

[about](#)[archive](#)[minis](#)[the shed](#)[dinner table](#)[store](#)[support wbw](#)

Traveling To The Third World Is Great And Also It Sucks

📅 April 29, 2014 By Tim Urban

The thing about visiting the Developing World when you live in the Developed World is that it's a rich, eye-opening, perspective-building cultural experience and the other thing about it is that it sucks.

You know that upsetting person who posts pictures on Facebook of themselves doing some delicious- or beautiful- or wild-looking activity in somewhere like Tanzania or India or Peru? And even though they're posting for their own purposes as part of a skillful weave of [Image Crafting and Jealousy Inducing](#), it makes you yearn anyway as you sit there in whatever shitty life you've chosen for yourself?

The thing you need to remember is that they did some careful cropping on the photo—they cropped out the misery. Misery is a government requirement when you visit a country like Tanzania or India or Peru and your body is totally unaccustomed to the ecosystem, but that's easy to forget when you're not there.

So it's not that your upsetting friend isn't having a great time—they are—but beneath their shit-eating open-jaw delighted smile and upward-extended arms grasping into the succulent mist of a waterfall, just a couple feet down are aching, blistered feet, malaria-ridden-mosquito bitten legs, and some gurgling diarrhea nightmare.

You should still be jealous—just not *that* jealous.

Let's pause for a moment to examine the distinction between traveling and going on vacation.

There are three things you can focus on when you're on a trip:

- 1) The Place.** Exploring a place's famous sights, natural wonders, history, and modern highlights.
- 2) The People.** Getting to know the modern culture and the mindset of the people; developing a better understanding of what it's like to live there by asking questions, visiting residential areas, and socializing with locals.
- 3) Yourself.** Being hedonistic, focusing on eating, drinking, reading, and relaxing.

In any place in the world, someone who's easily fascinated can achieve #1, someone who's bravely outgoing can achieve #2, and if you have a high budget, you can make #3 happen almost anywhere.

But for the average person, which of these three objectives can be easily achieved will depend on the specific location of the trip. Some examples of where they'll be achieved most naturally:

5.5k
Shares



3.5k



3.5k





** A) But really. B) I've been there so I'm not just being a dick. C) It was a good choice for that joke because there aren't many Kazakh Wait But Why readers, so I'll get in a relatively small amount of trouble for this.

So as far as traveling vs. vacation goes—

For a trip to qualify as a “vacation,” hedonism (Item 3 above) must be a prominent component of things, and misery shouldn't really enter the equation. A vacation should recharge your batteries and your health. And vacations are non-controversial. They're good. ^[1] But their effects are also more on the surface and likely not long-lasting.

Traveling, on the other hand, I define very differently. The core focus of a “traveling” trip must be either Item 1, Item 2, or both. Hedonism can sometimes play a part of a traveling excursion, but it's not the reason you're there, and you likely will not finish the trip feeling healthy and refreshed—you'll feel like you need a vacation. Traveling is less uniformly “good” than vacation—some moments will be astoundingly great, and others will be the worst part of your year. But whatever happens may stick around and become part of who you are.

This post is about traveling, and in particular, the quintessential “travel” experience—the one that best nails both Items 1 and 2 (while usually missing Item 3 entirely)—Third World travel. Specifically, as it is experienced by a visiting First Worlder.

(There's a chance that the terms First World and Third World are offensive. I'm not sure. I googled around about this, and my impression is that there are like two more years before the terms become officially offensive—so I plan to get my fill while I can, because the terms Developed World and Developing World are far less amusing.)

(These terms originated during the Cold War, when the countries aligned with the US and capitalism were called the First World and the countries aligned with the Soviet Bloc and communism were called the Second World. The non-aligned countries were the Third World, and since that time, the terms First and Third World have taken on the new meanings of Developed and Developing nations.)

