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Hunger and social food justice

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Hunger plays an important role in contemporary bioethics. In this paper, hunger will be redefined from physiological and social aspects by emphasizing moral sentiment, justice, gender equality and benevolence under the international background. The purpose of the paper is to point out the significance of hunger as moral standard for human beings in the world. Human has a long history of hunger. A large population of the humans in the world has experienced frequently and severely hunger for thousands of years. In many cases, hunger results from the short food supplies caused by war, plague, or adverse weather conditions. After World War II, technological improvement and political and economic cooperation in the worldwide substantially decreased the number of people suffering from hunger in the world. Although the progress was uneven, the threat of extreme hunger subsided for many people from worldwide. From the view of ethics, hunger not only results from natural disasters, but also from social problems such as unequal distribution between the rich and the poor, developing countries and developed countries, men and women, and adults and children. People in the whole world are fighting against the hunger problems. The World Food Day is annually held on October 16 to commemorate the founding of the United Nations' (UN) Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). The World Food Day focuses on the scheme of Sustainable Food Systems for Food Security and Nutrition, aiming at arousing the public awareness of food security and food saving, and therefore encouraging wider public participation in the efforts to put an end to hunger and malnutrition. Many countries around the world have joined zero hunger challenge and pledged to work cooperatively for sustainable food systems.

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