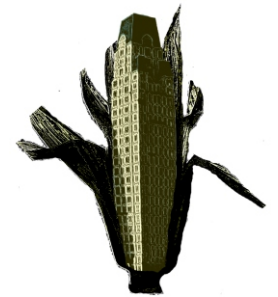
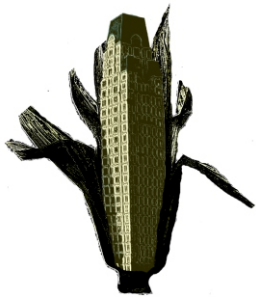
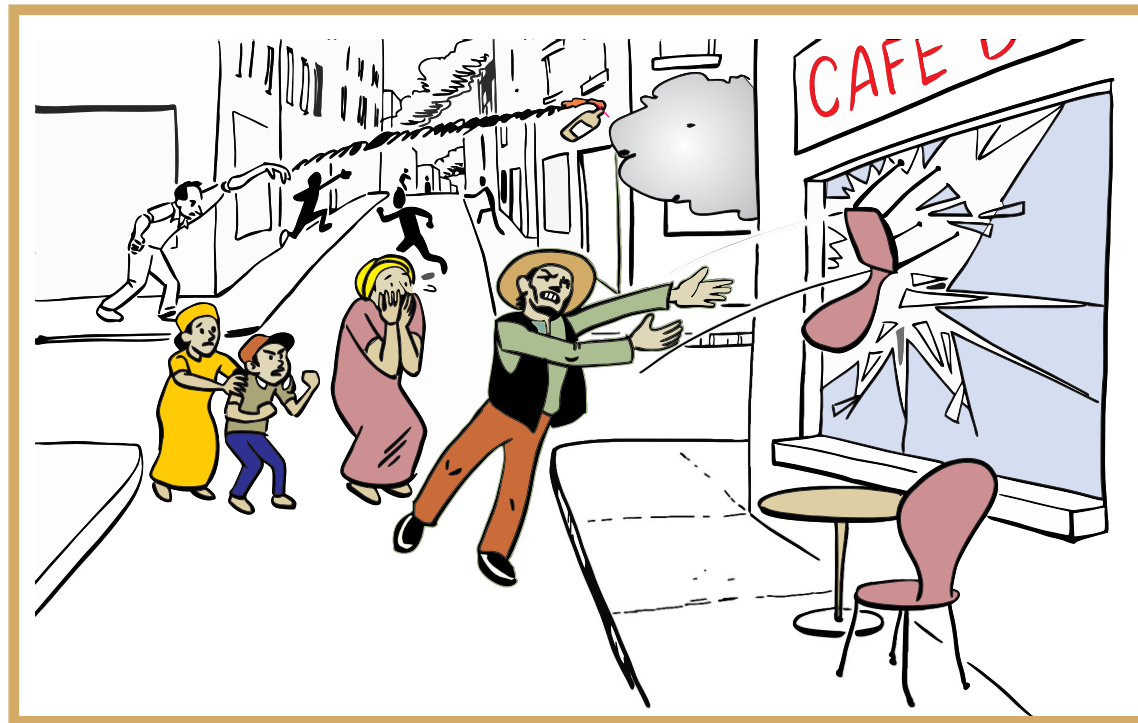
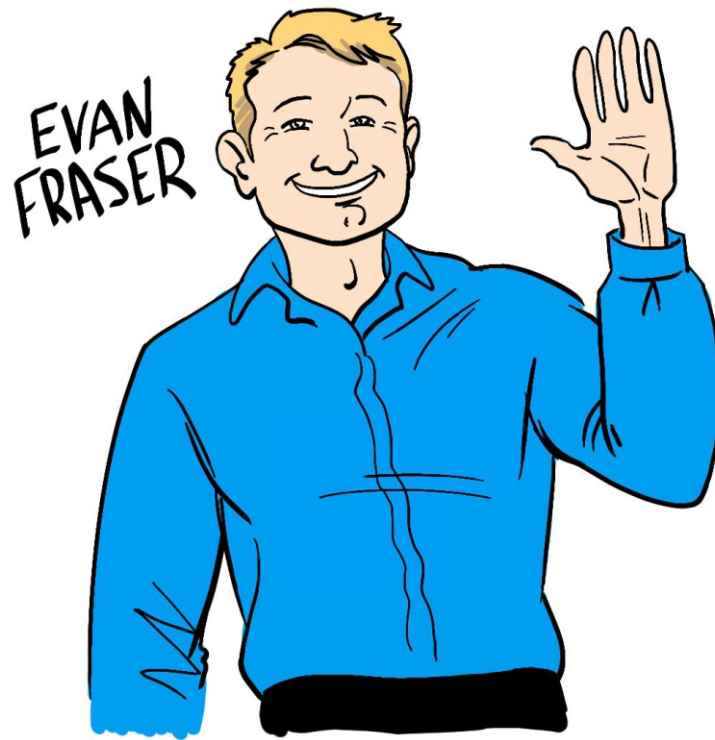


# FEEDING NINE BILLION: FOOD RIOTS



[HTTP://WWW.FEEDINGNINEBILLION.COM/](http://www.feedingninebillion.com/)

HELLO, MY NAME IS EVAN FRASER AND I WORK AT  
THE UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH IN ONTARIO CANADA.

