

# Prince Philip's Murderous Views, in His Own Words

**Address to Edinburgh University Union, Nov. 24 1969.**

We talk about over- and underdeveloped countries; I think a more exact division might be between underdeveloped and overpopulated. The more people there are, the more industry and more waste and the more sewage there is, and therefore the more pollution.

**“Vanishing Breeds Worry Prince Philip, But Not as Much as Overpopulation,” interview in *People*, Dec. 21, 1981.**

**Q:** What do you consider the leading threat to the environment?

**A:** Human population growth is probably the single most serious long-term threat to survival. We're in for a major disaster if it isn't curbed—not just for the natural world, but for the human world. The more people there are, the more resources they'll consume, the more pollution they'll create, the more fighting they will do. We have no option. If it isn't controlled voluntarily, it will be controlled involuntarily by an increase in disease, starvation and war.

**Address on receiving honorary degree from the University of Western Ontario, Canada, July 1, 1983.**

The industrial revolution sparked the scientific revolution and brought in its wake better public hygiene, better medical care and yet more efficient agriculture. The consequence was a population explosion which still continues today.

The sad fact is that, instead of the same number of people being very much better off, more than twice as many people are just as badly off as they were before. Unfortunately all this well-intentioned development has resulted in an ecological disaster

of immense proportions.

**Address to Joint Meeting of the All-Party Group on Population and Development and the All-Party Conservation Committee, London, March 11, 1987.**

I do believe . . . that human population pressure—the sheer number of people on this planet—is the single most important cause of the degradation of the natural environment, of the progressive extinction of wild species of plants and animals, and of the destabilization of the world's climatic and atmospheric systems.

The simple fact is that the human population of the world is consuming natural renewable resources faster than it can regenerate, and the process of exploitation is causing even further damage. If this is already happening with a population of 4 billion, I ask you to imagine what things will be like when the population reaches 6 and then 10 billion. . . . All this has been made possible by the industrial revolution and the scientific explosion and it is spread around the world by the new economic religion of development.

***Writings of His Royal Highness Prince Philip Duke of Edinburgh on the Relationship of Man with His Environment* (New York: Stephen Greene Press, 1988).**

*From the Preface:* I don't claim to have any special interest in natural history, but as a boy I was made aware of the annual fluctuations in the number of game animals and the need to adjust the “cull” to the size of the surplus population.

*From Introduction to “The Population Factor”:* Viewed dispassionately, it must be obvious that the world's human population has grown to such a size that it is threatening its own habitat; and it has already succeeded in causing the extinction of large numbers of wild plant and animal species. Some have simply been killed off. Others have quietly disappeared, as their habitats have been taken over or disturbed by human activities.