

Developing Countries and Education

In sub-Saharan Africa, only 64 percent of children were able to enroll for primary education. Whereas in America and other developed countries nearly 100 percent of children were enrolled. If I was a journalist on an international assignment, I would like to go to sub-Saharan Africa and cover the issue of lack of education in developing countries, because I believe it is an important contributor to the amount of poverty, level of health, and the economy in developing countries, which affects the growth of the country.

This issue interests me because we children in America have so much, when I look around my classroom I see advanced technology, materials, and a supportive environment that encourages me to learn. Many children in sub-Saharan Africa do not have these resources or even the opportunity to go to school. Educating the younger generations of developing countries can help fix the problems that the countries face. These problems contribute to the degree that they are developed. Studies show that a higher degree of education in a country significantly influences the country's economic growth. Educated people are more able to help themselves and in turn help their country. Every child in the world deserves a chance to learn and be educated.

This story would be interesting and important because Americans can take easily forget how fortunate we truly are. Many people are not consciously aware of the challenges children in developing countries face. In Zambia one in every four children under fourteen works for wages. A job often times does not leave time for school, children are forced to give up their schooling in order to support their families. The additional cost of uniforms, books, supplies and transportation to school present another adversary to the chance of a child going to school as the costs are too much for the average family in a developing country. But in order to move forward and develop as a country, education is vital.

There is research that shows the more educated a woman is, the less likely she is to have many children because there are better opportunities. Fewer children would lead to less stress on the infrastructure of a country and more resources would be available. This in turn would reduce poverty, making the country richer. In Ethiopia, women with a secondary education are 260 percent more likely to get antenatal care than an uneducated woman. This means the woman and her child would be healthier, boosting health and survival rates.

Education is an extremely vital part in how well a country is able to develop and advance. The future generations would be able to get better jobs that have higher incomes. The richer the country is the more they could spend on improving health care and infrastructure. The higher level of education would also boost the economy of that country. If the people of the country are educated at a higher level, it would lead to bringing the country out of the category of developing nations. If we educate the children of the world we would also be taking steps to solve poverty, improve the health of people around the world and create a better world economy.