



## Direct Answers

from Wayne & Tamara

### Man-child

My boyfriend had a climbing accident three months ago. He showed up on my doorstep that night with serious injuries. I got him to the ER ASAP. Then I let him crash while he recovered, and I played nurse until he could get back on his feet.

He's been back to work for a month and gets a daily paycheck. But I pay for all the important stuff! Not to mention the rent, which I could lose by housing a non-resident! I do not want him on the lease. I want him out! But he has nowhere to go. That's where I drop the ball and don't stick to my guns.

I've been penalized financially by the leasing office as a warning. And he still didn't leave! Bottom line, I cannot support two people. But he's always down for a good time. He's along for the ride because I'm the one paying for it all! Can I get a "thank you" instead of "that was really fun"?

Just give me a script I can use to tell him to go. I won't be rude about it, but I've been firm and this guy got way too comfortable living with me.

**Willow**

Willow, there are people in this world who will look for you. The less you look like a victim, the less you act like one, the less you feel like one, the less you will have to deal with these people, because they won't target you.

He's a mooch. And mooches look for people who can't stand up for themselves.

Why do you think he showed up on your doorstep before going to the ER? He went through his mental Rolodex of those he could take advantage of, and he stopped when he reached your name.

He set himself up with a support victim first. In your terms, he made you feel like a rescuer, like Florence Nightingale, and you stepped right into it.

Thanks? Why would he thank you? You are in the role he stuck you in. If he thanked you, that would make him beholden to you and he does not want that. He's high-fiving himself for having picked so well.

Pay his fair share? Are you kidding? Like all mooches, he feels entitled to what you are doing for him.

He is already perfectly aware that he needs to leave. He knows your lease is in jeopardy and you are incurring costs. He's not deaf. He doesn't care. You don't have to explain yourself beyond the obvious. Tell him, I asked you to leave, I am done with you.

You don't need a script. The first time he is out of the apartment, haul his stuff out and change the lock. Or call the leasing company and ask for help evicting him. Or put his stuff on the curb and involve the police. Or dump his stuff on the curb, print off this column, and put it with his belongings.

Aristotle called anger a point of excellence. Why? Because a justifiable anger protects us from those who would treat us unfairly.

It is painful to say no. It was okay as a child to learn not to be rude, but that rule doesn't apply here. The rule that applies is honesty. You have honestly evaluated the situation. Now act from that honest understanding.

He is now able-bodied, and able-bodied men should take care of themselves. He wants an unearned benefit that puts you at a serious disadvantage. That's wrong.

**Wayne & Tamara**

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## CLIMATE CHANGE IS A GLOBAL HEALTH EMERGENCY

Federal pipeline needs independent assessment, global health leaders say

By **Tim K. Takaro** and **Jennifer Miller EvidenceNetwork.ca**

After a summer that saw over 90 heat-related deaths in Quebec, drought-impacted crops across the Prairies, and large swaths of Western Canada and Ontario ravaged by wildfires and shrouded in smoke, many of the world's leading experts gathered in San Francisco at the Global Climate and Health Forum to discuss the health implications of climate change. The Call to Action we issued is clear: "Climate change is a global health emergency."

The World Health Organization calls climate change the "greatest threat to global health in the 21st century," but the Call to Action points out that many of the policies that move us towards our climate goals have demonstrable and significant health benefits. That's good news. Unfortunately, we're failing to capitalize on the health opportunities of climate action. The Canadian government has committed \$35 million to support socioeconomic health by helping workers from coal communities transition to jobs in a low-carbon economy. But it has, at the same time, committed billions to purchase a pipeline for highly flammable diluted bitumen from the Alberta oil sands to the Pacific coast, without adequately assessing its impacts on local and global health. Our governments must invest in solutions, not causes of, climate change. This is critical, as clearly stated in the UN Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5C released just this month.

Health leaders attending the climate forum also wrote an open letter to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, calling for an independent health assessment of the new Trans Mountain pipeline expansion. It's been signed by over 200 physicians, nurses and health professionals from Canada and around the world.

The letter notes that the National Energy Board (NEB) process was flawed, resulting in an inadequate health impact assessment, and that Canada is wrong to choose to build large new fossil fuel infrastructure that locks in carbon emissions for the next several decades with potentially profound impacts worldwide on human health. Some of the most severe impacts noted are death and illness from heat events, storms, wildfires, flooding, food shortages, and forced migration and related conflict.

The NEB assessment only considered an oil spill scenario set far from population centres, despite the hazards of a seven-fold increase in tankers through Vancouver's busy harbour. The letter calls for study into the health impacts of a severe spill in this metropolitan area. It should, for example, consider a large tanker spill close to shore and under poor air quality and high temperature conditions, which have been prominent over the past several summers.

The letter also stresses that the NEB did not adequately consider the potential health risks from benzene, a potent carcinogen that causes leukemia in children.

Notably, assessment of the project's impact on the global health crisis of climate change was absent. Neither the NEB review process, which was deemed inadequate in a Federal Court of Appeal decision, nor the subsequent Ministerial Panel on Trans Mountain expansion considered the long-term, local and global health impacts of greenhouse gas emissions. Emissions were considered only using zero-sum economics - that is, the presumption that if the product is not shipped easily through this pipeline, it will get to market another way - an incredible omission.

