



Future Assessments: *Fellowship of Christian Athletes*¹

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	FUTURE FORCES	FACTORS	WORK TO DO
1	Wars, Terrorism, and the Nuclear Threat	- The nuclear threat. - More wars and conflicts. - Terrorism.	- Limit the proliferation of nuclear arms and materials to smaller nations. Negotiate arms reduction with the Soviet Union. Help the Third World countries to develop a vested interest in the international economy.
2	Over-population	- On a daily basis, news reports vividly describe hunger, poverty, and joblessness in our nation, including a growing army of homeless men and women.	- Improve food distribution. - Reduce population concentrations. - Limit world-wide population.
3	Economic Pressures	- Inflation. - Unemployment. - Priority of productivity.	- Become a more sophisticated manager of your money. Try to determine whether a given job will be viable in the future. Accept automation as the wave of the future. Think in terms of alternate employment. Give yourself some sort of financial cushion.
4	Technological Progress	- Widespread discontent as people are displaced from jobs. - A new generation of criminals. - Threats to national security. - The increased vulnerability of a high-tech nation to nuclear attack. - The creation of a new class of poor. - Threats to personal freedom and privacy.	
5	Environmental Emergency	- Massive water pollution. Increasing air pollution in key American cities and in the upper atmosphere. Contamination of the countryside through the escape of nuclear wastes, or a "nuclear cloud" from any of the various nuclear power plants around the country. Ecological imbalance in life cycles of oceans. Unregulated dumping of toxic industrial wastes.	

¹ Prepared for Fellowship of Christian Athletes' Presentation. Kansas City, 1989. Based on *Forecast 2000*. George Gallup, Jr., New York, NY: William Morrow & Company, 1984

6	Crime and Violence	- So the question of the future of crime and violence in our society is very complex. Education, urban crowding, the influence of mass media, family discipline, racial relationships, and many other factors may enter into the equation. Even as we take steps to protect ourselves on one front, we may well find that a new, more dangerous threat arises from somewhere else.	- There's reason to be somewhat optimistic on this issue—if peace-loving citizens can just band together, increase their sensitivity to the sources of these problems, and work as a community to resolve them. We will certainly never see the end of crime and violence as long as human beings are living close to one another. But with a continuing concerned effort, we can at least expect to see some improvement before the year 2000.
7	Faltering Family	- Alternative lifestyles. - Sexual morality. - The economy. - Grassroots feminist philosophy.	- One of the greatest challenges we face before the year 2000, both as a nation and as individuals, is to make our all-important family ties strong and healthy. It's only upon such a firm personal foundation that we can hope to venture forth and grapple effectively with more public problems.
8	Hope for Good Health	- Self-improvement. - Self-abuse. - Alcohol.	- The threat from drugs and alcohol should certainly serve to sober up all Americans about the future prospects for their health. We must learn to master these negative influences before we can benefit fully from the great advances in medicine that are occurring. But if each individual can learn to control or avoid destructive substances, increasing numbers of Americans should be in a better position to take part in the generally upward trend in the state of our nation's health.
9	American Politics	- The pressure of frustration. - The pressure of apathy. - The pressure of activism.	- Certain ideas capture public interest and dominate the political agenda, only to fade away within a short while. So it's important for each of us to develop an individualized early-warning system that enhances our sensitivity to the ultimate implications of our present actions. We must learn to recognize which are the real problems that threaten us, and we must face them before they can overwhelm us.