Marcella Wilson Southside High School Selma, AL South Africa, Factor 12: Human Diseases

For decades, we as Black People never would have imagined that many of us would suffer from Hunger and Starvation. So people decided to come up with solutions to help solve Hunger and Starvation. They came up with Websites, Commercials and other marketing tools to help those in need.

South Africa has a small wealthy population and medium sized income. There are huge differences between the wealthy and the poor because of how the world has developed and divided. Poverty is mainly rural-about two thirds of the country's poor people live in rural areas and more than two thirds of rural people are poor. South Africa is a nation of diversity, with nearly 52 million people and a wide variety of cultures, languages and religious beliefs. Less than one five (17.8%) South Africans always or often socialize with people of other races in their homes or in the homes of friends. Other people is 21.6% and more than half (56.6%) rarely or never socialize across race lines.

#### What is a family farm?

A family farm is a farm on which the farmer and members of his family do a substantial part of the work. Family farms are operated units in which most labor and enterprise come from the farm family; these families put in a lot of work on the farm. There are not many large family farms. In 2004, they contained over 92 percent of the world's 1.1 billion "dollar poor." It consists of about 3.4 people to a family. Farming and land in general are sensitive issues in South Africa where two decades end. A homicide against land is called farm murders. Which I think there are still some in today's society because I'm pretty sure that there are people trying to keep other people from having their land in the attempt to destroy it.

## How human diseases are affecting South Africa?

There were many human diseases that were affecting South Africa so I picked the one that stands out for me the most which is Trypanosomiasis. Trypanosomiasis is a disease found in Africa and the American continents that is caused by infection with a parasite. Trypanosomiasis interacts with three types of infections caused by protozoa and spread to humans through insect bites. It can infect people of all ages and race, though it is uncommon in the United States. Between 16-18 million people in America currently have this disease. About 50,000 probably die from trypanosomiasis every year. Everyone that thinks this disease is contagious. No it is not and it is not what I thought when I did my research.

## How can you treat trypanosomians?

Everyone that is diagnosed with trypanosomiasis should receive treatment. The specific drug and treatment course will depend on the type of infection. T.b. Gambians or T.b. Rhodesians) and the disease stage. Pentamidine is the recommended drug for 1<sup>st</sup> stage T.b. Gambians infection. The other drugs are suramin; melarsoprol, effornithine, and nifurtimox used to treat African trypanosomiasis are only available in the U.S. only from the CDC.

#### How can we help hunger in South Africa?

In Africa, hunger is a constant chronic pain growing away at hunger children. Children that are starving and hungry should be a thing of the past. I must say, we must put an end to hunger and starvation. Also, because people were born into hunger and poverty doesn't mean they can't have a good education. No child in Africa with potential should go unnoticed. This includes all children, boys and girls, because everyone has a gift. Just because they live in poverty doesn't mean that the gift has left them or that they cannot achieve their goals. It would be amazing for people to look at them despite their poverty and then

see that they can become very successful. It is going back to the gift. That same gift they have can be the same gift that gets them out of poverty.

In my research paper I have learned a lot about South Africa. I did not know that there are so many human diseases, and I also learned about family farms. You would not know that there are many activities that are occurring in South Africa unless you are talking about History. I enjoyed researching on South Africa and its human diseases. I was pleased to do this research and I can truly say that I have learned a lot. We can help solve the hunger of children in Africa by providing sustenance to millions of children in the grips of famine and the hunger crisis. We can help parents feed their children through farming and small business investments. We can help put an end to malnutrition through large scale feeding programs when there is not enough food in Africa. We can help the poor avoid chronic malnutrition and promote breastfeeding support programs.

# Works Cited

<u>U.S. Centers for Disease Control</u> and Prevention (CDC), 1600 Clifton Road, Atlanta, GA 30333. The CDC publishes fact sheets on all three types of trypanosomiasis at its website. Telephone 800-311-3435

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http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/family%20farm

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