

**Theme:** *The Magnitude of Suffering: Comparing Hunger Vulnerability in Haiti and Chile in the Context of Recent Earthquakes*

**Topic:** The back-to-back earthquakes in Haiti and Chile in 2010 revealed major differences in the impact of these events on the lives of the citizens of each country. Although the 7.0 magnitude of Haiti's quake was not as severe as Chile's (8.8), the suffering was much greater in terms of deaths, devastation, and deprivation. This assignment requires you to read the short chapter titled "Natural Disasters" in Bassett and Winter-Nelson's *The Atlas of World Hunger* (2010) and the newspaper clippings from the *New York Times* in the Haiti and Chile Earthquake folders.

**Assignment:** Write a two-paragraph essay (one-page maximum, 12 pt, Times font, single spaced) in which you respond to the following two questions.

1. Bassett and Winter-Nelson write that whether or not natural events like earthquakes turn into disasters "depends on the preparedness and vulnerability of the affected populations." What are the major similarities/differences in hunger vulnerabilities (defined as the likelihood of current or future exposure of an individual or group to hunger) among the populations of Haiti and Chile in the light of the 2010 earthquakes?
2. According to the *New York Times*, what are the main causes of hunger vulnerability in Haiti and Chile?

**Credit:** I will grade each essay on the following basis: 10 pts for your response to each question (20 pts total) and 10 pts for presentation (clarity, argument, grammar, typos).