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ENG1101

Unit 2: Annotated bibliography

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U2 Annotated Bibliography

Introduction

Recently I overheard people talking in the grocery store, all I could hear was their concern about how expensive all the groceries are. This made me think about how I see people's carts being less and less full and how people are even making the switch from name brands to generic brands. My question is how does inflation exacerbate hunger and malnutrition? Seeing how my community is feeling the effects of inflation in our supermarkets made me wonder how other parts of the world might be amplified. Things are as extreme as people not being able to eat for days or scraping for food that's not nutritious just because they can't afford good, quality, nutritious food. We have seen prices increase before, but never to this extent. There have been trends in the history of the United States and other countries as well. Since this affects our daily lives, it leaves us to wonder exactly when we will see a change in our economies and not have to worry about moving forward. We as people tend to hyper-focus on our situation yet we should be mindful of other parts of the world. Through research and analyzing data, we can get an idea of what is truly happening worldwide. Children are not able to eat, and families are having trouble supporting their households anywhere they go. Sacrifices and time have to be made where before it was not so much of a problem to keep our families afloat. Food is a basic human

need yet due to our stance globally people are malnourished due to inflation. Some answers I expect to find are data backing up the trends of cases of malnutrition due to high costs of food not only in the United States but also worldwide. Also, I would hope to see how prices in stores are skyrocketing compared to previous prices.

Citation #1

Addison, Arndt, Channing, & Tarp, Finn. “The Triple Crisis and the Global Aid Architecture.”

African Development Review, 23(4), 461–478. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1467->

[8268.2011.00299.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1467-8268.2011.00299.x). Accessed 31 Oct. 2023.

Summary

The world economy is currently undergoing a significant era of transition. The well-being and prosperity of both the current and upcoming generations are being threatened by the interplay of three global crises. The North is at the center of the financial crisis, which is an urgent cause for alarm. The South was impacted by the financial crisis in several ways, including decreased remittances, a decline in private financial flows, and a decline in export demand and price. Due to the financial crisis hunger and malnutrition are on the rise, driven by the recent increase in food costs worldwide. According to the editors above, “A lack of careful planning results in high administrative costs and a large, and often unsustainable, fiscal burden; un-targeted food subsidies, for example. The fiscal problem is compounded when major shocks reduce the revenue base, endangering the financing of public action, as is now occurring.” In other words, with no planning, there is no money for food when problems economically strike. A decrease in the growth of food crop yields when more land is dedicated to the production of biofuels. The

cost of production, transportation, and storage can all be impacted by inflation in the agricultural industry. Reduced agricultural output could result from high inflation raising the price of inputs like fertilizer and seeds. Furthermore, inflation can cause supply networks to break down and less food to be available, which raises prices and causes shortages of food. It states “If aid does stall, then it will do so at a time when the crisis is hitting hard at the public finances of poor countries. Tax revenues are down, and debt service is up. This is especially serious in Africa.” Certain governments may decide to impose specific policies, such as price controls, subsidies, or direct support, to help people who are most impacted by inflation in response to growing inflation and affordability concerns. This is especially true when it comes to necessities like food. For low-income individuals and families, these actions can lessen the burden.

Reflection

This study goes in-depth about how the recent global increase in food prices is a major factor contributing to the rise in hunger and malnutrition brought on by the financial crisis. One question I have is will the financial crisis ever end? The answer to this is no, but there is still a slight possibility. Amid the financial crisis, the economies of the US and the UK have high household debt-to-GDP ratios. Due to efforts by the corporate and household sectors to reduce debt, consumer demand has decreased, and savings rates have increased. In October 2009, US unemployment hit 10.3%, the highest since the early 1980s recession, despite the country's GDP rebound that year. Until employment picks up, US spending is expected to stay poor. We live in a time where there are endless opportunities to make money, but there is none to be made. Wages are too low, so the opportunity is not worth the struggle anymore. Employees' wages stay the same, yet inflation and taxes go higher. How do we salvage or recover from the falls we have

taken when all around us is chaos? Every day people are struggling to keep their loved ones fed and it's difficult to face a challenge that our very survival depends on. Hardships are hurting us all yet there is no stop to the problem at hand. This goes hand in hand with the reality being that people everywhere especially children are going hungry in response to all the chaos surrounding us. We are all wondering what's the clear solution, but maybe there is one that's clear or it is a culmination of solutions that will bring us to where we need to be.