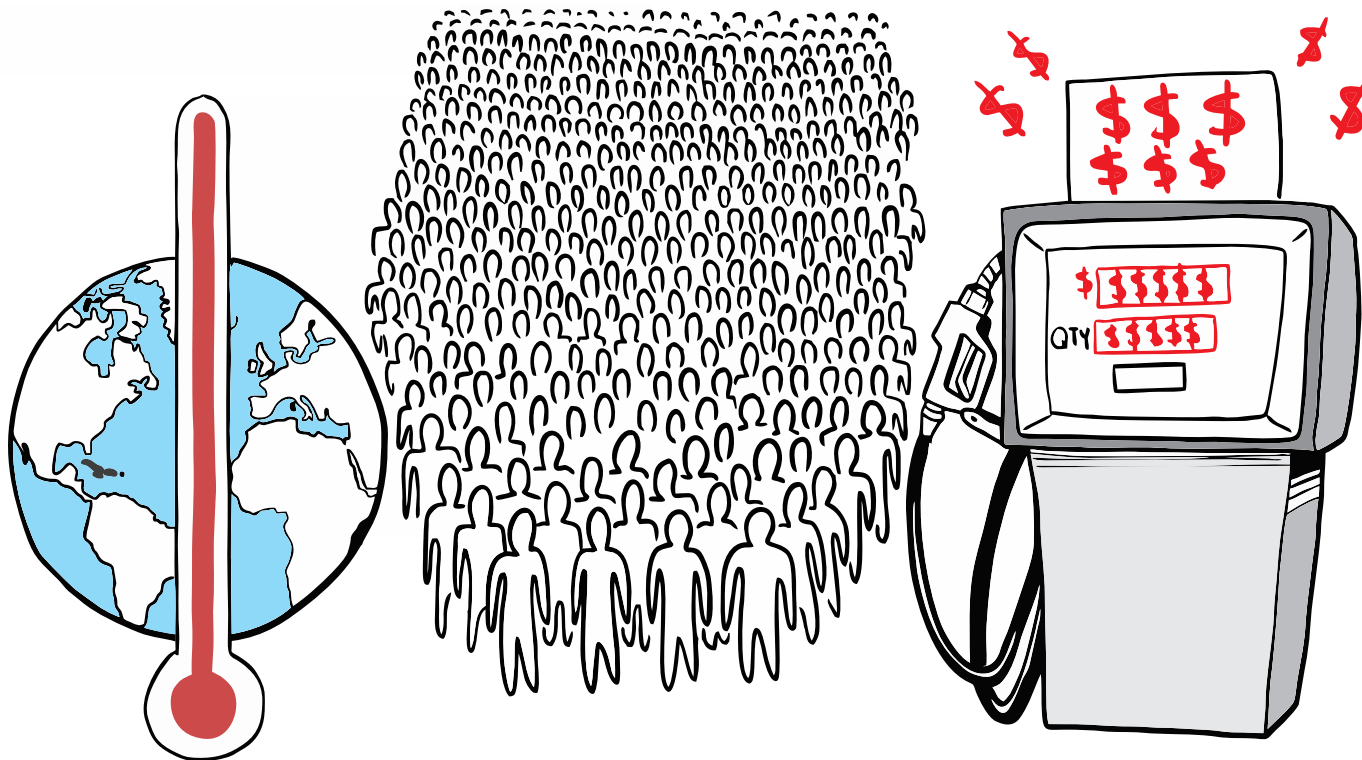


MOSTLY, WHAT I DO IS TO TRY AND UNDERSTAND ONE OF THE BIGGEST ISSUES  
FACING OUR WORLD OVER THE NEXT 50 YEARS ... HOW CAN WE FEED 9 BILLION  
PEOPLE?

UNIVERSITY  
of GUELPH

CHANGING LIVES  
IMPROVING LIFE

AS ANYONE WHO HAS FOLLOWED THIS VIDEO SERIES KNOWS, CLIMATE CHANGE, POPULATION GROWTH, AND HIGH-ENERGY PRICES MEAN THAT FARMERS MAY STRUGGLE OVER THE NEXT GENERATION TO PRODUCE ENOUGH FOOD FOR EVERYONE.