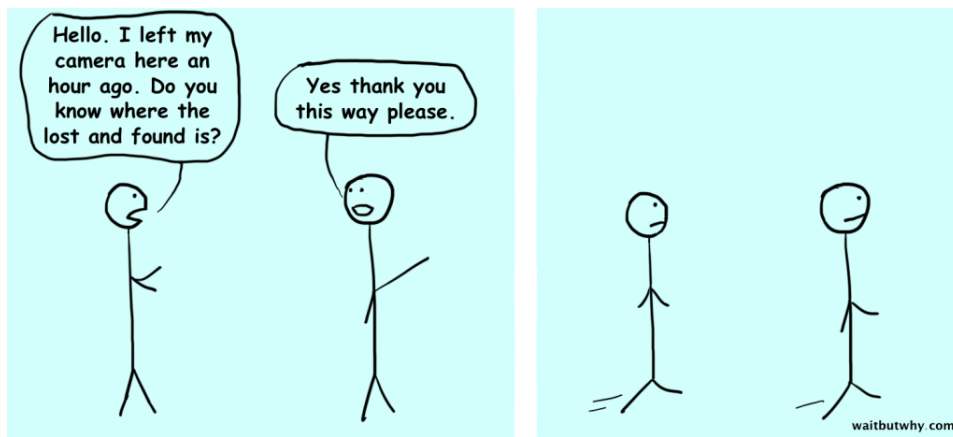
(Reading this post aloud would have been six-year-old Tim's biggest nightmare. “World” was the second-hardest word to pronounce correctly for me, behind only “girl.” I remember thinking it was so incredibly impressive that anyone could say “girl” correctly. Let's move on.)

8 things a First Worlder can expect from a trip to a Third World country.

1) There aren't nearly as many rules.

You can usually kind of just walk into places and drive in the wrong lane and drink on the street and do whatever you want and no one cares. On some domestic flights in Myanmar, there wasn't even a security checkpoint.

On the misery front... **The same lack in structure can make it a logistical nightmare.**



2) If you're friendly, it's not hard to get to know local people.

I acknowledge that I might think this is true because *I* just act friendlier in the first place because I *think* people in other countries are friendlier and then they respond in kind. But either way, I've been invited into dozens of homes in third-world countries simply by being smiley and starting a conversation. One time, a family in a tiny apartment all slept in the kitchen to give me their one bedroom (against my pleading protests). I'm yet to be invited anywhere by a New York stranger.

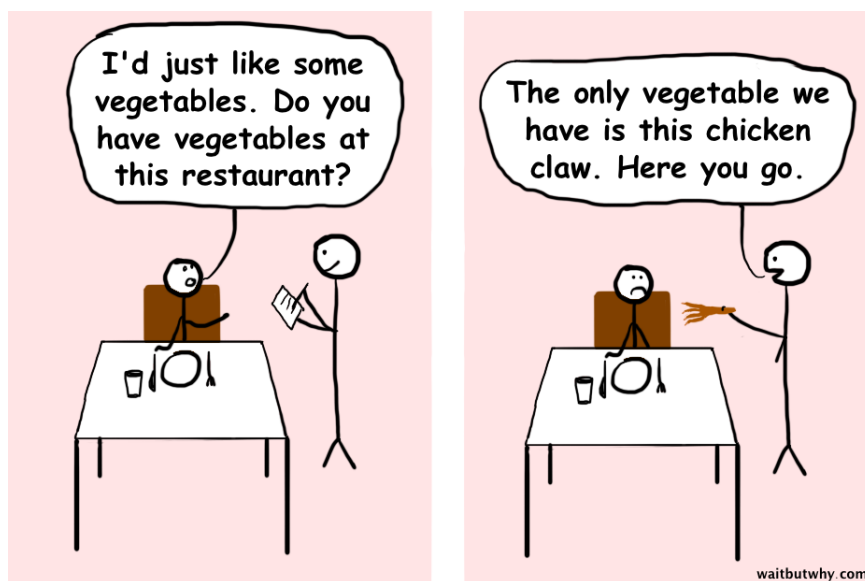


This is why third-world countries do so much better than first-world places in the “People” section of the above Venn Diagram.

On the misery front... **The language barrier can ruin everything if you don’t learn some of their phrases.**

3) The food is often great and totally different than what you’re used to.

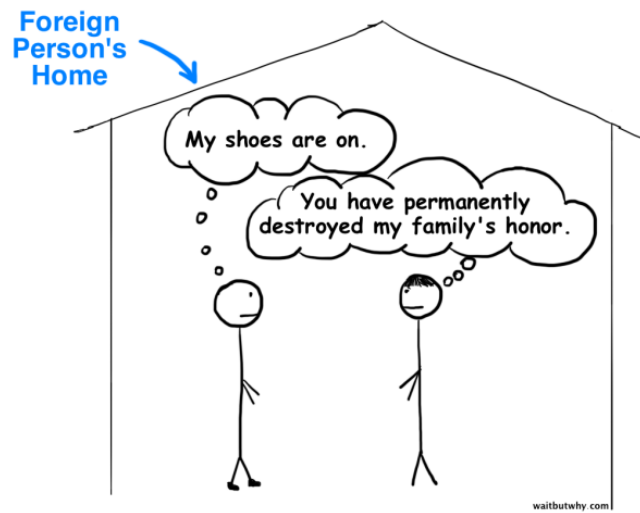
On the misery front... **The food can be terrifying.**



4) The culture is usually completely foreign to you and eye-opening and fascinating to learn about.

