Material World:  
A Global Family Portrait 

Selected data from two countries: 
Haiti 
Vietnam
The Delfoart Family, 1995
Maissade, Haiti

• Stats:
  – Per capita income declining
  – Traditional energy use: 85%
  – Life expectancy: 56F; 53M
  – World Poverty rank: 147/183

• Family life:
  – Dwelling: 325 sq. ft.
  – Workweek: 60 hours
  – Strong Baptist faith
  – Technology: none
  – Income: $374
  – Food costs: 80%
  – Breakfast: manioc, potatoes, smoked fish, coffee
  – Lunch: potatoes
  – Dinner: none
Average Family, 2010
Maissade, Haiti
Estimate based upon latest data

- **Family life**
  - Children married, rural, large families, limited education. Live with or near parents on leased land
  - Religion important
- **Family economics**
  - Still works long days
  - Income increased from $25 mo to $108 mo but expenses rose; disasters and crises have affected income
- **Food and shelter**
  - Food slightly improved; widespread famine
  - Same house, but now with limited electricity, some solar
- **Family leisure**
  - Essentially unchanged
  - Battery powered radio
The Nguyen Family, 1995
Viet Doan Village, Vietnam

- Stats:
  - Population: 73 million
  - 79% rural
  - Life expectancy: 69F, 64M
  - Literacy rate: 84%F, 92%M
  - Income: 165/183

- Family life:
  - Three children in school; family literate
  - Father commutes to work by bicycle
  - Religion: “only people over 50”
  - 17 hour days; $24 month
  - Spend most of income
  - Wish: TV, radio, beds, motorcycle
  - Meals: rice, veg, meat/fish, eggs
  - Life: feel better off than parents
Average Family, 2009
Viet Doan Village, Vietnam
Estimate based upon latest data

- Family life
  - Children married, urban, few children, more education
  - Have scooter
  - Not religious
- Family economics
  - More income: $24 mo to $233 mo
  - Expenses for basics low
  - More luxuries: TV, cell phones, A/C, furniture
- Food and shelter
  - Possible new house with modern features
  - Much improved diet, choices
- Family leisure
  - Have vacationed
  - Access to world media