The authors' sentence structure allowed the studies to be easily understood. The statistics of the studies showed the real GDP growth in the world and major regions and the increase in prices in Africa, the chart just seems to be increasing throughout the years. I think the writers' intended audience is the groups of individuals who suffer from food insecurity.

Quote

I know this because “With more land given over to biofuels, a slowdown in yield growth for food crops (exacerbated by a slump in public investment in agriculture), and rising global demand, food prices have pushed higher, spiking over 2007–2008 (Figure 18). The dollar's depreciation in 2007–2008 also contributed to the price spike.”

Citation #2

Fitzgerald, Katie. “President of Feeding America Talks Inflation’s Impact on Food Insecurity.”

YouTube, 22 Dec. 2022, https://youtu.be/N7rBi2hWA1I?si=LKQa711mzgQ_ekSG.

Accessed 31 Oct. 2023.

Summary

Inflation historically has troubled the U.S. but in recent years it has risen dramatically, prices of goods have increased by about 12%. According to Katie Fitzgerald, the president of Feeding America, “56% of households with children suffer from food insecurity.” People to this day are working and still getting access to the food bank. This goes to show that even though you’re working it is still not enough to cover the expenses of food. There was an increase in the amount of people who are seeking access to the charitable food system. The lines for the food bank demonstrated how desperate people were to get food. They see some of the same groups of people just so many more of them. Katie also mentioned a bill that might be passed called the 2023 spending bill. This bill will make a transformative difference in the lives of American children. All in all, 80% of children who qualify for free and reduced lunches do not receive any form of nutrition assistance during the summer months. In 2021, 53 million people made use of Feeding America and other charitable food assistance programs. Following the distribution of 5.2 billion meals in the previous year, the volume of requests has steadily climbed. The more prices go up due to inflation the more people will need food as it is less accessible. Poverty-stricken communities to middle-class communities are feeling the burden of inflation. Basic human needs are not being met. There’s endless data to support that children and families are struggling. Money and food go hand and hand with each other. We look for this situation globally to eventually calm down but for years it has only gotten worse. Seeing as this problem has continuously risen, it makes us think of whether there will be a clear solution and a clear relationship as to why inflation exasperates malnutrition.

Reflection

In this video, they spoke about how inflation hit a lot harder the previous year than any other year. It was affected nationwide. The amount of people seeking help through the food banks makes it very difficult for them to keep up due to such high demands. This issue has been with us even before any holidays and it continues to be a problem as we proceed to enter the winter months. One question I have is how Congress passing the 2023 spending bill helps with hunger here in America. The answer to this is if the bill is passed then the bill will make sure that the families of American children and children who attend school could get nutritious foods at the grocery store through an electronic benefit program. Another question I have is what groups are mostly at risk of food insecurity. The answer to this is seniors who are living on a fixed income. A third of the income budget is spent on food, which is absurd. Inflation is out of control and from here on out it's going to be a bigger problem. Even retired individuals are struggling to keep up with the prices of things. It's only beneficial if we try to help those people who have to go through these times. We must come together for change and solve what is a solvable problem in this country. It is recommended that we donate to these charitable events or even volunteer to help those in need. Taking action on social media is also another way to help solve this issue. Not only does it grab other people's attention, but it genuinely shows that you care and want things to change for future generations. To sum it up, we can limit food insecurity and hunger, but it takes every one of us to do our part.

I think that Katie gave a very informative message and being able to listen to the video I've and over again allowed me to gain some knowledge on what was meant. She was very transparent about what's going on in the world and things we can do to help solve it. This genre was the most effective just because I was able to listen and fully grasp what she was saying.

Quote

To prove this the author states, “People are desperate to get food from banks, it exposed the level of need.”

Citation #3

Headey, Derek, and Marie Ruel. “Food Inflation and Child Undernutrition in Low and Middle Income Countries.” Nature Communications, U.S. National Library of Medicine, 16 Sept. 2023,
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC10505228/#:~:text=On%20average%2C%20a%205%20percent,the%20wake%20of%20food%20inflation>. Accessed 31 Oct. 2023.

