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FORWARD

"Look at this damn mess."

At one time or another, many of us who have dysfunctional family members and friends, have come home from a trip and been shocked. "Look at this mess! What the hell happened?" That was my reaction when I came home after playing wheelchair tennis in the People's Democratic Socialist Republik of Kalifornia, aka "California".

As I roll my wheelchair into my laundry room, the door frame has been busted out. There are beer cans from one end of the house to the other. One of my relatives and his friend are passed out. I am furious! I am also sad and tear up. "What the hell did I do to deserve this?"

"What the hell happened? Look at this place. Who busted the door? I left this place in mint condition and come back to a broken door frame, and a house that has been completely trashed". His friend immediately gets up and leaves. How he left is beyond me as he did not have a car. He must have just walked off down the street and called one of his deadbeat friends or family members. My relative looks at me and without missing a beat, "I don't know what happened. I come over and when I saw the door frame was busted out, I was worried that someone was going to steal all your stuff. So, we just stayed here and partied." I was so angry tears were coming to my eyes. "You better clean this up and I mean right now, or I am going to beat the hell out of you!" We cleaned it up.

This is how most of us feel with what has happened to our beautiful planet. There is garbage everywhere. Humans created this mess. Most of us would like to beat the living hell out of these jerks who throw their damn garbage out in nature and are ruining our beautiful planet. We feel like I do, the angry relative who has been violated. Well, hold tight to those feelings, channel that anger toward physical work. Instead of wasting your time and money going to the gym, let's cleanup our planet. This place is a mess. There is lots of physical work to do.

We share this planet with people who have terrible manners, could care less about wildlife, the beauty of trees, or much else. The polluters are not going to clean up their mess. Like it or not, we must clean up after them. That is reality. Do not be discouraged. How are we going to clean up other people's mess? We will do it with hard work, education and the creation of much needed blue-collar jobs. Education is the key to keeping this beautiful home clean, vibrant and full of life.

We need to start with where life began, the oceans. By cleaning the oceans, we will create entire new industries, millions of new jobs and provide hope for future generations. This short policy book explains a path for winning the environmental battle to save life on Earth. We are proposing a paradigm shift in thinking. Winning the battle to save life on our small planet can be accomplished by two changes in policy: amending the Law of the Seas Treaty to create a Global High Seas Marine Preserve. The oceans are 70 percent of the planet. It will be against international law to dump garbage into the oceans. The second part of this environmental battle is changing the diet of developed countries. We do not need to cut down the rain forests to grow soy to feed to cattle, chickens and pigs. These two changes in human behavior will work to resolve the climate crisis, ocean acidification and result in a healthy planet.

PART ONE

GARBAGE, LOTS AND LOTS OF GARBAGE

CHAPTER ONE

Who Created This Mess?

"The great question of the seventies is: Shall we surrender to our surroundings, or shall we make our peace with nature and begin to make reparations for the damage we have done to our air, to our land and to our water?"

Our national wart, President Richard Nixon



Turkish world record-holder free-diver and divers of the Underwater Federation Sahika Encumen dives amid plastic waste in Ortakoy coastline to observe the life and pollution of Bosphorus in Istanbul, Turkey on June 27, 2020.

Pew things would make me happier than to take all the plastic containers, water bottles, packaging, beer cans and dump them on the front lawns of these super rich entitled executives that are destroying our small planet. The 20 public companies that are responsible for over

55 percent of the waste that has been dumped on our beautiful home know what they are doing.² But, going to jail for assault and trespass in my wheelchair is a very bad idea. Still, it would be fun to see the look of shock on their faces when they come home to their opulent mansions, their places have been completely trashed, some bums are asleep, or rather passed out by their swimming pools, the maids and gardeners are not helping. That is not the world we live in. These rich boys and girls have guards, GUNS, and live in gated communities. These opulent residences are fourth, fifth even sixth homes or condos. Wealth is so concentrated that the "super rich" have numerous residences they seldom visit, but I digress.

Not all super wealthy people are "evil greedy little bitches". Some members of the bourgeois like Mike Bloomberg, the Pew Charitable Trust, Rockefeller Foundation, Gates Foundation, Richard Bransen, and a small handful of others spend their vast resources trying desperately to make a huge difference. Some "rich" people quietly do their work and are cool like Dolly Parton and Labron James. They have dedicated their fortunes to saving life on Earth, public education and quietly making a difference. Many "rich" people quietly support environmental, economic, public health and education causes without calling forth a heavenly choir to proclaim their deeds.

