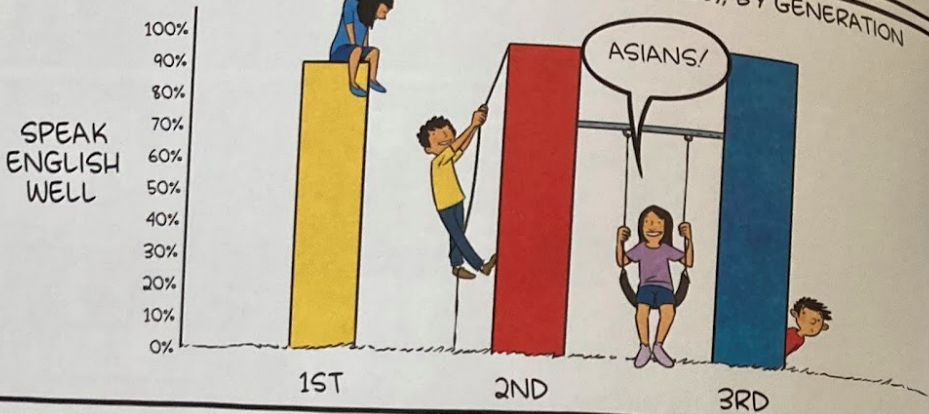


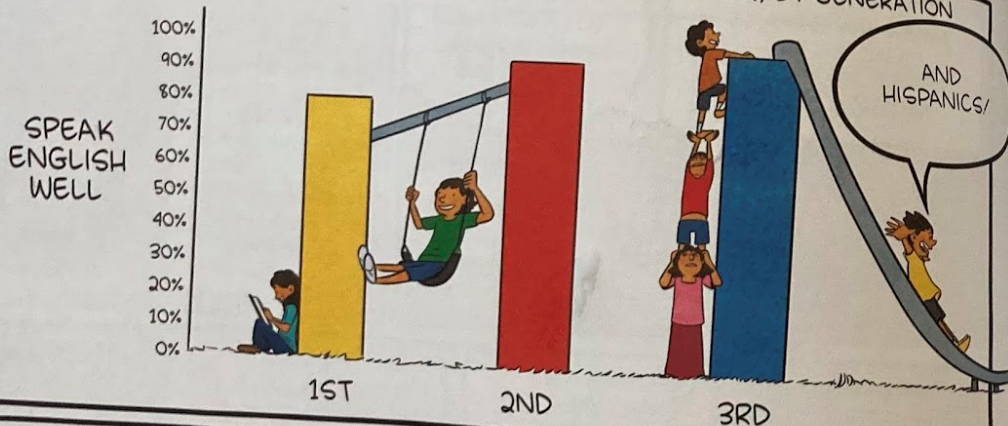


A CENTURY LATER, LITTLE HAS CHANGED. A LARGE MAJORITY OF **FIRST**-GENERATION KIDS SPEAK ENGLISH WELL. RATES FOR LATER GENERATIONS APPROACH 100%. THIS IS TRUE EVEN FOR GROUPS THAT ALLEGEDLY "DON'T LEARN ENGLISH," LIKE...

ENGLISH SKILLS—ASIAN KIDS (AGES 6–15), BY GENERATION



ENGLISH SKILLS—HISPANIC KIDS (AGES 6–15), BY GENERATION

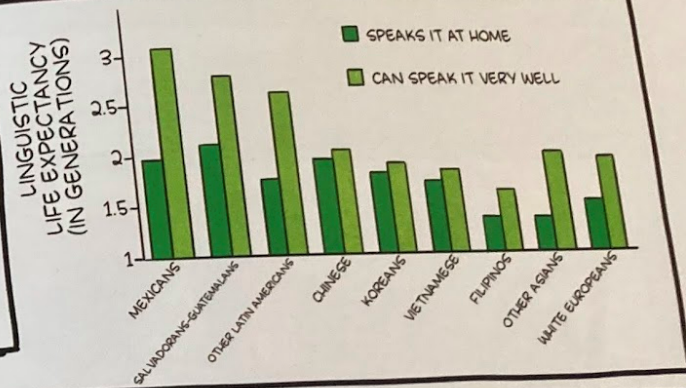


NOTE: SINCE WE'RE TALKING ABOUT KIDS, THESE NUMBERS *UNDERSTATE* ENGLISH FLUENCY. MY WIFE, WHO IMMIGRATED WHEN SHE WAS SEVEN, NOW SPEAKS ROMANIAN WITH AN AMERICAN ACCENT, NOT ENGLISH WITH A ROMANIAN ACCENT.



IF YOU WANT THE **REAL** STORY OF ASSIMILATION, ASK AN IMMIGRANT PARENT...

