



# A World Divided

**Objective:**

To help participants comprehend the immense food disparity that exists in the world.

**Set Up and Materials:**

- A large loaf of bread (in the case of a Hunger Challenge, you may want to substitute bread with a non-food item that can be divided)
- Small strips of colored paper (enough for each participant) divided in the following manner:
  - 12% of the strips are yellow – Africa
  - 61% of the strips are red – Asia
  - 11% of the strips are blue – Europe
  - 8% of the strips are purple – North America
  - 6% of the strips are green – South America
- Place the colored strips of paper in a container and ask each participant to choose one. Once all have drawn a paper strip, inform them they have just chosen their new nationality, and that the color represents the continents as listed above.
- Assemble members of each continent in five separate areas around the room. Each group should select a leader.

**Activity Instructions:**

The following simulation demonstrates the ways in which our food resources are divided globally.

Hold up the loaf of bread and explain that it represents all the food which shall be eaten today in the world. Then divide and distribute the loaf according to the percentages shown below – making sure the pieces are given to the leader of each group.

- Africa gets only 8% of the bread
- Asia receives 23%
- Europe receives 36%
- North America gets 22%
- South America receives 11%

Instruct the leaders of each group to distribute their share of the loaf of bread among their people; reminding them that they are in power and have the choice or burden of making important decisions.

- Their decision may be to keep a larger portion for themselves . . . or for their friends. Continents without much food may appeal to other groups for food assistance.

**Developing Country:**

Poor countries with minimal industry and high poverty rates are referred to as developing countries. They are as known as “third world” and “countries on the periphery.” Mexico, Haiti and Zambia all fit into this category.

## Activities



- Encourage dialogue and interaction between the continents.

End the activity by asking all participants to hold up their share of the food.

### ***For Discussion:***

- “How did group members feel when they recognized the considerable difference between the amounts of food that the various continents received?”
- “How did this exercise compare to what group members know about food dispersal in the real world?”

Hunger is not due only to the lack of food. It often occurs when people lack opportunity to earn enough money, to be educated and gain skills, to meet basic health needs and have a voice in the decisions that affect their community.

- “What can people within industrial nations (such as the U.S., Canada, England, Australia and others) do to remedy these tragedies?”