The plastic and garbage in the oceans are one of the biggest threats to life on Earth. Ok, before some of you scream, "no Danny, it's climate change." "No Danny, its viruses." Let me explain why dumping of over 15 million tons of garbage into the oceans every year is one of the greatest threats to life on Earth.³

My scientist friends firmly believe "Life" originated in the oceans where most life on our planet exists. According to the National Ocean Service, a division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration: "The world's oceans provides so many benefits.

Without oceans, there is no life on our small planet. Here are just a few of the wonderful things the ocean does for the planet: 4



Humans are killing the marine life with garbage. According to the World Wildlife Fund, over 100,000 marine mammals die every year from consuming plastic.⁵ I think that figure is too low. It has to be much more than 100,000. Look at all of the mammals that are constantly washing up on shore. Killing the marine life has long term repercussions for the entire planet. Marine mammals cannot differentiate plastic floating on the oceans with food. Plastic and garbage are new to the oceans. A plastic bag looks like a jellyfish to a sea turtle.⁶ The small bits of garbage floating on top of the water can easily be confused for a variety of small creatures, all eaten by the larger animals. When the sea creatures eat plastics and other garbage, their intestines clog and they starve to death.⁷

Most of the garbage being dumped into the oceans comes primarily from five countries, China, Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam. These countries are major trading partners with the United States and the European Union. In fact, China is the United States third largest trading partner behind Canada and Mexico. We have economic leverage. When our neighbors have bad manners and are dumping garbage into our neighborhood, we can politely ask them to stop. If they will not knock it off, there are courts who will make them cease and desist their bad manners. We can tell them to stop with dumping garbage into the oceans and take them to court. We can force the issue with trade boycotts. If they don't stop killing the wildlife, we will stop buying their "stuff". We have the ultimate power- our wallets.

When plastic breaks down it creates microplastic and gets into the food chain. At least 90 percent of the plastic we have produced since 1950 is still with us. Single use plastic items, created for "convenience" do not biodegrade and remain on the planet for centuries. Plastic is toxic to human and marine life. Here is our choice, stop producing plastic single use items for "convenience", quit polluting the environment or die. It is that simple. The damage being created by microplastics, garbage that is destroying the oceans' sea-life is a clear and present danger to complex life on our small planet. There are many solutions and tens of thousands of organizations are working on these environmental problems. We believe changing international law is the answer.

An international treaty on plastics is before the United Nations, as is proposed national legislation in the United States. These changes in international and U.S. law will make a huge difference. It will save our planet from a plastic Armageddon. Changing the law changes behaviors, like "lets end slavery". "Let's give women the right to vote". "Let's ban torture". "Let's ban chemical weapons". You get it.

Our idea is amending the Law of the Seas Treaty and create a Global High Seas Marine Preserve. Think of our idea as a global wildlife sanctuary. This will protect 70 percent of the planet forever. It will bring much needed law to the high seas. A wildlife sanctuary is an area protected by law where marine life and its habitants and surroundings are protected from human activity. The aim is providing a safe haven for marine life. What we are proposing is simple but revolutionary; protect all the oceans forever. Obviously, nations would not be allowed to dump garbage in a global wildlife preserve.

How do we get other nations to go along? The United States and the European Union are the largest economies on the planet. Nations want to sell their products in our huge markets. We have economic leverage. Our wallet and diet are keys to solving these massive global environmental problems. If consumers in the United States and European Union don't buy products that soon become garbage, companies won't sell these items. What this means is we need to change our entire global economic model from conspicuous consumption and materialism. We need to use this environmental crisis as an



This Will Work

opportunity for change. It is not "hopeless". Who created this mess? All of us did. Most of it was because of the crybaby boomers. Now we all must work together to clean it up.