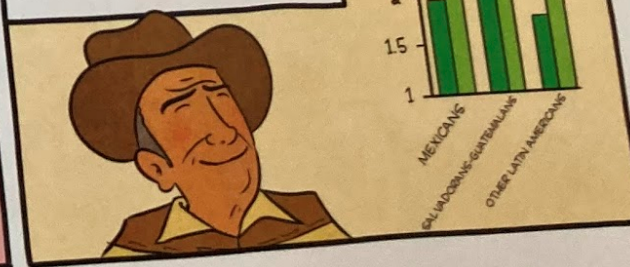
RESEARCHERS ACTUALLY MEASURE "LINGUISTIC LIFE EXPECTANCIES"—THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF GENERATIONS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE SURVIVES. HERE ARE THE NUMBERS FOR "MULTICULTURAL" SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA:



ON AVERAGE, FOR EXAMPLE, IT TAKES LESS THAN TWO GENERATIONS FOR KOREAN IMMIGRANTS TO LOSE KOREAN FLUENCY.

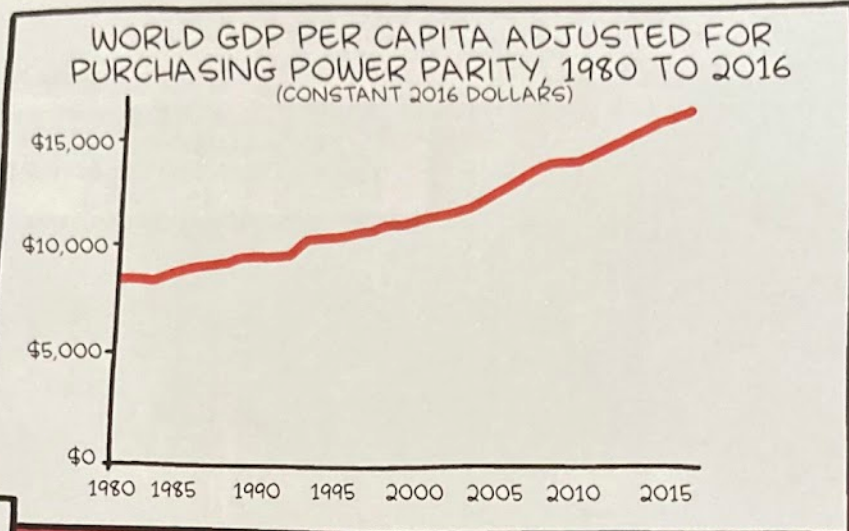


WHAT'S SPECIAL ABOUT HISPANICS IN PLACES LIKE CALIFORNIA ISN'T THAT THEY "DON'T LEARN ENGLISH," BUT THAT THEY RETAIN FLUENT SPANISH FOR ONE EXTRA GENERATION!

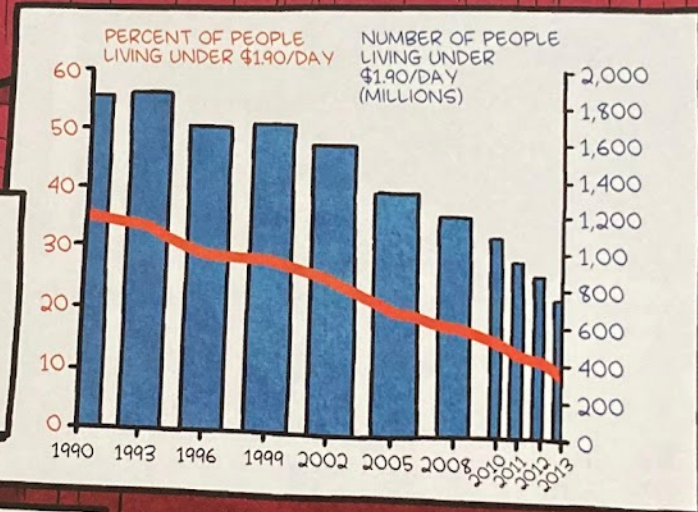


LIFE IS IMPROVING.

THE WORLD'S AVERAGE REAL INCOME HAS ALMOST DOUBLED OVER THE LAST TWENTY-FIVE YEARS.



AND INCOMES OF THE GLOBAL POOR HAVE GROWN ESPECIALLY QUICKLY.



THE GLOBAL POVERTY RATE HAS FALLEN BY OVER TWO-THIRDS. TOTAL PEOPLE IN POVERTY HAS FALLEN BY MORE THAN HALF, DESPITE RISING POPULATION.

I'M BRYAN CAPLAN, ECONOMICS PROFESSOR AT GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY.

LIKE 99% OF ECONOMISTS, I'M THRILLED TO SEE GLOBAL PROSPERITY BLOSSOM AND POVERTY WITHER RIGHT BEFORE MY EYES.

BUT I'M ALSO DISAPPOINTED. DESPITE GREAT PROGRESS, TWO FACTS REMAIN:

PHILIPPINES