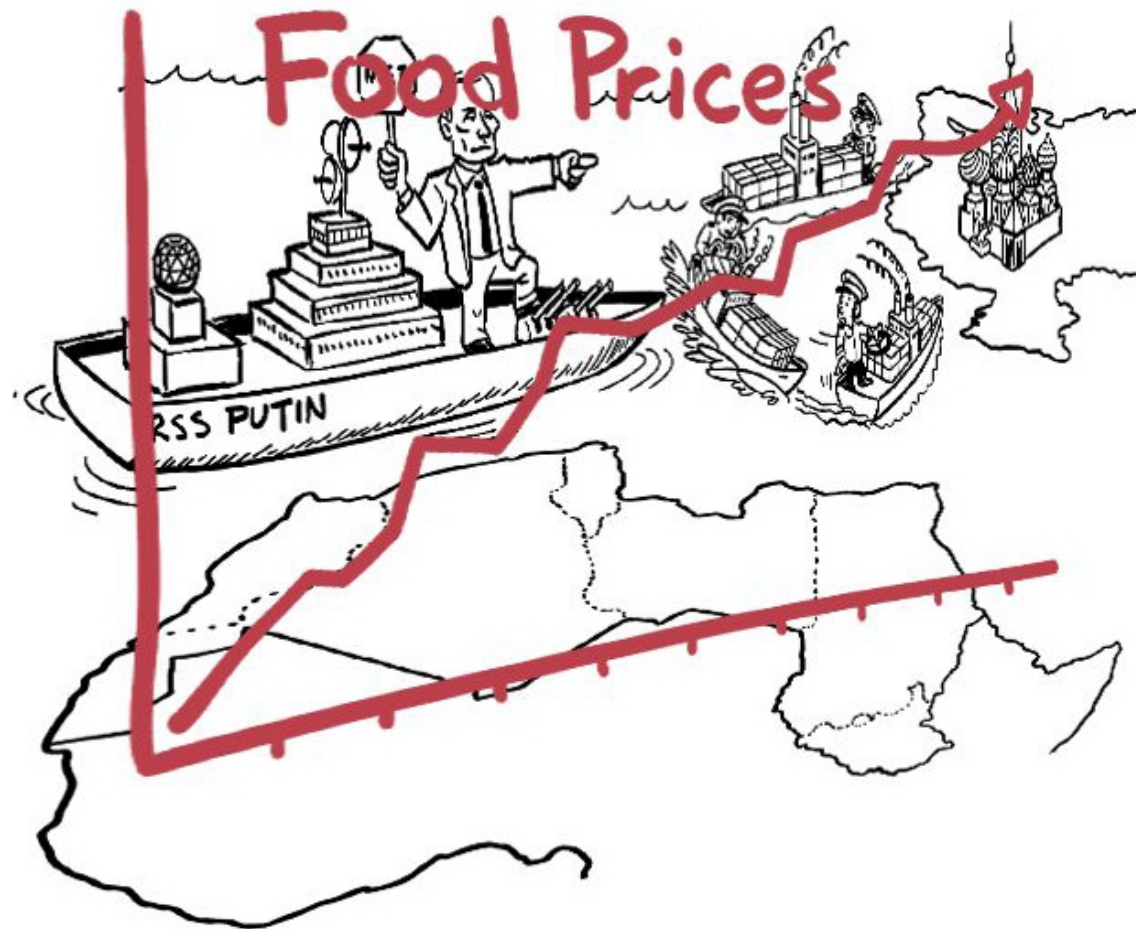


THIS VIDEO IS ABOUT ONE OF THE POSSIBLE POLITICAL IMPACTS OF THE FOOD CRISIS:  
FOOD RIOTS.

2010 WAS A ROUGH YEAR FOR THE GLOBAL FOOD SYSTEM; DROUGHTS AND WILDFIRES  
CONSUMED ABOUT 25% OF RUSSIA'S WHEAT HARVEST . . .