The way I like thinking about it, I live in a world that is a product of centuries of a certain population of humans and the way they learned how to live life. When I travel to any really different culture, it’s a chance to see what a totally different population of humans ended up with when *they* took their own crack at how to live life. What could be more fascinating than that?

On the misery front... **You might inadvertently horribly violate some cultural taboo.**



5) There are cool animals.

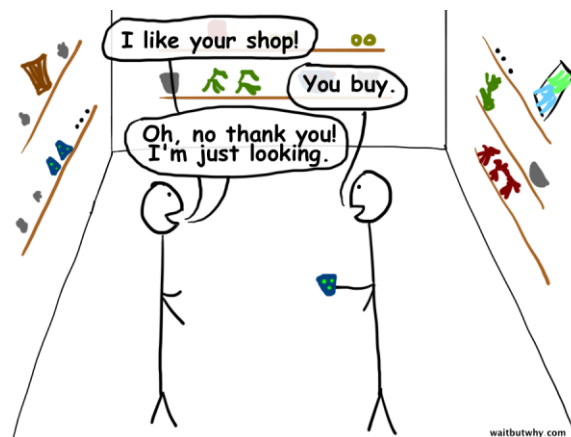
I seem to come across elephants, (sedated) tigers, cobras, emus, and a number of monkeys and apes in third-world places. Not much chance to do that where I'm from.

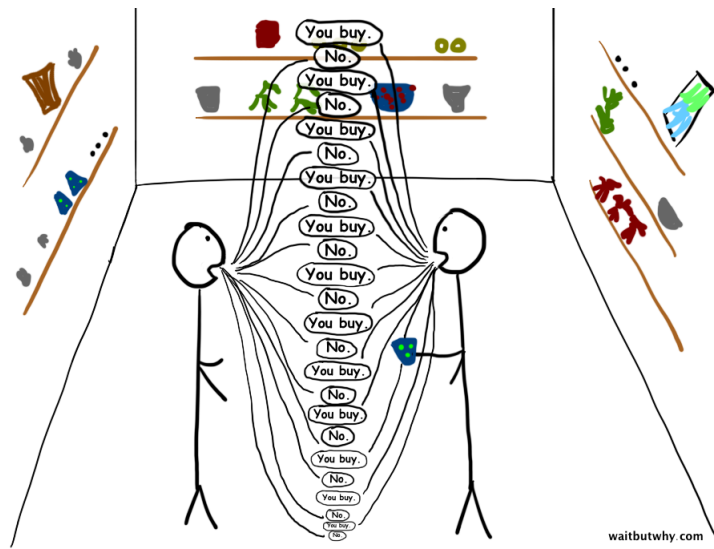
On the misery front... **There are lots of stressful stray animals everywhere.**



6) You can buy amazing crafts you can't get anywhere else.

On the misery front... **You're the target prey for relentless shop owners.**





7) It'll remind you that you live in a palace back home, and that you did nothing to deserve that.



All it takes is a little time in a third-world country to be blown away when you return home by the sheer quality of life you get to enjoy—the pristine cleanliness of the streets, the vast abundance in the grocery stores, the utter comfort of everything—suddenly the immense wealth of the First World is blatantly apparent everywhere you look and you remember that everyone you know lives like a king without realizing it. Then two days later you forget too and start complaining about everything again.

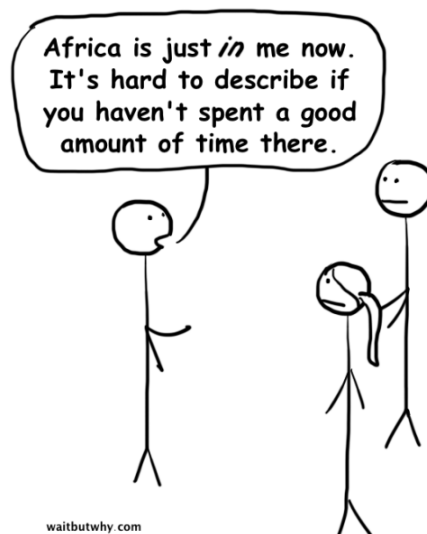
On the misery front... **It'll remind you that you live in a palace back home, and that you did nothing to deserve that.**



8) You won't be one of the ignorant First Worlders who thinks it's dangerous to visit the Third World or has other gross misconceptions of what the third-world countries are like.

