

territories, the USSR, South Africa, and Yugoslavia. In the latter, the explosive growth of the Albanian population has helped to create what one analysis terms a "ticking time bomb" in Serbia.

The result almost everywhere is tougher government control to maintain security in face of actual or feared disorder, if not to defend menaced privilege. Thus population growth can be a **major obstacle to democratic development and human rights.**⁴

Rapid population growth also overextends and frequently **overwhelms the administrative apparatus of governments.** Enormous pressures are created on already inadequate health, education and social services. Expansion itself strains weak bureaucracies, which become even less able to cope with new challenges such as environmental degradation or shocks from international price changes.

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Notes to Section II

1. Such efforts are not always successful in avoiding political problems for governments. In Algeria, for example, over half the electorate is under 30; it was they who were probably largely responsible for the recent electoral success of the radical Front Islamique du Salut (FIS), since banned by the authorities.
2. The best-known success story is India, which has become self-sufficient in food production through the "green revolution". Will it remain so when its 800+ million becomes 1.6 billion?
3. From article entitled From Malthus to Sustainable Growth, by Nathan Keyfitz of IIASA, Vienna, July 23 1991.
4. The Indian Prime Minister, for example, speaking at the October 1991 Commonwealth meeting, listed "population stabilisation" along with other factors as a "precondition to democracy".