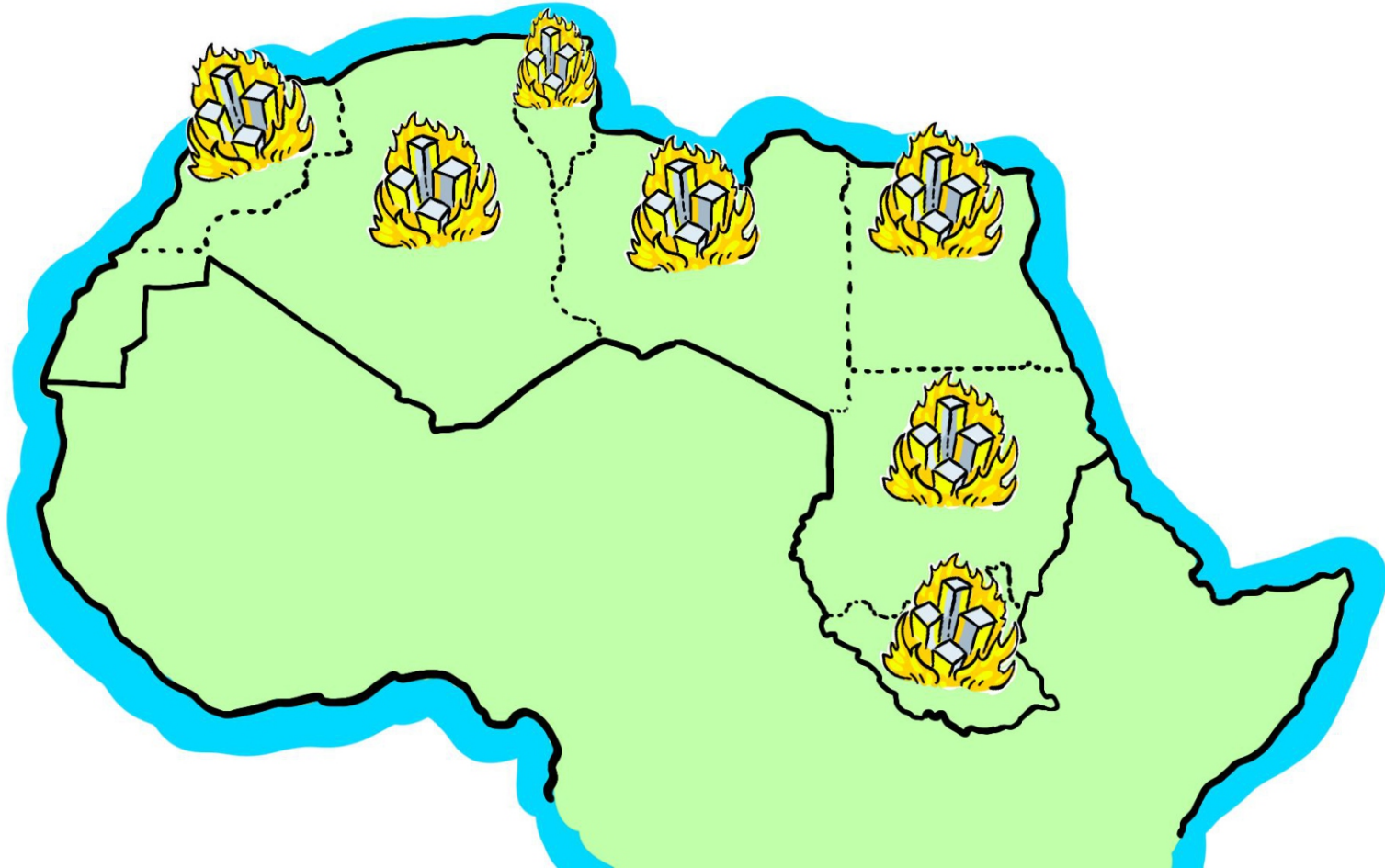


... AND THE KREMLIN DECIDING TO STOP EXPORTING WHEAT TO INTERNATIONAL MARKETS<sup>1</sup>.  
FOOD PRICES SKYROCKETED ...





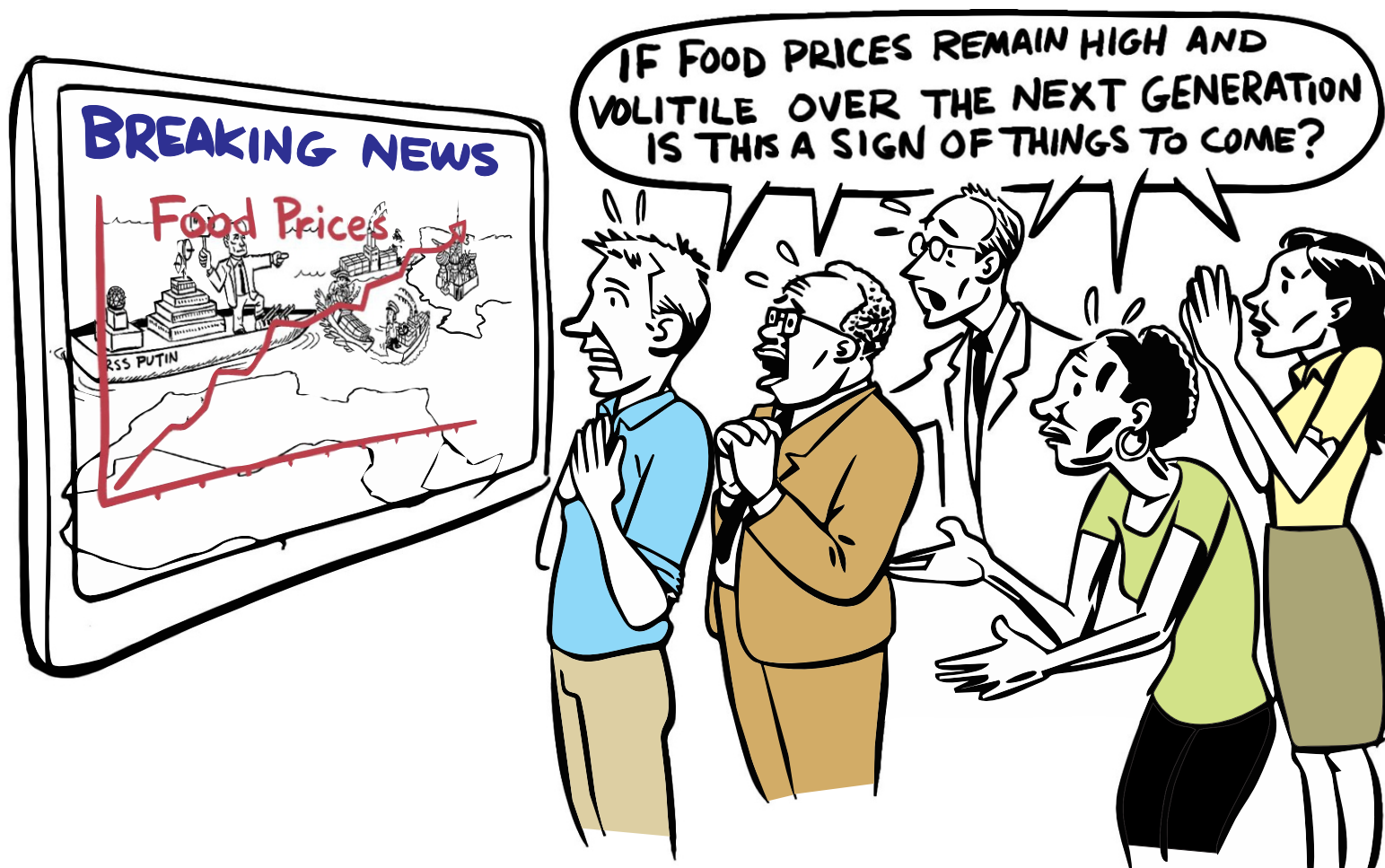
... AND THE COUNTRIES OF THE MIDDLE EAST, WHICH REGULARLY BOUGHT THIS RUSSIAN WHEAT, WERE HARDEST HIT<sup>2</sup>.





WITHIN MONTHS, FOOD RIOTS HAD SPREAD ACROSS THE ARAB WORLD AND THE FOOD PRICE CRISIS OF LATE 2010 IS NOW SEEN AS THE BEGINNING OF THE ARAB SPRING - THE TOPPLING OF ARAB GOVERNMENTS ACROSS THE MIDDLE EAST THAT UNFOLDED IN 2011<sup>3</sup>.

EXPERTS WATCHED THESE EVENTS IN HORROR AND MANY OF US WONDERED -







MANY THINK SO. ONE NEWSPAPER ARTICLE I READ ARGUED: "A HUNGRY MAN IS AN ANGRY MAN"<sup>4</sup>.

