

the 1990s, the number of people in the world who are under 15 years of age has increased by 1.2 billion (United Nations 2002). This increase is due to a combination of factors, including a decline in infant and child mortality rates, a rise in life expectancy, and a high birth rate in developing countries.

The rapid increase in the number of children in the world has led to a corresponding increase in the number of children who are in need of social services. This is particularly true in developing countries, where the majority of the population is under 15 years of age. In these countries, the social services system is often overwhelmed by the number of children who are in need of care and protection.

One of the main reasons for the increase in the number of children in need of social services is the high birth rate in developing countries. In these countries, the average number of children born to a woman is often more than five. This high birth rate is due to a combination of factors, including a lack of access to family planning services and a cultural emphasis on large families.

Another reason for the increase in the number of children in need of social services is the decline in infant and child mortality rates. In the past, many children died in infancy or childhood due to lack of access to medical care and poor nutrition. However, in recent years, there has been a significant decline in these mortality rates, which has led to a corresponding increase in the number of children who are alive and in need of social services.

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