

TITLE: Population control: a modern shibboleth.
AUTHOR: Desai MP
SOURCE: Ahmedabad, India, Navajivan Publishing House, 1959 Jun. iii, 53 p.
ABSTRACT: The articles in this volume, originally published in the Indian newspaper "Harijan," cover the following topics: food and population, the neo- Malthusian myth, hunger and politics, science and birth control, immigration and racialism, the Bombay Birth Control Conference, and Ghandi and birth control. Overall, the articles argue against the positions that overpopulation is a significant factor in the social and economic problems facing India and population control is the remedy. It is argued, instead, that problems should be viewed from a social rather than population perspective, with particular emphasis on the inequitable distribution of wealth. Contraception is depicted as an alien, Western concept with racial overtones. It is often mistakenly asserted that Ghandi was a proponent of birth control. According to the author, however, controlling births should be affected only through continence, not artificial methods imported from the capitalist world.

YEAR: 1959