"What are truly human conditions? The rise from poverty to the acquisition of life's necessities; the elimination of social ills (problems) and broadening the horizons of knowledge..."

Pope Paul VI, Populorum Progressio, #21 Part 1.



"What are less than human conditions? The material poverty of those who lack the bare necessities of life, and the moral poverty of those who are crushed under the weight of their own self-love; oppressive political structures resulting from the abuse of ownership or the improper exercise of power, from the exploitation of the worker or unjust transactions."

Pope Paul VI, Populorum Progressio, On the Development of Peoples, 1967, #21 Part 1.



"A world of free men... involves building a human community where liberty is not an idle word, where the needy Lazarus can sit down with the rich man at the same banquet table."

Pope Paul VI, Populorum Progressio, On the Development of Peoples, 1967, #47



"Lack of education is as serious as lack of food."

Pope Paul VI, Populorum Progressio, #35

"Economics and technology are meaningless if they do not benefit humans .... People are truly human only if they are architects of their own progress." Pope Paul VI, Populorum Progressio, #34



"It is not just a question of giving one's surplus to those in need...it requires changing lifestyles and established power structures."

Pope John Paul II, World Day of Peace
Message.



"Love for others, and in the first place love for the poor, in whom the Church sees Christ, is made concrete in the promotion of justice. Justice will never be fully attained unless people see in the poor person, who is asking for help in order to survive, not an annoyance or a burden, but an opportunity for showing kindness and a chance for greater enrichment."

Pope John Paul II, Centesimus Annus, 1991, #58



"When we fight poverty and oppose the unfair conditions of the present, we are not just promoting human well-being; we are also furthering people's spiritual and moral development, and so we are benefiting the whole human race."

Pope Paul VI, Populorum Progressio, On the Development of Peoples, 1967, #76



"For peace is not simply the absence of warfare, (-) it is created by efforts directed day after day towards the establishment of the ordered universe ... with a more perfect form of justice among people."

Pope Paul VI, Populorum Progressio, On the Development of Peoples, 1967, #76

"It is not just a question of eliminating hunger and reducing poverty. It is not just a question of fighting wretched conditions, though this is an urgent and necessary task. It involves building a human community where all people can live truly human lives, free from discrimination on account of race, religion or nationality, free from slavery to others or to natural forces which they cannot yet control satisfactorily."

Pope Paul VI, Populorum Progressio, On the Development of Peoples, 1967, #47

