

<b>Cause</b>	<b>How it results in poverty</b>
1. Natural Disasters	Many LEDCs are in areas of the world where earthquakes, floods, droughts are common. These destroy homes, and livelihoods eg crops and animals.
2. Debt	LEDCs have to borrow money to survive & start industrialising. They are charged interest on these loans so end up having to repay both loan and interest. If the interest is unpaid, it gets added to the total loan sum, and interest is charged on that. Eg 1970-2002, African countries repaid \$550 on \$540 in loans.
3. War	Wars are expensive, they damage infrastructure in the country eg industry, homes, hospitals, schools, so leading to more poverty. Lots of penniless refugees coming into a country can also make that country poor. Wars are the result of government corruption, or rival tribes from colonisation times.
4. Unfair trade	Rich countries decide what to pay poor ones for their products. They also use their wealth to protect their own farmers and prevent fair competition with poorer countries (subsidies). So poor countries grow cash crops (that can't be produced by MEDCs) eg coffee, tea, tobacco instead of food and so starve. Depending on one "produce" is risky if demand for that item goes down.
5. HIV/ AIDS	HIV/ AIDS destroys families and leaves orphans, as well as many sick people unable to work, and needing expensive treatment. The children have to work as well and have less access to good education and upbringing.
6. Lack of Education & Clean Water	People do not have the skills or knowledge to compete with MEDCs and improve their own country. Lack of clean water and good nutrition leads to disease – families have a large number of children in case any die early – overcrowding & fewer resources to go round.

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