

Population, Evolution, and Birth Control

A COLLAGE OF CONTROVERSIAL IDEAS

Assembled by Garrett Hardin



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and Contraception
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On Woman's Place in Nature
A Theory of Sexual Sharing
Fecundity and Prosperity
Population and Freedom
Elimination of the Unfit
Checks to Population
Marx versus Malthus
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SECOND EDITION

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and
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A COLLAGE OF CONTROVERSIAL IDEAS

Assembled by

Garrett Hardin

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA



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Assembled by **Garrett Hardin**

University of California, Santa Barbara

"The emerging history of population is a story of disaster and denial—disaster foreseen, but disaster psychologically denied in our innermost being . . . How can one believe in something—particularly an unpleasant something—that has *never* happened before?"

With these words Garrett Hardin introduces the reader to an engrossing collection of articles, reviews, and criticisms reflecting all shades of opinion on what is perhaps the most important social problem besetting mankind. Professor Hardin has centered his interests on the social implications of biology for the past twenty-five years, and he has drawn together here what he considers the most effective published statements that have been made on all sides of the questions at issue. The readings are arranged to show the historical development of major ideas and to clarify the points of controversy. Editorial comment, sometimes extensive, is included.

Among the more than one hundred selections are writings ranging in age from Old Testament passages to current news reports. They include excerpts from the first essay by Malthus, from the autobiography of Margaret Sanger, and from the book **Famine—1975!** by William and Paul Paddock, which, despite its startling and unpopular conclusions, may prove to be a turning point in population literature.

Other important readings include J. H. Fremlin's "How Many People Can the World Support?," Paul Ehrlich's "Paying the Piper," Kingsley Davis' "Population Policy: Will Current Programs Succeed?," and Garrett Hardin's "The Tragedy of the Commons."

The book provides excellent readings for any course dealing with the social impact of science—whether taught in departments of biology, anthropology, economics, sociology, geography, or others.

GARRETT HARDIN, Professor of Biology at the University of California, Santa Barbara, has taught evolution and ecology for the past twenty years. He is the author of several books, including **Biology: Its Principles and Implications** (Second Edition, W. H. Freeman and Company, 1966), and **Nature and Man's Fate**. He has also written introductions for a book of readings from SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN entitled **39 Steps to Biology** (W. H. Freeman and Company, 1968).



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