Summary

Global food prices have even extremely volatile in the 21st century, resulting in crises in 2007-2008, 2010-2011, and 2021-2022. This study, which focuses on 1.27 million preschool children, examines the effects of rising food prices of malnutrition in children in 44 developing nations. According to the research “More related to the present study is an analysis of the 2008-09 food price crisis using a propitiously timed household survey in Mozambique that covered both low and high food inflation periods. Controlling for confounding factors, the study found that children exposed to high inflation were significantly more likely to be wasted and underweight.” This implies a link between food inflation exposure and later child undernutrition. Furthermore, the likelihood of wasting increases by 9% and the likelihood of severe wasting by 14% with every 5% increase in the real price of food. This study also examines the impact of food inflation

on child malnutrition in low- and middle-class countries. The short-term effects of rising food prices on household income vary depending on whether the home is a net food consumer or producer. Most impoverished households are net food consumers, and as food costs rise, they often face income losses. Additionally, the study looks at food inflation in the first year following delivery and during pregnancy and how these young children are prone to being malnourished. As there are many reasons for food inflation one thing, we do see that is a factor is unemployment. These children's family lost their jobs and now they are wondering how they can provide yet food of any kind is overpriced. This leads to many health factors aside from malnutrition, developmentally their growth is stunted, keeping them from being as tall, strong, and mentally on the same rates as compared to others who do not experience malnutrition.

Reflection

There are several ways inflation can impact hunger and malnutrition, for example, reduced purchasing power. When inflation occurs, the prices of basic goods and food items tend to rise. This means that people with fixed or limited incomes find it more difficult to afford nutritious food, leading to decreased food security and potentially malnutrition. In this study, they tested different groups in different countries regarding inflation in food and the relationship between malnutrition on younger kids. One question I had is why the prices are increasing drastically. I concluded that there's no one specific reason why prices have increased drastically, there are so many factors that play into it. Starting with supply and demand, prices typically increase when there is a surplus of food available but a greater demand. Demand may rise due to things like population growth etc. or even global market factors. International commodity markets, which set pricing for important agricultural products including wheat, rice, and soybeans, can have an

impact on food prices. Food costs may fluctuate on a worldwide scale as a result of changes in these markets. Another question I have is what are the consequences of food price inflation on malnutrition? Malnutrition can be made worse by food price inflation in several ways. It might lead to a rise in the number of people experiencing food insecurity and difficulty affording nutritious, well-balanced meals. Over time, this may lead to malnutrition and deficiencies in certain micronutrients, particularly in vulnerable populations like children and expecting mothers. The studies' ease of comprehension was made possible by the writers' language construction. Food inflation during pregnancy and the first year after delivery raises the risk of stunting in children between the ages of two and five, according to study figures. The research presented here offers a compelling case for actions aimed at preventing food inflation and lessening its effects on mothers and vulnerable children.

The authors were very specific with the study they were trying to portray, reading the study helped me better understand the statistics and graphs. Their choice of writing was quite advanced in my opinion, but overall easy to figure out the key points.

Quote

“One study used long-term but high-frequency nutrition surveillance data from Bangladesh to descriptively show that when rice prices increase, households spend less on non-staple foods and child underweight (low weight-for-age) prevalence increases.”

Conclusion

Inflation affects hunger and malnutrition for many reasons such as people not being able to afford food, prices going up due to lower wages and the value of currency not being as much as

it was worth before, food insecurity, lines being so long at charities giving away food that people are not able to access it. Taxes are increasing at an alarming rate. Looking at this my understanding was deepened because of how much it affected people and how serious the issue is. Food is highly in demand and people are not able to get their daily nutrients, especially children are affected all around the world. This is very important because more light needs to be shed on the problems around the globe. It educates me and I educate my community to contribute more to those in need. When it comes to educating, I would say the government, policymakers, and leaders of large corporations need to know most about this research. This is an issue that has been happening for a very long time and nothing has been done to combat this problem. Public authorities must create and carry out policies that safeguard the financial security of their constituents, especially in hard times like inflation. They can take into account progressive taxation schemes, which lessen the tax burden on low-income households while placing a greater burden on those with higher incomes. The implementation of specific food assistance programs, subsidies, and social safety nets can help guarantee that individuals most impacted by inflation have access to necessities. To sum it all up, speaking from my own experience, growing up grocery shopping for my family was always done every Sunday like clockwork. It was done pretty frequently considering my sister and I did not eat school lunch growing up. I remember always wandering off with my sister trying to find good deals on assorted goods. Even so, everything was still below five dollars. Things would be a lot different if I were to do that now. Now I cannot get as many snacks due to the increase in prices. One thing I also noticed is that even if we wanted to change our diet to eat things much healthier, the prices of all plant-based, and other food alternatives and ingredients are more expensive than a bag of Lays potato chips or some other kind of unhealthy snack.