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Village of 100 People

Adapted from: If the World Were a Village: A Book About the World's People, David Smith and Shelagh Armstrong, Kids Can Press; (March 1, 2002)

If we could at this very moment shrink the earth's population to a village of 100, with all existing human ratios staying the same, the village would look like this:

There would be 57 Asians, 21 Europeans, 14 people of the Western Hemisphere (North and South America), and 8 Africans

70 of the 100 would be non-white; 30 would be white

70 of the 100 would be non-Christian; 30 would be Christian

50 percent of the entire world's wealth would be in the hands of 6 people -- all 6 would be U.S. citizens

70 would be unable to read; 50 would suffer from malnutrition; 80 would live in substandard housing; and only 1 would have a university education.

When our world is considered from such an incredibly compressed perspective, the need for both tolerance and understanding becomes glaringly apparent.