IN ANOTHER: "NOTHING SENDS A PERSON INTO THE STREET QUITE LIKE AN EMPTY STOMACH"<sup>5</sup>.



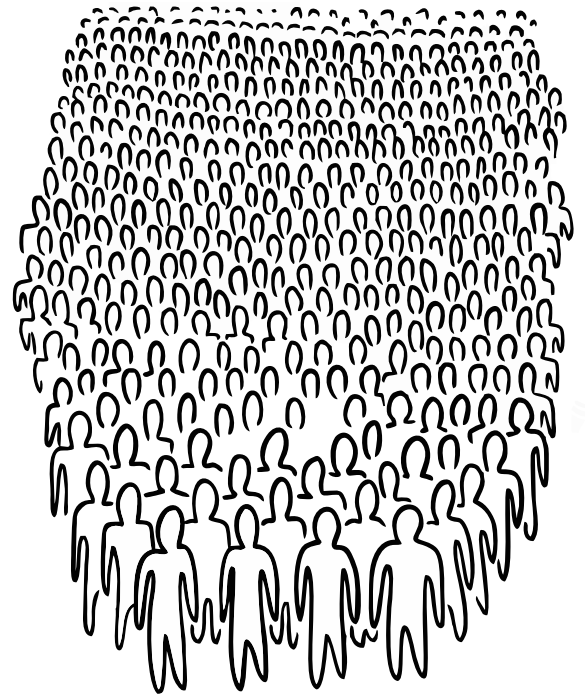
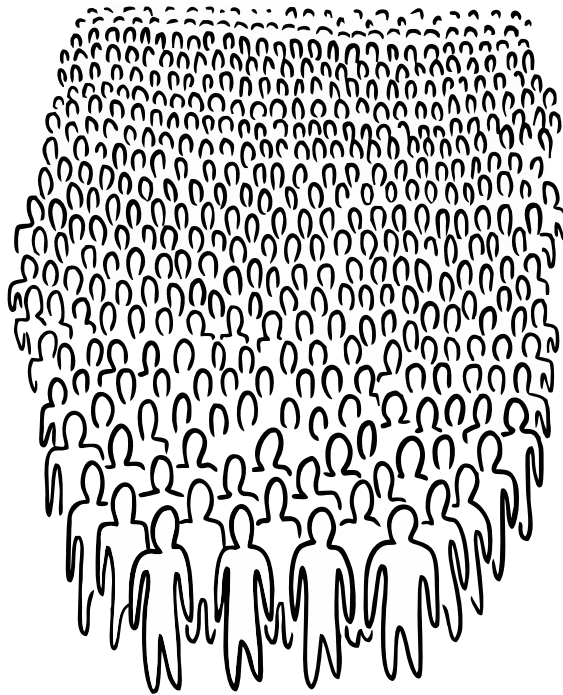
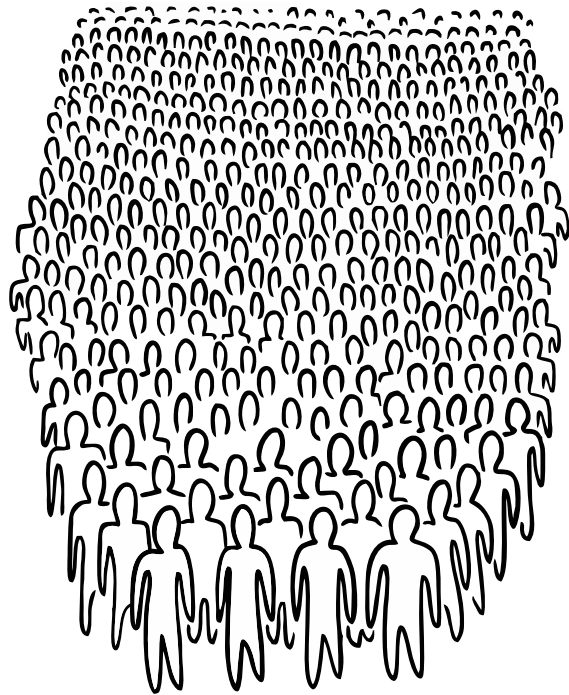
**DOMINIQUE STRAUSS-KAHN, THEN HEAD OF THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND, SAID: "AS WE KNOW ... QUESTIONS (ABOUT FOOD SECURITY) SOMETIMES END IN WAR"<sup>6</sup>**



AND AS A RESULT,  
A GREAT MANY EXPERTS ARGUED . . .

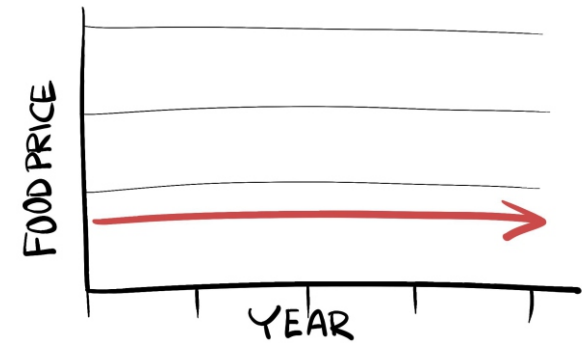


. . . THAT THANKS TO POPULATION GROWTH . . .