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 oceans annually. That's equal to more than one garbage truck load
 every minute."
- 4. See graph online at: https://aambpublicoceanservice.blob.core. windows.net/oceanserviceprod/news/june14/our-ocean.pdf and, NOAA, National Ocean Service, "Why We Should Care About the Ocean?" online at: https://oceanservice.noaa.gov/facts/why-care-about-ocean.html. The ocean produces more oxygen than the Amazon rainforest. Some experts state that the ocean produces approximately 70 percent of the oxygen. It is all interconnected. The plants need the wildlife and the wildlife need the plants.
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CHAPTER TWO

Single Use Plastics is a Global Problem

"The lust for money is truly the root of all evil" Jesus Christ or someone else that is famous

To understand why we have our global environmental problems, we need to look at life through the lends of history. If we study the past we can understanding today. Three hundred years ago, our planet was a much larger place. Travel took days and months, not hours. When people said, "via con Dios", "goodbye" to loved ones, it was probably forever. Trips were dangerous and might happen once. Cultures were distinctly different. The Earth's human population was much smaller than the over 8 billion packed together today in megacities that defy imagination. The wildlife in the oceans and on land was abundant. The forests were vast. Waters were teeming with fish and marine life. Today, most of the wildlife is gone. Over 60 percent of the planet's wildlife has been killed off or died since 1970. What happened? Why is there so much garbage? Is the damage irreversible? Is there hope?

Humans from developed countries like the United States produce municipal solid waste. Unlike the waste streams of antiquity, today's garbage is toxic. It does not biodegrade. Most of this "waste" or "garbage" is packaging. These toxic, non-biodegradable waste streams were dumped into massive landfills, rivers, and the ocean. Americans produce on average 3–5 pounds of garbage per person per day. Look in the

mirror. There is the culprit. We created the conspicuous consumption materialism model and spread this poisonous belief system to the entire planet. The Wall Street economic model is "greed is good". "Shop until you drop" is another way to describe the never-ending quest for "happiness" in America. Opulence is everything. If you are "rich", you are superior. Really? Well, that is one view of reality.

This ethos will change. Consumerism is very unhealthy mentally and a disaster environmentally. "Things" can't love you back. We can't sleep in more than one bed at a time, drive more than one car at a time, eat more than one meal, use more than one toilet, watch more than one big screen television. What our economic model really measures is energy consumption. If a person has massive homes, expensive cars, trucks, RVs, private jets, yachts, and a hot tub, "they are rich". What is really happening is they are just consuming more energy and entertainment. We are not our possessions. But if we are not careful, we can be prisoners of our possessions.

The shop till you drop model, is causing huge amounts of financial stress, and is a toxic environmental disaster. Why is our way of life so toxic and millions are so unhappy? It is all done for the sake of show and convenience. The United States consumes approximately 20 million barrels of oil per day.⁴ The oil consumed is not just for transportation, but for production of numerous convenience items, most of them made of plastics. We fail to ask ourselves; do we really need these items? While plastic has certainly changed modern life, at least 90 percent of the various items produced over 70 years ago, are still here.⁵ Plastic is actually poisonous.

According to Jenna Jambeck, a University of Georgia environmental engineer who specializes in studying plastic waste in the oceans. "Mass production of plastics, which began just six decades ago, has accelerated so rapidly that it has created 8.3 billion metric tons—most

of it in disposable products that end up as "trash". If that seems like an incomprehensible quantity, it is."

This new material which has been around less than 70 years does not easily breakdown. "Plastic takes more than 400 years to biodegrade, so most of it still exists in some form." Consequently, this plastic litters the landscape, and eventually gets in the oceans. The plastic problem is getting worse. According to Roland Geyer, the study's lead author:

"You can't manage what you don't measure," he says. "It's not just that we make a lot, it's that we also make more, year after year." "Of the 8.3 billion metric tons that has been produced, 6.3 billion metric tons has become plastic waste. Of that, only nine percent has been recycled. The vast majority—79 percent—is accumulating in landfills or sloughing off in the natural environment as litter. Meaning: at some point, much of it ends up in the oceans, the final sink. If present trends continue, by 2050, there will be 12 billion metric tons of plastic in landfills. That amount is 35,000 times as heavy as the Empire State Building."8

We did not always live with the convenience of plastic and automobiles. These "conveniences" are new to our planet, just like the massive population explosion where we now have over 8 billion people. Life prior to plastic and consumption of fossil fuels for automobiles was not impossible. People once walked to grocery stores. The automobile and telephones were not common household items. Families once talked to each other prior to living on their phones and being chained to the internet. They are called "cell phones" for a reason. We can if we are not careful, become a prisoner of the internet.

