

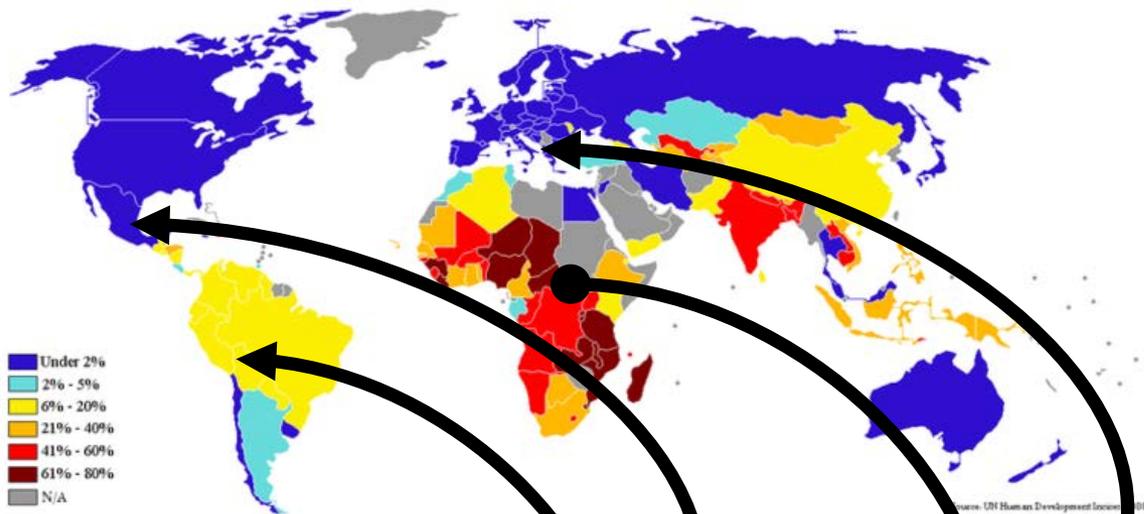
"As we know . . .
those kinds of
questions
[questions about
food prices]
sometimes end in
war."

"A hungry man is an
angry man..."

"Nothing sends a
person into the street
quite like an empty
stomach."

"When [food prices
rise] and people have
nothing to lose they
lose it!"

Percentage population living on less than 1 dollar day 2007-2008



Countries with Food Riots 2008-2011





<http://www.peopleofcolororganize.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/01/food-riot.jpg>

... a group of merchants was taking advantage of everyone [the merchants are] cutthroat business guys who don't give a damn about people.

Cameroonian discussing causes of 2008 food riots in Africa

...surely a thousand women...were in that mad struggle, long-enduring wives and mothers who had resolved to bear the oppression of the profiteer no longer.

Marie Ganz (pictured here) writing about food riots in New York in 1917



<http://prints.encore-editions.com/0/500/marie-ganz.jpg>



Bristol Museum's web site: <http://mshed.org/explore-contribute/themes/trading/trading-locally-market-traders/craft-guilds/punishment-for-a-baker/>

World Bank tackles food emergency



Mr Zoellick called for a "new deal" to help ward off a food crisis

Defensive trade policies ... contributed very substantially to increases in world prices of staple crops in the 2008 food crisis...

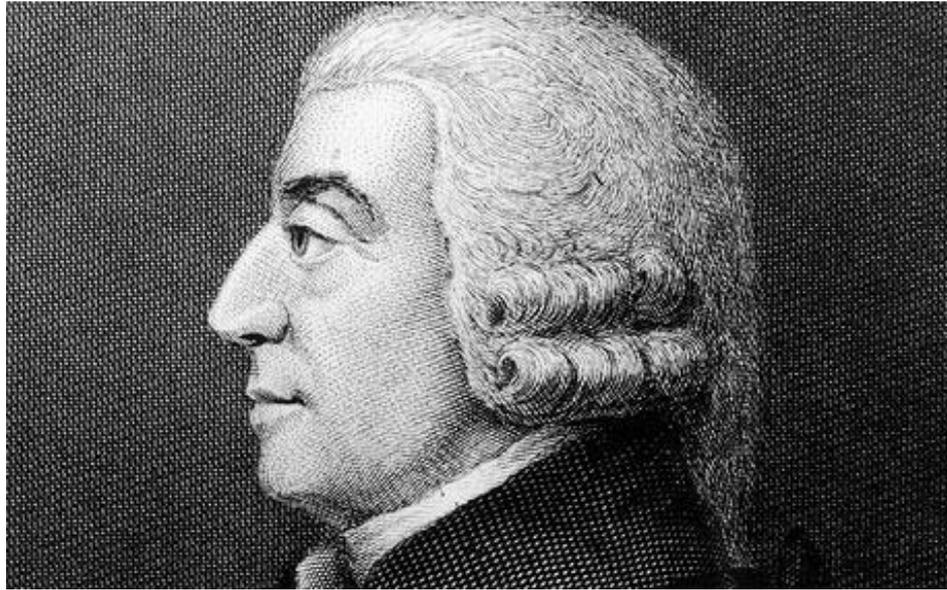
World Bank in 2011



[Any policy to] mitigate the effects of famine ... serve but to enhance the evils resulting from overpopulation...

Quoted on page 32 of Mike Davis
Late Victorian Holocausts

Sir Evelyn Baring (then England's finance minister).
Image part of the Hulton archive.



[Famines are caused]... by the violence of government attempting, by improper means, to remedy the inconveniences of a dearth.

Adam Smith

The Wealth of Nations Book 4 Chapter 5



Assumption that food is best managed as part of a “**moral economy**” where distribution and production are controlled by ethics, justice, and tradition.

Assumption that food is best managed as part of the “**commercial economy**” where distribution and production is controlled by the market.



World Bank tackles food emergency

The World Bank has announced emergency measures to tackle rising food prices around the world.

World Bank head Robert Zoellick warned that 100 million people in poor countries could be pushed deeper into poverty by spiralling prices.

The crisis has sparked recent food riots in several countries including



Mr Zoellick called for a "new deal" to help ward off a food crisis

- Policymakers today tend to be dominated by people who have accepted the assumptions of the market economy.
- But while this may result in an economically rational and efficient system, they must be mindful of the psychological causes of food riots.
- If policy makers simply embrace the efficiency of the market, public feelings of injustice at the imposition of the market onto something they consider to be part of the “moral economy” may trigger more political volatility than expensive food on its own.



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