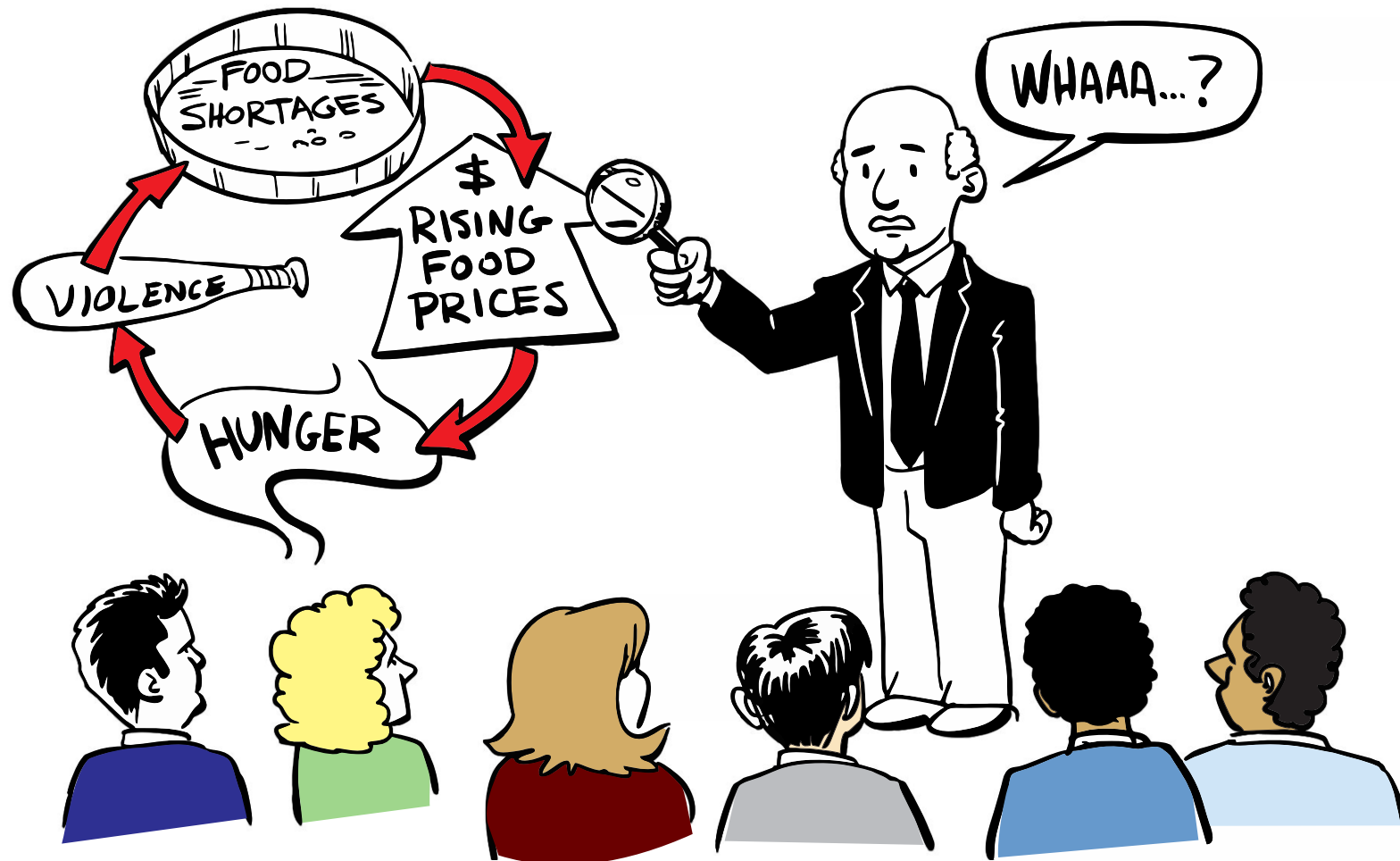




... WE WILL NEED TO PRODUCE A LOT MORE  
FOOD IF WE WANT TO KEEP PRICES LOW AND  
PREVENT MORE RIOTING.

