

# **Result Of Senate Sanctioned Thinktank: HOPS (Human Over-Population Solution)**

Made By The United States Senate Committee On The Human Overpopulation Solution  
In Conjunction With FEMA, CDC And The United States Department Of Homeland Security, etal.

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The population of the united states has been and currently is exploding. There are over 300 million people residing in this country alone and the world population is quickly nearing 7 billion. Unfortunately the resources available to us have done nothing but dwindle. As the ratio of resources per person climbs higher and higher, we can expect a massive decrease in the quality of life for citizens of all nations on earth as well as disagreements over the application of the remnant resources such as fresh water, consumables and oil. Our growing industries have polluted the environment and various practices have depleted the oceans to dangerously low levels of marine life and have introduced dangerously high levels of artificial chemicals and plastics. Our global carbon emissions have been strongly linked to climate change and sea level rise that will have disastrous effects on low lying regions around the world such as Japan, Florida, Indonesia and every coastline of every nation on earth. It is clear that countless problems are being caused by unchecked population growth and that the consequences of these problems will be made evermore severe by the amount of damage that can be caused to such a huge civilization.

The ability to produce an overpopulation problem is believed to have started when mankind underwent the agricultural revolution. Without the need of hunting and gathering to sustain us we were able to build cities, governments and a flourishing civilizations. One of the greatest human inventions made during this time was medicine. We began caring for the sick and weak and increased hygiene lead to a better quality of life. This had the side effect however of allowing our population to rise unchecked, no longer constrained by standard evolutionary Darwinism. Not only does our ability to save ourselves put us out of balance with the natural environment, we also begin depleting it rapidly in a quest for making life more comfortable. As an isolated planet with a closed loop ecosystem we are not receiving any more resources so what we have now must supply us for the foreseeable future.

We have reason to believe that the current population of the Earth is far beyond its carrying



capacity. The fact that our numbers are causing environmental damage that could threaten our survival is scientifically supported not disputed. It is imperative for the survival of our species and possibly even the planet that we solve this problem. There are three main solutions to our current dilemma;

1. Reduce the population,
2. Reduce consumption, or
3. Preserve enough of the human species that a recovery could be made after a worst case scenario.

Solution one, the most obvious, reducing the population, is a direct answer to the problem being faced. It is to be made clear, this is not a recommendation of genocide or mass murder but a simple reduction in birthrate. The problem with this solution however is the speed at which a reduction in birthrate lowers the world population. It is true that it would eventually be effective but a major ecological disaster has a high probability of taking place before carrying capacity could be reached. Our next obvious solution would be to reduce the resource consumption of the human race, thereby increasing the carrying capacity of the planet. This in conjunction with a reduced birthrate could allow civilization to last long enough for the slowly diminishing population to make an impact. However, we have reason to believe that this plan would be met with great resistance, most people living in developed nations would be unwilling to cope with a massive deduction in electricity use, water use, food use, garbage output and many other things. Reduction of the birthrate is also another measure that would be difficult to conduct, many people have preconceptions about their future lives and are not willing to give up their plans to have children. America has spent a considerable effort to educate youth about contraception and safe-sex but this has run into resistance from state and city level governing authorities and even if teen pregnancy totally vanishes, adults will still be having children.

Thus we are drawn to the third solution, preserving the human species. The success of other courses of action are improbable because of the extreme difficulty of quickly changing the mind of