If you employ the same common sense that keeps you safe in your hometown, visiting third-world countries is zero percent dangerous. And anyone who tells you differently is either over-paranoid or has little travel experience.

On the misery front... **You risk becoming a self-righteous douchebag who's way too proud of themselves for their third-world experiences.**



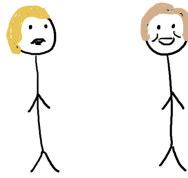
Other Wait But Why posts on traveling:

[20 Things I Learned When I Was in North Korea](#)

[The 12 Types of People You'll Find in Every Hostel](#)

[Odd Things in Odd Places](#)

RECOMMENDED POSTS



[The Second Presidential Debate](#)



[Clueyness: A Weird Kind of Sad](#)



[Mailbag #1](#)

177 Comments

[Wait But Why](#)

[Login](#)

[Recommend](#) 13 [Share](#)

[Sort by Newest](#)



Join the discussion...

LOG IN WITH

OR SIGN UP WITH DISQUS ?



Name



Bill Collings • 2 months ago

Good Point: "Traveling is less uniformly "good" than vacation—some moments will be astoundingly great, and others will be the worst part of your year. But whatever happens may stick around and become part of who you are." I use to think of the "third world" as a time machine which was very much like the "first world" 75 to 100+ years ago which most of the citizens of the wealthier countries have forgotten. And along with this idea of the time machine so many potential opportunities were available; I left the States in Jan 77 at 22 thinking I would be gone maybe 6 months to a year which evolved into nearly 4 years never going back to the States for a consecutive 12 month period since then living most of my life in the Philippines. Another important point you may have mentioned is that 80% of humanity lives in the 2nd and 3rd world and historically how the wealthier "first world" countries attained the base of their wealth attaining commodities from the 3rd world countries by warfare, colonial possession and international trade and using third world country cheap labor.

[^](#) | [v](#) • [Reply](#) • [Share](#)



STOP! • 3 months ago

Please don't say the third world is not dangerous, because it is. Maybe you don't understand the concept of danger. Danger is when your risk of being attacked increases from 0.0000001% to 2%.

1 [^](#) | [v](#) • [Reply](#) • [Share](#)



Garima Singh • 5 months ago

Hi Tim, while as an avid follower and a die hard fan of wait but why, I'm deeply saddened that you should see the developing countries in such light; I'd like to extend to you an invitation! You are cordially invited to visit the magical (not snake charmer magical.. that's just hogwash!) and culturally rich & diverse land of India. As a fan, I would be honoured to host you.

See, we at India have a saying in Sanskrit called "Atithi devo bhav" roughly translated to "Guest is like God". And, I know this hospitality culture may seem ironic given that the last time we welcomed a large delegation from a western country with open arms 200 years ago, they took over our country, reduced us to second grade citizens (to give you some idea, there were literally signs in some areas saying "Indians and dogs not allowed"), plundered all the wealth India was so known for, caused huge internal conflict by literally leaving a partition in their wake and reduced us to the status of so called "third world".

So, while you're here and people welcome you with open arms and warm hearts, do remember this is a child nation just 70 years out of tyrannical rule which is growing but also trusting.

Your article has been around for a while and from the comment section, I noticed you faced a lot of flak and also tried to defend your stand while apologising with dignity. I also agree that Kazakhstan might not be your biggest reader Base. But, that still doesn't justify writing an article that tends to the ego of your larger reader Base (developed nations). It almost feels like an article that makes them feel good about themselves by looking down at the lesser fortunate nations! And I have read your types of annoying people on Facebook article. I'd classify this one as an "indirect brag". Don't be that guy!