Finally, health impacts on Indigenous populations, who are often more affected by environmental contamination given their close connection to the land, must also be specifically considered. The court decision noted that consultation with Indigenous communities was inadequate.

The world's current emissions trajectory could result in a warming of 2.6 to 4.8C in 2100, according to the best sources - far above the 1.5C target that Canada championed for the Paris climate agreement.

**We must change course.**

Any risk assessment of fossil energy projects must consider cumulative health impacts.

However, the government of Canada is now the owner of the pipeline and has a clear conflict of interest in judging any negative impacts of the project. The government seems focused on protecting its multibillion-dollar investment. For this reason, the health impacts assessment related to the pipeline must be completely independent.

We must create best practices consistent with our common vision of healthy people and a healthy planet - beginning with a robust, independent health impact assessment for the Trans Mountain pipeline expansion.

## Globalism trumped by Trump's international vision

Many thought his staunch nationalism would kill the economy and spark international conflict. They were wrong

By **Lee Harding**

**Research Fellow Frontier Centre for Public Policy**

"In less than two years, my administration has accomplished more than almost any administration in the history of our country," U.S. President Donald Trump recently told the United Nations.

His overstatement inspired some chuckles, to which he quipped, "So true. ... Didn't expect that reaction, but that's okay," he smiled as the laughter grew, overtaken by warm applause.

They weren't laughing at him so much as with him. Having connected at a human level with the audience, he spent the next half hour laying out his nationalist vision for an international, and not globalist, world. At that point, the international audience wasn't laughing, it was listening. So should we all.

After all, Trump could legitimately report impressive progress since being elected. This includes a remarkable simplification and reduction of taxes, a \$10-trillion gain of wealth, all-time stock market highs, and jobless at a 50-year low. Four million new jobs, including 500,000 in manufacturing, brought unemployment to all-time lows for Americans of African, Asian and Hispanic descent.

Elsewhere, North Korea abandoned its nuclear ambitions and embraced its southern counterpart. Saudi Arabia cut off much of the terrorist financing from within its borders. The Islamic State is out of Iraq and most of Syria. Trump won these victories in defiance of endless legal, political and media hassles and, indeed, conventional wisdom.

He withdrew the U.S. from the Trans-Pacific Partnership and the Paris climate accord. He pulled the Israeli embassy from Tel Aviv to put it in Jerusalem. Many thought the disruption inspired by Trump's staunch nationalism would kill the economy and spark international conflict.

They were wrong.

It may be that Trump and nationalism deserve a better reputation. Google defines nationalism as "patriotic feeling, principles, or efforts." Such sentiments are fine and not long ago were considered noble. Lately, however, that term has been assigned negative connotations. Google offers synonyms such as,

"xenophobia, chauvinism, jingoism" and the sentence, "Their extreme nationalism was frightening."

How is it in an age when self-love is venerated that national love can be confused with fear or hate? When Canadians sing, "True patriot love in all of us command," do we thereby proclaim our hatred for other nations?

Clearly not.

Similarly, Trump said, "We believe that when nations respect the rights of their neighbours, and defend the interests of their people, they can better work together to secure the blessings of safety, prosperity and peace." Trump envisions a world of united but sovereign nations, but he sees something less attractive in the UN. It's why the U.S. withdrew from the UN Human Rights Council, saying it was "shielding egregious human rights abusers while bashing America and its many friends."

The U.S. also rejected the International Criminal Court since it "claims near-universal jurisdiction over the citizens of every country, violating all principles of justice, fairness, and due process ... [in an] unelected, unaccountable, global bureaucracy.

Trump refused to sign the new Global Compact for Migration because it removed the control of American citizens over their national destiny. Besides, Trump says, "the only long-term solution to the migration crisis is to help people build more hopeful futures in their home countries. Make their countries great again."

Trump's approach, though consistent, offends many. The left is offended by his rejection of climate accords, socialism, open borders and global institutions. Libertarians frown as Trump nominates anti-abortion judges. Conservatives bristle as Trump rips up trade agreements, erects tariffs and rewrites American foreign policy.

Trump cares not.

"America's policy of principled realism means we will not be held hostage to old dogmas, discredited ideologies, and so-called experts who have been proven wrong over the years, time and time again," Trump insists. For decades, the United States ... allowed foreign goods from all over the world to flow freely across our borders. Yet other countries did not grant us fair and reciprocal access to their markets." New tariffs seem more like a tool than a preference as he seeks to undo a \$13-trillion accumulated trade deficit. In fact, his administration has inked trade deals with Korea, Canada and Mexico even while Trump builds a border wall.

Trump's winning streak for America has not meant a reciprocal loss for the world. Peace has advanced, suggesting promise for Trump's vision of strong nations with mutual respect.

So long as nations exist, they provide the world with counterbalances of power. If one nation becomes ruthlessly oppressive, its victims have places to flee. This will end if globalism fully usurps national sovereignty. At that point, a world president, if not emperor, can be expected. And if, "Power tends to corrupt, and absolute power corrupts absolutely," as Lord Acton has said, such a leader would reign as planetary despot. By then, the patriot's cry of "Give me liberty or give me death," will be more likely to get its speaker killed than re-establish a nation.



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