

Texas A&M University-Commerce

## A&M-Commerce Digital Commons

---

All Press Releases

University Press Releases

---

1972-04

### Economist Urges Population Restriction in ETSU Speech

John Self

East Texas State University. Office of Communication Services.

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.tamuc.edu/scua-press-releases-all>

---

#### Recommended Citation

Self, John and East Texas State University. Office of Communication Services., "Economist Urges Population Restriction in ETSU Speech" (1972-04). *All Press Releases*. 32.  
<https://digitalcommons.tamuc.edu/scua-press-releases-all/32>

This Text is brought to you for free and open access by the University Press Releases at A&M-Commerce Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in All Press Releases by an authorized administrator of A&M-Commerce Digital Commons. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons@tamuc.edu](mailto:digitalcommons@tamuc.edu).

~~Phone~~ Phone Call

John Self

468-2222

Upon  
Receipt

ECONOMIST URGES POPULATION  
RESTRICTION IN ETSU SPEECH

COMMERCE, --The world's population will continue to increase for 50 or 60 years--"even after a net increase of one child per family has been reached," said Dr. Joseph J. Spengler, Duke University economist.

Dr. Spengler, speaking at a Forum Arts program at East Texas State University Wednesday (April 5), also said that in the world today, a significant percentage of families with three or more children live on incomes below the "poverty level."

His solution was simple: "A massive quick-working birth control program is the only answer," Dr. Spengler said.

He explained that when a child is born into a family without proper financial resources, his chances of getting a sufficient education or finding a job are greatly reduced.

Pointing to "high unemployment figures" among blacks living in Northern urban centers, Spengler said, "If blacks had migrated to the North in the early 1900s, they could have found jobs. But this is the age of brains, not brawn." He explained the many blacks in northern urban centers live in an environment that is not conducive to education or proper development.

Citing the need for international birth control programs, Dr. Spengler said many underdeveloped countries "rely on death control to control the population."

(MORE)

He also related the need for some type of birth control program for rural areas in this country. "People living in rural areas usually don't use birth control because they are relatively isolated away from the urban areas."

Noting that one of the major problems confronting this country now is "urban sprawl," he said several experiments were being tried to halt some of the staggering problems found in the metropolitan area.

According to Dr. Spengler, one plan would limit a given urban center to 2 million people. "Everyone would be within 20 minutes walking distance of work and there would be only about 10,000 automobiles--which is one-hundredth of what we have now."

He also urged families living in urban centers not to have more than three children regardless of the individual wealth "because metropolitan areas are just like factories and they are subject to many of the same economically binding factors."