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荒謬的人口政策

李偉才

多年來，香港政府因為沒有制定清晰的人口政策而備受批評。好了，千呼萬喚的政策終於出台但結果卻使人愠怒不已。各界迄今對政策已作出不少批評，但在筆者看來，批評仍是未有切中要害。

多年來，科學家已經指出無休止的經濟增長會令自然環境不堪負荷。1972 年羅馬俱樂部（Club of Rome）發表的《增長的極限》（Limits to Growth）是這方面的一個里程碑。二十八年後，聯合國終於在 2000 年成立了一個由數百名專家組成的委員會，以確定人類活動對自然界的破壞程度。委員會的報告《千禧生態評估》（Millenium Ecosystem Assessment）於 2005 年發表明確指出這種破壞已經超出了大自然可以自我復元的地步。也就是說，人類現時的发展是完全不可持續的。

在這個大前提下，任何人口政策必須是一個人口穩定政策，甚至是人口下調政策。但政府不肯為香港人口訂立上限，這已令政策形同虛設。

筆者曾在不少場合強調：「偏離 2 便是災難」。道理很簡單，由於人口以複式變化，一對夫婦生育的子女數目若是大於 2 便會導致指數增長（exponential growth），低於 2 便會導致指數遞減（exponential decrease），而兩者同樣不可持續，這是小學生也懂的道理。可悲的是，無數受過高深教育的人竟全然不知指數變化的驚人威力。（不信可計算一下：一張紙對摺 50 次有多厚？答案是超過地球與月球的距離。）

更令人震驚的是，政策的重點竟是提升勞動人口！在住屋問題如此嚴峻和垃圾堆填區即將爆滿的時候，將鼓勵生育和輸入外勞等定為政策方針實在令人瞠目結舌。你叫學校裡的老師在教授通識科時，如何向學生解釋呢？

然而，解釋卻是簡單的，也就是人口政策服務的不是廣大人民而是少數的資本家。資本家要不斷獲利，便需要源源不絕的廉價勞工，因為這樣才可打壓工人改善待遇的要求。此外，不斷增加的人口代表著不斷擴大的消費群，不是如此他們的製品又怎能售出而獲利呢？簡單地說，人口不斷增加是所有資本家的美夢，而人口下降是資本家的夢魘。

現代文明的邏輯當然是，在受僱勞動（wage-labour）已經成為經濟活動的主體時（只是這二百年間的事），資本家的投資是就業的主要來源，而沒有就業人民便沒有生計。眾所周知，資

本家的最大利器是「撤資」(capital flight)而導致失業的威脅。明乎此，為政者的人口政策與市民大眾的期望有著如此巨大的差距便不足為奇了。

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[Cage Nk Yim](#) 博士, 請問除咗移民, 我哋重可以做咩? 又無力救香港

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[Lee Wai Choi](#) **It's not a problem particular to Hong Kong, but one applicable to capitalism as a whole. The solution is to overthrow capitalism.**

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[David Chan](#) **Oh!**

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[Alexander Yan](#) **The mainstream economics is to reap the population bonus and the often cited example Singapore imported over 1 million around the world esp. from Malaysia. and she now surpasses HK. To the contrary, according to WWF the ecological footprint is over 300 times of HK size and population growth will invariably increase this footprint and open the excuse to exploit the country park. Eddy you should explore the plausibility of steady state economics with reference to population bonus thesis.**

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[Lee Wai Choi](#) **Herman Daly's "Steady-State Economics" was written in 1977!**

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[Alexander Yan](#) **prophetic or outdated?**

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[Lee Wai Choi](#) **How could it be out-dated? But of course if you want to read a more updated book, try Tim Jackson's "Prosperity without Growth" (2008).**

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[Alexander Yan](#) **Also Managing without Growth by Peter Victor. The growth paradigm is disaster by design.**

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[Cheong Iat Keong](#) **人的欲望是不會隨自由市場而改變**

[November 7 at 7:26pm](#) · [Like](#)



[Alexander Yan](#) **Many cultures caution to refrain desires except the consumerism promoted by capitalism.**

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[Ka-Yue Yeung](#) **博士你點樣睇人口老化?**