2 [^](#) | [v](#) • [Reply](#) • [Share](#)



Alex • 5 months ago

Last time I read any article from Waitbutwhy! this awful article and super rude towards "third world countries"

has made this the last time I ever visit this site. I recommend you all do the same. If you cannot appreciate that every country is unique whether its a "first, second, third or fourth world" than just dont write about it. Tim got to hell

^ | v • Reply • Share ›

 **Жамиля Нильдибаева (Zhamka)** → Alex • 23 days ago

Lol, I'm from Kazakhstan and I didn't find this article rude at all. He actually does exactly what you say he didn't do - he praises all his travel experiences as unique and thought-provoking. If terms "first world" and "third world" upset you so much it turns off the logic department in your brain, maybe you better stay off the internet.

^ | v • Reply • Share ›

 **Aibek Mursalimov** • a year ago

There are wbw readers in Kazakhstan

6 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

 **Жамиля Нильдибаева (Zhamka)** → Aibek Mursalimov • 23 days ago

Hi from another WBW reader from Kazakhstan!

^ | v • Reply • Share ›

 **Nika** • a year ago

Tim, I am a long-time reader of waitbutwhy, and I respect you and your articles deeply, but that joke about Kazakhstan? Was not necessary at all and really uncalled for. It's not like Kazakhstan has a great reputation among Westerners after that unfortunate Borat movie in the first place. Making it the butt of a mean joke that you know not many people will actually get, and some will find offensive? Is not very professional. I get that you might not have had the best experience in KZ, and I will be the first to say that Kazakhstan is not a place where you want to go vacationing for hedonistic purposes, but really, would it have killed you to just not single out my country (or any country, for that matter) in this way? Casually and carelessly disregarding Kazakhstan's culture, history, and its people to sound cool does not win you any brownie points.

6 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

 **Жамиля Нильдибаева (Zhamka)** → Nika • 23 days ago

That harmless joke did not upset me at all. Hello fellow Kazakh reader!

I feel like I've gotten to know Tim really well through his blog, and I know that he's the kind of person who'd never mean any harm to anyone.

He's pro-humanity, that guy.

Him making a joke about Kazakhstan is like a physics teacher making a pun about atoms that "refused" to fuse together, and atoms being all upset:

"actually atoms don't fuse and it's not what a teacher's supposed to joke about and you have completely disregarded our inner complexity and blah blah"

Like, some atoms happen to completely miss the point of humor.

^ | v • Reply • Share ›

 **Becks** • a year ago

This is so true. As awful and privileged as it may sound, after travelling to Indonesia twice I just don't want to visit developing countries anymore. I know they're a lot less fortunate than I am and it's a completely different country and way of life, but I find it SO difficult to see animals suffering (ponies standing in the sun all day waiting to haul a tourist around/ tigers being sedated for amusement/ countless undernourished strays) and to see the amount of rubbish. I'm told India is similar, rubbish everywhere. That bugs me at home and I am constantly picking up rubbish from the road, but seeing tonnes of it and knowing there's nothing being done about it, is truly horrendous for me.

Not to mention the poverty of the people and seeing how little they have to survive on. It can eye opening but incredibly depressing.

3 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

 **STOP!** → Becks • 3 months ago

yeah, visiting third world countries is for your education, not for your pleasure. So, go to see one or two and be done with it. Then there are those travelers who keep going all the time and enjoy seeing other peoples misery, while virtue signalling back home as "saviors of poor people", when they don't really save anyone but themselves.

1 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

 **billy** → Becks • 5 months ago

Well please stay the hell home! third world countries prefer westerners like you staying far away anyways

1 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

 **Жамиля Нильдибаева (Zhamka)** → billy • 23 days ago

Not really. Westerners are in high regard here.

^ | v • Reply • Share ›

 **David Lisa** • 2 years ago



we are looking for new recruit's to spread the enlightenment of our organization. we do not represent evil nor do we worship devil. we do not advocate violence or harm against anyone.the Illuminati it a group of enlightened individuals whose focus is to spread truth, knowledge and enlightenment. we advocate peace and only exits for the betterment of mankind.we do not promise you riches or however we can advise you on how to obtain these things only if you truly desire them.if you TRULY seek to become member of the Illuminati then please follow the simple steps below for consideration into our organization
engagementcircle@gmail.com

1 ^ | v • Reply • Share >



Karan Agarwal • 2 years ago

Hey, can you please clarify what you mean by third world countries? If I am not wrong (and I am not) 3rd world countries was a phrase used to annote countries neither aligned with USA or Soviet Russia during the cold war.

So by going by your usage of the phrase 3rd world country, going to Switzerland would be equivalent to going to say Pakistan ??