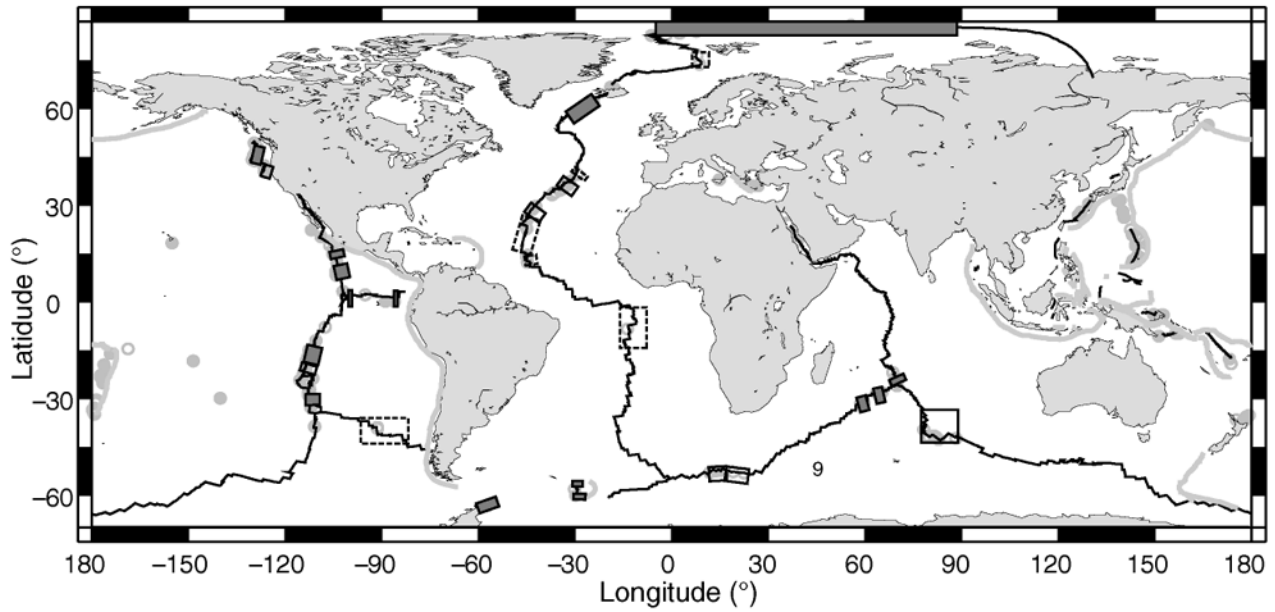
every individual to conduct their life in a different manor. Our best bet would be to find a group of people who already live sustainability or are willing to do so and keep them safe. Many possibilities for protection have been considered and rejected. Simple military defense in mainland America was quickly dismissed because of the possibility of worldwide nuclear conflict over resources.

Underground habitation was limited to extremely deep shafts by the development of nuclear bunker busters but the lack of resources and extreme heat deep underground made such locations undesirable. In fact, allowing the facility containing the survivors to be easily located is possibly the greatest danger to the success of the project because mobs of people who wish to take their anger out on those prepared for disaster or eager to gain entrance to sanctuary would overwhelm defenses. In this case, security is in obscurity. Of the last two potential locations were quickly reduced to one. A space station in Earth orbit would be protected from all but the most persistent enemies with rocket-technology but the resources available to astronauts is so limited that a closed-loop life support system would be required and this is simply beyond our technology. The final location that came under discussion was a manned habitat under the oceans. There are still sufficient resources within the ocean to sustain a small population for nearly any period of time needed to wait out a cataclysmic event on the surface. The habitat would be situated near a hydrothermal vent and energy would be provided through this renewable source of heat. Researched sites focus on the Mid-Atlantic Ridge, particularly suitable due to its geologic stability. Design considerations for such a Manned Atlantic Sea-floor Station have already been drafted.

I believe that this third solution would be met with the least resistance from a population which is still severely in denial of any problem. We can ensure the survival of our species without the difficulty of an uncooperative or dangerous public. Undersea habitation has been researched and technology is prepared and in development which would allow for such a feat. Funding for this project is debatably already available and possibly locked behind government classification and red tape.



The image below shows a map of potential hydrothermal heat sources for an undersea habitat.



The image below is a sanitized classified document depicting the MASS (Mid-Atlantic Sea-Floor Station) in its planning stages.