The question is not can we continue down this consumerism materialism failed environmental economic model. Staying on this course is a path toward certain death of life on Earth. And this will not just

be the death and destruction of plants and animals, but also human life and "civilization". The only question we as a species must ask is, how do we change course?

As the convenience of modern life continues to harm our planet, microplastics are causing huge health problems for humans, not just wildlife. Microplastic is new to history. According to a study by the University of Newcastle from Australia, "there are two types of microplastics. Primary microplastics are defined as plastic that is less than 5 millimeters in diameter. They are tiny and designed for commercial use. They are seen in the form of microbeads and more industrial pieces. Secondary microplastics are bigger offenders. They are generated from the breakdown of larger plastics, like plastic bags or water bottles. Even if you are trying to reduce your waste through recycling this material, sunlight and wave energy only serve to break down these secondary microplastics into primary ones"9.

Obviously, mammals are not supposed to ingest plastics, much less microplastics. The health effects are horrific. If we are wondering why there are so many public health problems, one of the answers is "plastic". In a definitive study by numerous scholars, the extent of health problems caused by microplastics is only now being somewhat understood.¹⁰

All of us played our part in trashing the planet. The fossil fuel industry knows exactly what they are doing. They know about the effects of 100 million barrels of oil being dumped into the atmosphere every day. These oil company executives understand what the production of plastics is doing to the wildlife, the oceans, rivers, public parks, and above all, life on our small planet. The fossil fuel industry executives have the same data as those of us in the environmental movement.

The people who own most assets on our small planet seem to forget, climate change, microplastics, trashing the environment affect them and their families too. Guarded gated communities, private security

guards, security cameras, even their arsenal of weapons at their private compounds is not going to protect them from a collapse of civilization. The migration of hundreds of millions of people as environmental refugees is already starting to happen.

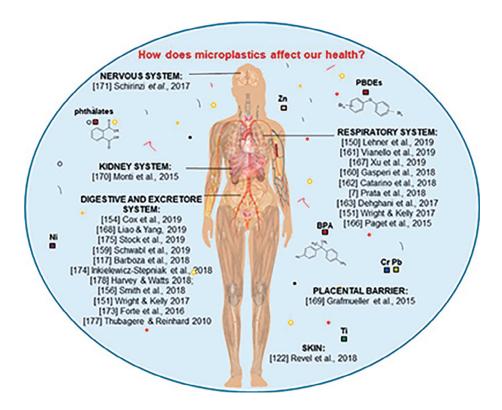
The estimates are starting to come in and it is not good news. Several international organizations have studied this problem. "The International Red Cross estimates that there are more environmental refugees than political refugees fleeing from wars and other conflicts. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) says 36 million people were displaced by natural disasters in 2009, the last year such a report was taken. Scientists predict this number will rise to at least 50 million by 2050. Some say it could be as high as 200 million."

These figures are probably too low. If the fisheries collapse, over one billion people in the developing world will be without protein. ¹² They are going to migrate. If you think we have immigration problems now, wait until the fisheries collapse. Hundreds of millions will starve and millions more will die from the violence. Staying on our current conspicuous consumption path will lead to a dystopian future. All hell will break loose. But it is not too late. We can and we will change course. Cleaning up the planet, protecting the fisheries is a global national security issue.

Exxon Mobil executives clearly knew about the climate change adverse effects of the massive use of their products. Their internal scientific studies created important data that was deliberately withheld from the public.¹³ The oil company scientists had the data that our climate would warm from CO2 releases into the atmosphere. And now we have a massive climate change problem that is threatening millions of species including our own.

While the land and water are being trashed with plastic, the atmosphere is being polluted with CO2 emissions. This tax subsidized

pollution made it so the fossil fuel industry thrived. These giant oil companies made hundreds of billions of dollars from their plastic production and fossil fuel sales. For greed, they have endangered all complex life on our small home. To add insult to injury, the former CEO of Exxon Mobil, Rex Tillerson became the Secretary of State of the United States and Donald J. Trump, withdrew the country from the Paris Climate Accords. He did this with massive help from that criminal organization that pretends to be a political party, the Republicans and campaign contributions from the oil industry. It is as if, these rich oil company executives and shareholders believe they are immune from the consequences of our environmental problems. Like each other or not, we live on the same planet. Gated communities will not protect anyone from climate change and social unrest.