2 ^ | v • Reply • Share >



BuHL ScaT → Karan Agarwal • 2 years ago

I agree with you wholeheartedly. However, this was in the article that I'm not convinced you read.

"(There's a chance that the terms First World and Third World are offensive. I'm not sure. I googled around about this, and my impression is that there are like two more years before the terms become officially offensive—so I plan to get my fill while I can, because the terms Developed World and Developing World are far less amusing.)

(These terms originated during the Cold War, when the countries aligned with the US and capitalism were called the First World and the countries aligned with the Soviet Bloc and communism were called the Second World. The non-aligned countries were the Third World, and since that time, the terms First and Third World have taken on the new meanings of Developed and Developing nations.)"

^ | v • Reply • Share >



Karan Agarwal → BuHL ScaT • 2 years ago

ok , yeah ! I skipped the opening part and moved directly to the 8 points. My bad !!

^ | v • Reply • Share >



Alla • 2 years ago

Uh-oh, Tim. I am from Kazakhstan and I am a Waitbutwhy reader.

^ | v • Reply • Share >



Alla → Alla • 2 years ago

And now I am really curious about Tim's experience in the country.

1 ^ | v • Reply • Share >



TheBurningWarrior → Alla • a year ago

I found it.

<http://timurban.blogspot.co...>

^ | v • Reply • Share >



Grace Then → Alla • 2 years ago

you can find it in his old blog! underneath the turban or something

^ | v • Reply • Share >



Pbworld631 • 2 years ago

Thank you for these cartoons. This post is the only thing keeping us from crying in this hovel we are stuck in for another week in southeast asia. The goat ate my camera last night.

^ | v • Reply • Share >



Jamesralpheal666 • 2 years ago

Are you a business man/woman or an artist,Politicians,pastor and you want to become big, Powerful and famous in the world, join us to become one of our official member [today.you](#) shall be given an ideal

chance to visit the Illuminati and his representative after registrations is completed by you, no sacrifice or human life needed, Illuminati brotherhood brings along wealth and famous in life, you have a full access to eradicate poverty away from your life now. it only a member who is been initiated into the church of Illuminati have the authority to bring any member to the church, so before you contact any body you must be link by who is already a member, Join us today and realize

see more

^ | v • Reply • Share >



anu • 2 years ago

Hello,

I enjoyed your TED talked and that is what lead me to your blog. After quick browsing landed on this post. Have to say I am intrigued by your tall claims of being fascinated by the locals and their culture, when the evidence as per the tone of your article is to the contrary!

I would like to point of that the so called 'Third World Countries' that you call out here are far older and advanced civilizations than the so called 'First World' or 'Developed Countries'. the civilisations that were robbed and dismantled/damaged by the colonizers and crusaders. if you want to look at how the pilgrims affected the local civilizations you have glaring examples right at your home - your country and your neighbour up north. the pattern that was repeated everywhere to cut people everywhere form their native culture, where ever they laid their hands on. and thanks to you and likes of you with your superior than thou attitude that refuses to end. additionally our ancient civilizations knew better to live in harmony with nature than what the modern world does or would ever learn to do!!

As pointed out by many, most people in most of developing world know at-least two languages if not more.

the caricature that you have drawn of the 'Indian-toilet' I would do a second take on it - as it is proven to be better for your colon than the so called first world toilet. go figure!

There are many things i could be adding, but figure it would then appear a lot like a rant, which i dont want it to be. One last thing though, i read one other blog post where you mention world history and squeeze in Buddha and no other mention Indian contribution in maths, science, maritime. If i were you i would try to brush up on Indian history and its contribution to world. Incentive? it was known to them that earth is not flat before the western world, they knew surgery before western scientist even new about the circulatory system, they were the only people to know zinc extraction for a really long time... there are many examples.

3 ^ | v • Reply • Share >



Harini • 2 years ago

Loved this post!! The only damper on this post was the word "Third World". In today's world, classifying countries as First, Second and Third is sad...

^ | v • Reply • Share >



Stia • 2 years ago

I cringed at the use of the word Africa in that last stick figure picture as opposed to the spesific country you were in. Are the countries in Africa really similar enough to justify that?

