

“Delusional Assumptions” is a term coined by theologian Walter Wink to describe beliefs taken for granted by the powerful that justify their power, believed by the poor and non-poor alike. A partial list of his delusional assumptions.

Circle any boxes for assumptions that you’ve seen evidence of in the world. Put an X in the box for any assumptions that you may have BELIEVED at one point or another.

- ☐ Men are better at being dominant than women; some races are more naturally suited to dominate others.
- ☐ The need to prevent chaos requires that some people should dominate others
- ☐ Violence is the only language that our enemies understand
- ☐ Ruling or managing is the most important social function
- ☐ Those with the greatest military strength, the most advanced technology, the biggest markets, and the most wealth are the ones who will and should survive
- ☐ Production of wealth is more important than production of healthy, normal people and sound human relationships
- ☐ Property is sacred and property ownership is an absolute right
- ☐ God, if there is a God, is the protector of the powerful

Adapted from Walking With the Poor by Bryant L. Myers, 2011, p. 146