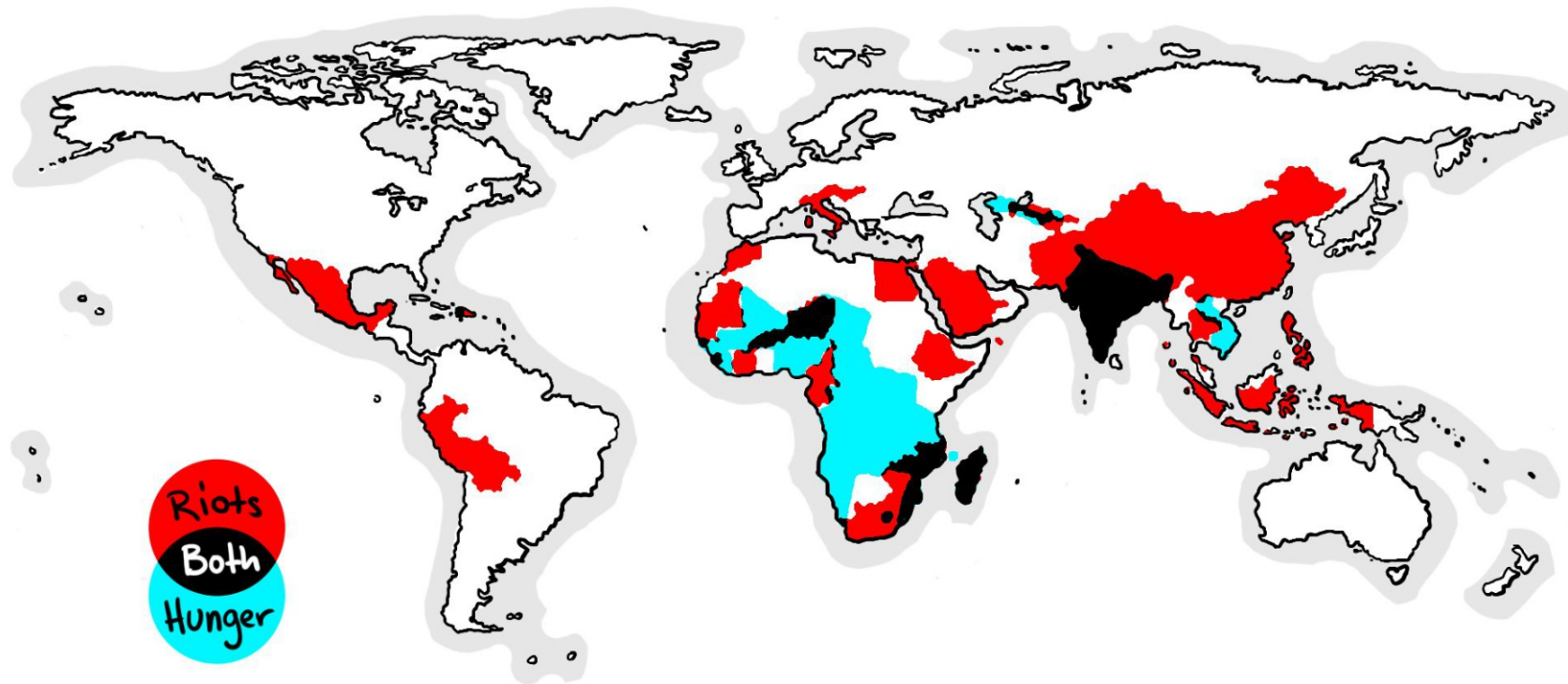


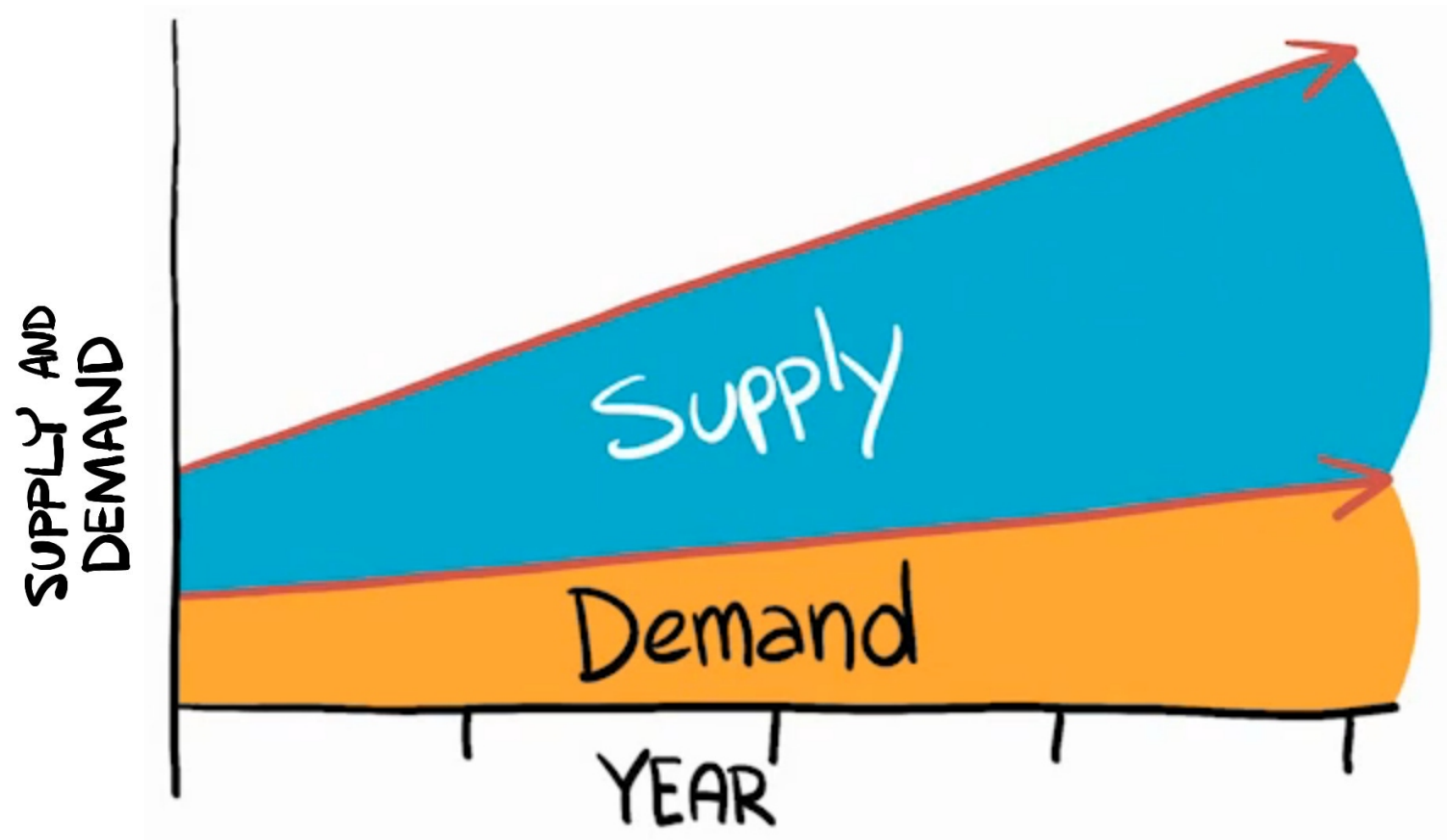




**BUT WHILE ASSUMING A CONNECTION BETWEEN FOOD SHORTAGES, RISING FOOD PRICES, HUNGER AND VIOLENCE SEEMS LOGICAL, ON CLOSER INSPECTION THINGS BECOME LESS CLEAR.**

