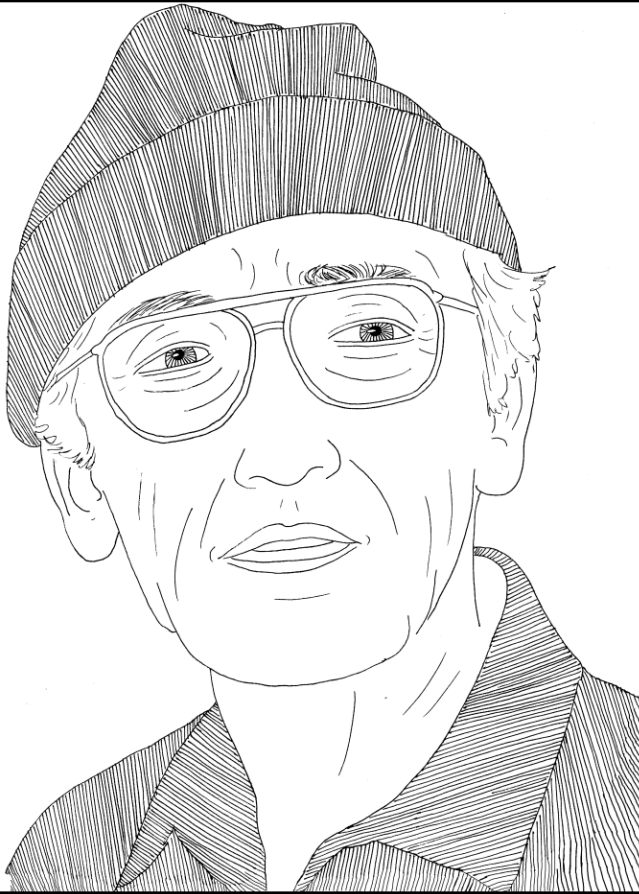


WORLD POPULATION DAY - JULY 11



"Overconsumption and overpopulation underlie every environmental problem we face today."
-- Jacques Cousteau

The number of people living on the planet has greatly increased in recent years -- 2000 years ago there were about 200 million people; by 1900 that number had grown to 1.6 billion; by 2007 there were 6.7 billion people alive. The more people there are, the more resources are consumed and the greater the strain on the ecosystems of the world.

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) partners with governments and organizations in 140 countries to promote reproductive health. These programs help to save lives, slow the spread of HIV and encourage equal rights for men and women. This helps to reduce poverty and stabilize population growth, creating more healthy and prosperous families, communities and a better world.

Education is one key to stabilizing the world population. When girls have equal access to education and equal participation in the workforce, they don't start families at such a young age and don't have as many children when they do start families.

At the Millennium Summit in the year 2000, the world's leaders agreed to achieve universal access to reproductive health by 2015, promote gender equality and end discrimination against women. World Population Day, on July 11, is a time to remind our leaders about their promise to meet these goals.

Be a Hero for a Culture of Peace

1. Find out more about World Population and reproductive health
2. Plan an event to raise awareness of population issues
3. Contribute to organizations working on reproductive health and world population issues

Organizations Addressing Population

- Intl. Planned Parenthood Federation (www.ippf.org)
- Population Action Intl (populationaction.org)
- Population Council (popcouncil.org)
- World Population Foundation (wpf.org)
- World Population Fund (unfpa.org)

For more information: www.peacecalendar.net/populationday.htm

Be a Hero for a Culture of Peace - cultureofpeace.com

...every act of compassion makes a difference...every day counts for a better world...

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