

TO: Participants in the Conference on Population Problems
and Development in Latin America

FROM: David Chaplin

SUBJECT: The objectives and structure of the Conference

This conference is being sponsored by the Presbyterian and Catholic student centers at the University and the Ibero-American Studies Program. The two religious centers have generously given us a free hand in the management of the conference asking only that it focus on the topic of Population Problems and Latin America.

Although some of the details of the conference are not yet determined, the enclosed schedule will probably not be much changed.

The conference is aimed at discussing the issue of population change in a style intermediate between that of the round tables run by the Milbank Foundation, composed largely of demographers discussing both substantive findings and methodological problems, and conferences which are interdisciplinary and focussed on development as a whole with the population problems as only one among many.

All of the participants are scholars interested in the demography of Latin America in a broad sense. Since the membership is interdisciplinary, one goal of the conference will be to foster communication between those using different approaches toward the same phenomena.

We are also thinking in terms of a publication which should be a widely based but focussed primarily on the basic facts of population growth rates and sizes, historically and regionally. This reader will not be limited to papers contributed to the conference nor will these papers necessarily appear in their conference version.

Background papers: In addition to the panelists' papers, which it is hoped everyone will have read prior to the conference, some additional papers are being sent to you as general background - especially for the first panel on policy. They are

1. Donald Bogue "The End of the Population Explosion" The Public Interest spring 1967 - a very optimistic view of the problem.
2. Kingsley Davis "Population Policy: Will Current Programs Succeed?" Science vol. 158 November 1967 - a rebuttal to Bogue's paper.
3. Lincoln H. Day "Catholic Teaching and Catholic Fertility" a paper read at the 1965 World Population Conference.
4. Stephen Enke "The Economic Aspects of Slowing Population Growth" The Economic Journal March 1966.
5. Oscar Harkavy "Impact of Family Planning Programs on the Birth." Ford Foundation Reprint.