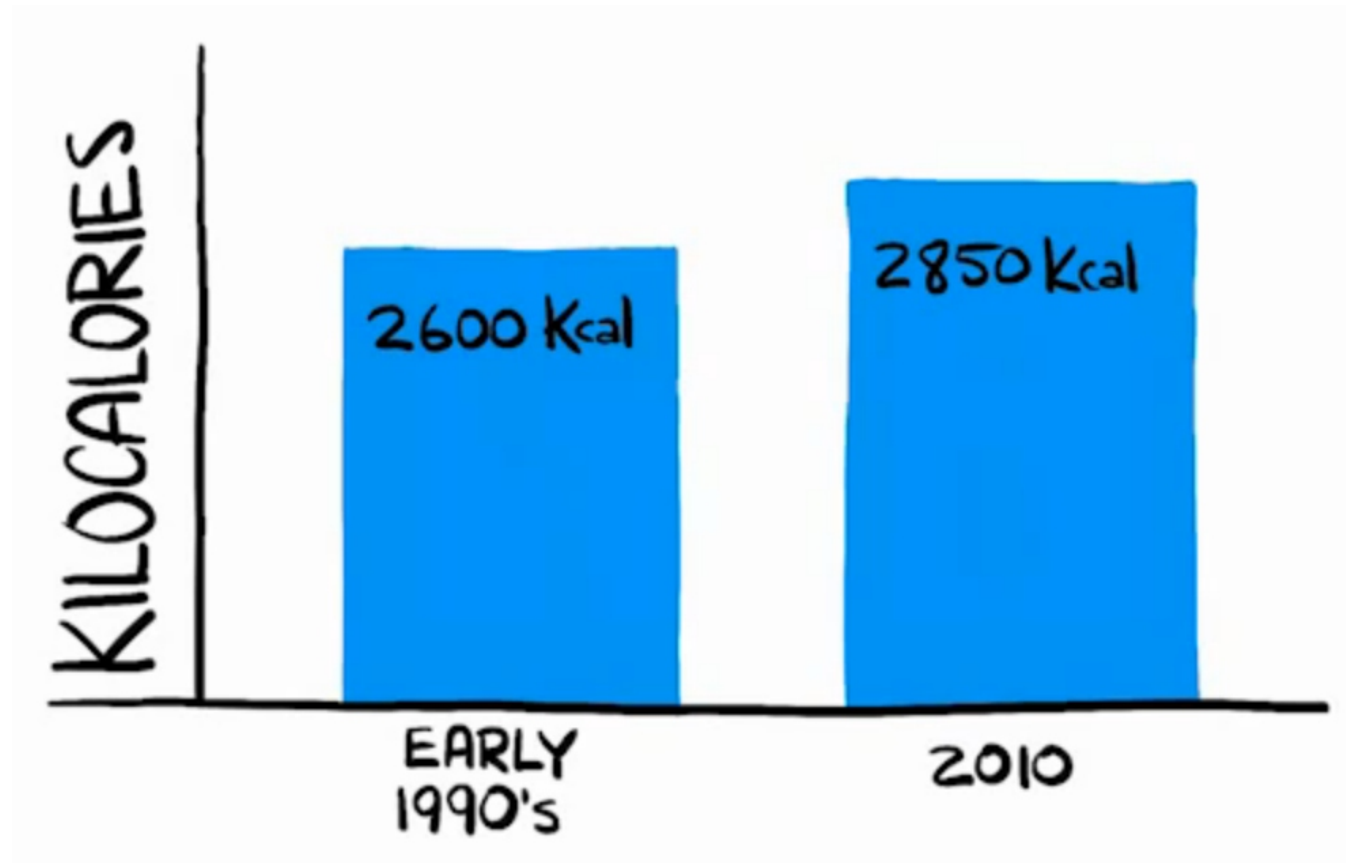
FOR INSTANCE, THE PLACES IN THE WORLD WHERE PEOPLE ARE HUNGRIEST IS NOT NECESSARILY WHERE THE FOOD RIOTS HAPPENED.<sup>8</sup>





SIMILARLY, ACROSS THE 1990S AND 2000S, THE WORLD'S FOOD SUPPLY STAYED BOTH STABLE AND COMFORTABLY AHEAD OF DEMAND.<sup>9</sup>

IN THE EARLY 1990S WE HAD ABOUT 2600 CAL PER PERSON PER DAY ON THE PLANET BY THE YEAR 2010 THERE WERE ABOUT 2850 CAL PER PERSON PER DAY.<sup>10</sup>





ALL THIS SUGGESTS THAT THOSE LINKS BETWEEN FOOD SHORTAGES, RISING FOOD PRICES, HUNGER AND VIOLENCE ARE MUCH MORE COMPLICATED . . .





AND SIMPLY PRODUCING MORE FOOD WON'T MEAN THERE IS ANY LESS VIOLENCE.<sup>11</sup>

TO EXPLORE THIS ISSUE IN MORE DETAIL I'VE WORKED WITH A SMALL TEAM ON THE SOCIAL AND POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES OF FOOD PRICE RISES.

