. If we somehow manage to save all kids 2-6 for all time, then the issue of 7-8 year olds will be seen as equally significant. |
| Moral Paradox | A person works hard to provide for the people he knows and cares about. If we take all of working people’s money and give it to the needy, they’ll stop working toward making money. Eventually less money will be available as people focus on things that they can keep with people they know. |
| Socialist Problem | Let’s say we pool all the money from everyone in the entire world and distribute it evenly.  Market’s would respond. Wealth earners would still earn wealth, people who don’t make money wouldn’t make money. Within a decade the system would look very close. |
| Communism Problem | Controlling the market using governmental force may sound like a good idea, but the government sucks at basically everything.  We’d just see venezula 2.0 where tons of formally healthy working people are now eating their family pets to survive. |
| Capitalism Problem | As capitalism is allowed to grow and thrive more wealth is created for everyone. The rising tide raises all boats. As capitalism has been allowed to thrive in the west fewer and fewer people are living in poverty and there is more money to donate. Taking money by force to give to others usually has unforeseen consequences as it’s a direct violation of the NAP |
| Sinking Boat Problem | A small boat notices a large cruise ship is sinking and people are yellow for help. As they approach the wreck they see hundreds of people that will drown unless they are given help. If you take too many, the boat will sink and everyone will die. Who do you save? How many? Knowing that drowning people are going to try to save themselves and will swarm your boat, how close do you get? |
| Radius of concern | The further away something gets from me the less I’m going to be concerned with it. There are a lot of problems closer to home to worry about. The example of the guy and the car/train was a bad one.  Distrust for major corporations is fairly high, even charitable ones seem sketchy (Clinton’s anyone?) |