

D-Lab

Write a one-page reaction piece to the following reading. What did you find interesting? What insights did you gain? Do you agree or disagree with the author? Did you gain any new perspectives? **Please also use examples from the Smillie text, pp 86-103.**

Intermediate Technology

Excerpts from

Small is Beautiful, Economics as if People Mattered

E.F. Schumacher, 1973

"In many places in the world today the poor are getting poorer while the rich are getting richer, and the established processes of foreign aid and development planning appear to be unable to overcome this tendency. In fact, they often seem to promote it, for it is always easier to help those who can help themselves than to help the helpless..."

[Two paragraphs removed due to copyright restrictions - please consult the book]

The Condition of the Poor

"What is the typical condition of the poor in most of the so-called developing countries? Their work opportunities are so restricted that they cannot work their way out of misery. They are underemployed or totally unemployed..."

[Two paragraphs removed due to copyright restrictions - please consult the book]

Help to Those Who Need It Most

"The problem may therefore be stated quite simply thus: what can be done to bring health to economic life outside the big cities, in the small towns and villages which still contain-- in most cases-- eighty to ninety percent of the total population?...."

[Four paragraphs removed due to copyright restrictions - please consult the book]

The Nature of the Task

"The task, then, is to bring into existence millions of new workplaces in the rural areas and small towns. That modern industry, as it has arisen in the developed countries, cannot possibly fulfill this task should be perfectly obvious. It has arisen in societies which are rich in capital and short of labor and therefore cannot possibly be appropriate for societies short of capital and rich in labor...

The real task may be formulated in four propositions...."

[Two paragraphs removed due to copyright restrictions - please consult the book]

Definition of Intermediate Technology

"If we define the level of technology in terms of "equipment cost per workplace", we can call the indigenous technology of a typical developing country-- symbolically speaking-- a \$1-technology, while that of the developed countries could be called a \$1,000-technology...."

[Seven paragraphs and concluding four points removed due to copyright restrictions - please consult the book]

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SP.721 / 11.025J / 11.472 D-Lab I: Development
Fall 2009

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