^ | v • Reply • Share >



Luis Wainer • 2 years ago

First world, second world and third world country definitions have no relation to how rich are the people living in those countries. Have a look: <https://en.m.wikipedia.org/...>

^ | v • Reply • Share >



Stuart M. • 2 years ago

There's something that's bothering me. I love traveling to a certain poor European country. I even imagine retiring there some day. I keep asking myself why. I wouldn't call myself a great success in the First World place I now live in. But to most of the citizens of this country I must seem like a very rich person. Everyone there is very friendly but in the back of my mind, I am always wondering if they are really interested in me or in their vision of this super rich person. And sure enough, at some point in our "friendship," I am always moved to want to give them some money. I notice this immediately causes a certain awkwardness in our friendship. They usually accept the money, but our friendship is never the same thereafter. Maybe it's just "out of sight, out of mind" but I can hardly get an email out of them after that. Maybe I should really leave this country and these people alone. I should stay in my own culture and be content to be a loser in my First World.

4 ^ | v • Reply • Share >



Gani Kumisbek • 3 years ago

All of these 3rd world countries are actually losers, which lag behind the developed countries by ages



All of these 3rd world countries are actually losers, which lag behind the developed countries by ages.

But when you think about it, living in a shithole like Kazakhstan (where I live) I would say, you start to appreciate things you have like education, medicine and such in developed countries, where such things take as granted.

I feel sad that I was born in developing country. But that's the way things are I guess, some people just get like to be born in nice places...that makes me angry to see when people in developed countries complain about trivial and small issues :(

5 ^ | v • Reply • Share >



Жамиля Нильдибаева (Zhamka) → Gani Kumisbek • 23 days ago

Funny. Most people I know do take education as granted. They skip school, cheat at the unified national test, get free bachelor education, spend their time in college fucking around and hope to get a nice secure job through "connections"

I really doubt that living a third world country makes you appreciate social security more.

^ | v • Reply • Share >



Alex • 3 years ago

I live in one of the poor countries in the world (Philippines) and I can assure you we have modern toiletry and everyone has a phone and tv for some reason.

5 ^ | v • Reply • Share >



Chiel Wieringa • 3 years ago

DISCLAIMER: I have left a lot of nuances out of and have put in a lot of generalizations in this post. Due to language and laziness. So there is a good chance you will be upset by reading the following. Just put in some nuances for yourself and figure out the generalizations and it should be fine. It does require you to think for yourself though. And keep in mind that it is just my perspective.

I've been to Kenya and Uganda. I live in the Netherlands. In my opinion the people in these "developing" countries are way more developed than the people in the "developed" countries I've been. They generally speak more than 2 languages (English, Swahili and in general at least one local language). They know how to build a house. They know how to grow/find food in nature. They know how to entertain themselves. They can actually have conversations that are NOT about today's news or the weather or yesterday's TV show. They think. They are far less superficial (as in judging a person by how they look/dress) They know how to take care of themselves. They actually know what family means. They can fix about anything if it is broken. Conclusion: they are "real, complete human beings". Something that will probably disappear in the next century since schooling/capitalism is introduced there like it is over here. When they also become so called "developed" countries.

(okay, I might be a bit over cynical towards people living in the "developed" countries, but it's just an perspective on what "development" is through my eyes: a small group of "real, complete human beings"

[Viewing the rest of the comments about this post is disabled. If you think you should be able to see this information...](#)

[see more](#)

10 ^ | v • Reply • Share >



John → Chiel Wieringa • 3 years ago

Africa is a shithole! and it's countries like where your from who invite those lowlifes to immigrate there; and guess what happens next: greater crime and drug usage, along with a debased educational system.

1 ^ | v • Reply • Share >



Chiel Wieringa → John • 3 years ago

What has happened to you to make you believe this to be true?

2 ^ | v • Reply • Share >



John → Chiel Wieringa • 3 years ago

What happened to me was to see true reality without the blinders of false information fed by the toxic Zionist media!

1 ^ | v • Reply • Share >



Chiel Wieringa → John • 3 years ago

Reality is not the truth, it is the truth filtered by perception. So what you are saying is that you changed your perception filter. How did you obtain your new perception filter? Was it through media (of course not "toxic Zionist media" whatever that may be) or through experience?

2 ^ | v • Reply • Share >



bonareri omwenga → Chiel Wieringa • 2 years ago

its Kenya by the way..not kenia..we are warm people that's true.

^ | v • Reply • Share >



John → Chiel Wieringa • 3 years ago

Your not educated! Goodbye.

1 ^ | v • Reply • Share >



Clayton • 3 years ago

What a lovely human being, differentiating between humanity, to inflate the ego of his receding hairline and increasing belly.