[November 7 at 7:32pm](#) via [mobile](#) · [Like](#)



[Alexander Yan](#) **Consumerism can be mitigated by so called green consumerism but the propensity to consume, i.e. consumptionism is indefinite which can be regarded as irrational to consume more than one can produce until most governments in deficit.**

[November 7 at 8:32pm](#) via [mobile](#) · [Edited](#) · [Like](#)



[Alexander Yan](#) As the productivity has the capacity to satisfy the needs of global population, including the worldwide aging population, the case should be distributive justice, according to which social policy such as equal opportunity provided to the least privileged or bad luck. For example, Germany cannot avoid the aging population but policy of renewable energy foresight to envision the scenarios from 50 years and 100 years to provide jobs opportunity and reap the environmental benefits step by step.

[November 7 at 8:44pm](#) · [Unlike](#) · [1](#)



[Chiu Poon](#) 人口老化問題的嚴重性，香港遠不及日本，當然香港經濟實力也遠不及日本，但經驗仍可參考。

[November 8 at 6:39pm](#) via [mobile](#) · [Like](#)



[Lee Wai Choi](#) 人口老化是一個過渡性的「偽問題」，偏離 2 的結果一是人口爆炸一是人類滅絕，而當人口達於穩定時(the unique solution, at whatever level)，老齡人口與整體人口的比例亦會穩定下來。

[November 9 at 10:44am](#) · [Like](#) · [1](#)



[Joey Chan](#) 仍然相信人口增加能推動經濟是因為我們仍然沿用舊有的經濟指標 GDP。就正如當墨西哥灣油污事件出現，當地因為撲救災難而令經濟活動大增的道理是同出一撤。

[November 9 at 11:32am](#) · [Like](#)



[Jacky To](#) Politicians and economists mistakenly think or mislead that population growth is the cornerstone of long term economic growth. I perceive that economic growth is a matter of production and consumption of goods which means exponential exploitation of natural resources. Of them, oil, clean freshwater and clean soil are most important.

Global population skyrockets starting from 1950's thanks to plenty and cheap oil which boosts up agricultural and industrial outputs [1]. The consequences: freshwater and soil are severely polluted. Undoubtedly, plenty food to feed 7+ billion people is out of the question. Noticeably, clean freshwater is used to manufacture every tangible product. Meanwhile, the growth of oil output has slowed down and oil will be too scarce to support economic growth.

I hence foresee that the growth of global population and economy will be negative in decades. In addition, more and more people will be starved and unemployed. In pursuit of population growth definitely accelerates of the demise of civilization!

[1]: <https://webcat.hkpl.gov.hk/.../item;jsessionid...>



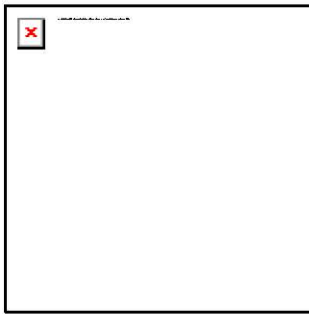
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Lee Wai Choi Please also see http://www.amazon.com/End.../dp/0865716951/ref=sr_1_1...



[The End of Growth: Adapting to Our New Economic Reality](#)

www.amazon.com

Economists insist that recovery is at hand, yet unemployment remains high, real estate values continue to sink, and governments stagger under record deficits. The End of Growth proposes a startling diagnosis: humanity has reached a fundamental turning point in its economic history. The expansiona...

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[醉字遊子](#) 不是資本家威脅了政策者, 而是政策者私利下要照顧資本家. 當今世界, 誰不是官商勾結. 還有多少個國家政府有真正的管治意志?

16 hours ago · [Like](#)



Lee Wai Choi 官商勾結，魚肉百姓，自古皆然，於今為烈。

38 minutes ago · [Like](#)



[SC Tai](#) 愚民：為什麼要增加人口？

高官：因為要有足夠的勞動力, 支持經濟不斷發展。

愚民：為什麼經濟要不斷發展？

高官：因為經濟發展, 才可以提供更多的就業機會。

愚民：為什麼要提供更多的就業機會？

高官：因為人口在不斷增加。

愚民：.....

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