1043-20-189 **Bret Jordan Benesh*** (bbenesh@csbsju.edu), College of St. Benedict, HAB 17IJ, 37 South College Avenue, St. Joseph, MN 56374. *An Example of Counting Generators in Finite Groups.*

Let P be a d-generated p-group and Q be a d-generated q-group for distinct primes p and q. It has been conjectured that for any finite group $G = \langle P, Q \rangle$, G is $(d+1)$-generated. Lucchini determined that any minimal counterexample to this conjecture embeds into L^t where L has a unique minimal normal subgroup $M = S^n$ with S nonabelian simple. Up to information on finite simple groups, we prove that L/M is $(d+1)$-generated or nonsolvable. (Received August 26, 2008)