^ | v • Reply • Share >



Jesse • 3 years ago

Stop calling poorer countries the 3rd world. Its ridiculous and has NOTHING to do with what your talking about.

6 ^ | v • Reply • Share >



Captain Obvious • 3 years ago

Wow. This sounds like a bunch of USAmericans who have never traveled, are terrified of the world, and actually believe that they are superior to these "dirty third world countries." Ridiculous. Go travel, idiots.

3 ^ | v • Reply • Share >



Mike • 3 years ago

I took an escape and evasion class and the CIA instructor told me that if you entered Mexico, your chances of getting kidnapped are exponentially high. More kidnappings happen in Mexico City than anywhere else in the world.

^ | v • Reply • Share >



Felimmando → Mike • 2 years ago

Not really.

<http://www.howsafeismexico....>

^ | v • Reply • Share >



AF • 4 years ago

Have read many of the articles, love the website, but this sure wasn't the best post.. Just sounds like a spoilt guy getting around some exotic destinations to true all about it to friends. And post pictures on Facebook.

One thing, traveling to our poor countries can be dangerous indeed. Health problems, violence... I strongly recommend people to do some research before traveling and always take care, don't be a sitting duck. I'm from Brazil, btw.

7 ^ | v • Reply • Share >



Anonymous reader • 4 years ago

The person that wrote this article does not know what he/she is taking about.... Its a shame on third world countries. Even if he/she is speaking about one country in particular he has categorized all as terrible. It such a sha

7 ^ | v • Reply • Share >



Guest reader • 4 years ago

Its but obvious the author hasnt been to India but keeps ranting the country's name to relate to third world.

8 ^ | v • Reply • Share >



John → Guest reader • 3 years ago

Only a billion third world indians!

2 ^ | v • Reply • Share >



Viswa • 4 years ago

i belong to the so called third world.

All these day i followed your posts/blogs religiouly.. including this one. But, I would like to make a point here. I dont say that whatever you mentioned is not correct. It is true, but the selection of words is important. You being a writer, i need not tell you that. It is not good to make fun out of everything. Yeah.. people here (the people you met) dont know good english, accepted !! But you know, the most of kids in our country know better english than most of the adults in the FIRST WORLD.

The for the people you met in this third world, English not the mother tongue nor of any use in their day to day life.. but they still know. On an average, people living in urban areas in our third world knows more than 2 languages.

Reading something which demens you really hurts.

But i know, it impossible to please each and every reader. :)

11 ^ | v • Reply • Share >



fail4sure → Viswa • 3 years ago

Simple question: Do you have an indoor toilet with plumbing that doesn't empty into the street?

My memories of India include the people, yes; but the smells and poverty are close behind...

^ | v • Reply • Share >



DaveC → Viswa • 4 years ago



Don't take it as an insult.. I've travelled all over the world and I only speak english. All these countries I visit the locals at least know SOME english (while I know nothing of their language), the fact that we struggle to communicate is MY fault, after all, I'm the one visiting their country!

9 ^ | v • Reply • Share >

Load more comments

ALSO ON WAIT BUT WHY

Is universal basic income a good solution for the future?

464 comments • a year ago

tgmweb — What's striking in the comments is a common misunderstanding of how UBI works, and a massively cynical view of how people receiving UBI ...

You Win

6 comments • a year ago

Gtowers27 — Yeah Tim you messed up!!! >:3 the secretness of the turtle posts was broken because they appear in the end of some posts... Now I dont ...

- Wait But Why

333 comments • 3 months ago

Thomas B — Tim - love WBW, great to see you again, but I'd like to suggest you should think again about the wisdom of end-of-life regrets, or building a life - ...

The Second Presidential Debate

288 comments • 2 years ago

Frostbite — Do you ever get tired of saying "snowflake" and "liberal" every other sentence? Just curious. I know I'm automatically one myself and a ...

✉ Subscribe • ➕ Add Disqus to your siteAdd DisqusAdd • 🔒 Disqus' Privacy PolicyPrivacy PolicyPrivacy

DISQUS

46 Comments

Sort by **Top** ↕



Add a comment...



Joel E Benson

Hello my name is Joel E Benson I am a living testimony of the great illuminati brotherhood. We are giving a chance to know the world of riches, join the illuminati brotherhood to become rich, powerful and famous..ΔΔ

Like · Reply · 37w

Load 10 more comments

Facebook Comments Plugin



Home

Archive

Contact

© WaitButWhy 2018
Partner With Us
Privacy Policy

