

## WHY WORLD GEOGRAPHY?

**IN LIGHT OF THE CORONAVIRUS CRISIS AND FEDERAL/STATE SOCIAL DISTANCING GUIDELINES, NOW IS A GOOD TIME TO GO BACK TO SCHOOL AND HAVE A LITTLE FUN. WE CERTAINLY HAVE THE TIME AT THE PRESENT MOMENT.**

**BASED ON MY INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE, WORLD GEOGRAPHY WOULD BE A GOOD TOPIC FOR THIS PRESENTATION SERIES. TODAY, THERE ARE CLOSE TO 200 COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD WITH A GLOBAL POPULATION OF APPROXIMATELY 7.8 BILLION. TO APPRECIATE THIS, LET'S GO BACK A HUNDRED YEARS OR SO TO THE 1900 TIME-FRAME. HERE YOU WOULD HAVE FOUND WELL UNDER 100 COUNTRIES WITH A GLOBAL POPULATION OF APPROXIMATELY 1.7 BILLION. WHEN YOU LOOK AT THE WORLD FROM THIS PERSPECTIVE, YOU CAN SEE WHY UNDERSTANDING WORLD GEOGRAPHY IS IMPORTANT TODAY.**

**ANOTHER REASON FOR THIS TOPIC IS THE STARTLING FACT THAT AMERICANS, ESPECIALLY YOUNG PEOPLE, DO NOT SCORE HIGH ON WORLD GEOGRAPHY. A 2016 SURVEY DONE BY THE U.S. NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY REVEALED THAT YOUNG ADULTS, AGED 18-TO-26 YEARS OLD WHO ATTEND OR HAVE ATTENDED A TWO-OR FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE IN THE U.S., AVERAGED A SCORE OF JUST 55% ON A 75-QUESTIONS SURVEY ABOUT GEOGRAPHY, CURRENT EVENTS, AND ECONOMICS AND TRADE.**

**OVER THE UPCOMING WEEKS, I WILL PRESENT GEOGRAPHY TESTS ABOUT THE WORLD THAT WE LIVE IN. EACH TEST WILL CONSIST OF TEN QUESTIONS FROM THE DIFFERENT REGIONS OF THE WORLD. A LISTING OF THESE REGIONS ARE PROVIDED BELOW. THE FOLLOWING WEEK, AFTER EACH PRESENTATION, I WILL PROVIDE ANSWERS TO THE TEST QUESTIONS AND THEN PRESENT A NEW LIST OF TEST QUESTIONS. THIS WILL PROVIDE TIME FOR YOU TO ANSWER THE QUESTIONS AND TO DO SOME RESEARCH ON QUESTIONS THAT YOU DON'T KNOW. THE PRESENTATIONS WILL CONTINUE DURING THE CORONAVIRUS CRISIS.**

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOU GET A GLOBAL MAP AND TRACK THE ANSWERS ON THE MAP. THIS WILL HELP YOU TO DEVELOP A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE AND AN APPRECIATION OF WHERE COUNTRIES ARE LOCATED IN THE WORLD.**

## **REGIONS OF THE WORLD**



**1) AMERICAS INCLUDING NORTH AMERICA, SOUTH AMERICA, CENTRAL AMERICA, AND CARIBBEAN AMERICA.**

**2) EUROPE INCLUDING MAINLAND EUROPE, NORTHERN EUROPE, AND THE BRITISH ISLES.**

**3) RUSSIAN FEDERATION (ALSO REFERRED TO AS EURO-ASIA).**

**4) ASIA INCLUDING SOUTH ASIA, EAST ASIA, SOUTHEAST ASIA, AND AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND.**

**5) SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA INCLUDING THOSE COUNTRIES BELOW THE SAHARA DESERT IN AFRICA.**

**6) MIDDLE EAST (ARAB WORLD) INCLUDING NORTH AFRICA, SOUTHWEST ASIA, AND CENTRAL ASIA.**