June 1, 2017, Orange Mussolini, aka President Donald Trump announced that the U.S. would withdraw from the 2015 Paris Climate Accords. And when he was elected again in 2024, he withdrew the U.S. once more from the Paris Climate Accord. The global environmental movement was aghast. The lie his fossil fuel allies told the public was the Paris Accords would put the United States "at a permanent disadvantage." Instead of working to change the direction of our dysfunctional economic environmental model, Trump challenged conventional thinking. He told more lies than all other presidents combined. When one's own government is responsible for policies that are destroying the planet with plastic and fossil fuel pollution, young people lose confidence in our institutions. There is hope, we can and will change course.

In answer to "how did our planet get trashed", our materialism consumerism economic model is the culprit. In addition to trashing the planet, it also destroys the individual. People self-medicate because of stress and a way of life they see as meaningless. As massive poverty increases so will social unrest. Our prison system can barely handle the 2.3 million in there now.¹⁷ According to the Prison Policy Initiative:

"With over two million people behind bars at any given time, the United States has the highest incarceration rate of any country in the world. We spend about \$182 billion every year — not to mention the significant social cost — to lock up nearly one percent of our adult population." Since the bourgeois cannot just kill the entire proletariat, one of their evil ideas is just lock them up in private and public prisons. In addition to the conspicuous consumption garbage model. The prison industrial complex has ruined the lives of millions.

The environmental cost of most failed policies is not incorporated into the production cycle. There is just no way many of the single use plastic items like water bottles would be littering the entire planet if the economic cost of cleanup was incorporated into the price of production.

The real cost of bottled water completely ignores the environmental damage of microplastics, cleanup costs or the dead marine life that consumes these toxins. While the production cost to these corporations that have no regard for life on our small planet is estimated at \$1.29 cents per bottle, the actual environmental cost is borne by the taxpayers of every country on the planet. These plastic bottles did not exist prior to 1973. ²⁰.

YOU ARE NOT A BABY- you don't need plastic bottled fluids. Who is responsible for the purchase of bottled water? American consumers buy this product and corporate America produces it at great cost to the global environment. If consumers don't buy bottled water, some enterprising executives would simply sell something else to make money, like infant formula to third world mothers knowing full well they will use dirty water and damage their children. Or drugs that are banned in the U.S. and the European Union- sell them in poor countries.

Bottled water is popular. Americans hang on to their bottled water as if prior to this change in consumption habits, people died of thirst. There is no reason to ever buy plastic bottled water or any plastic drink container when you live in a rich country. Here is the reality of what plastic is doing to the planet: Over one million plastic bottles are sold worldwide every minute. Less than 30 percent of these plastic bottles are recycled in the United States. The energy cost to produce plastic bottles is 2,000 times greater than the energy used to produce tap water.²¹ "Is there hope"? Yes, there is hope. We can clean up this mess and not have it happen again. To accomplish this global cleanup, we must answer a simple question. How are we going to clean up the planet?

What can be done is pass national legislation with the Break Free From Plastics Act.²² There are several organizations working hard to solve this clearly cleanup project. According to Judith Enck president

of Beyond Plastics, "for every three pounds of fish in the ocean, there will be one pound of plastic." In a rational world, the law would be changed, and single use plastics would be banned worldwide. But that is not the world we live in. Despite the overwhelming evidence of plastic being poison, greed will prevail over public safety. Damn the environment when huge profits are to be had by continuing to produce garbage that gets in the oceans, breaks down and is ingested as microplastics.

The fossil fuel industry is not going to allow their employees, (congressmen and senators) to change the law and thereby reduce their profits. The fact that this poison will be here for thousands of years and endanger children, and wildlife is not as important as quarterly earnings for these fossil fuels corporate giants.



THE BREAKFREE FROM PLASTICS ACT

As of April 2025, the Break Free From Plastics Act remains in political limbo. Not one Republican has voted in favor of this important environmental legislation. In the last election, the fossil fuel industry threw over \$260 million at campaigns to keep their employees, (congressmen and senators) in public office.²⁴ The Break Free From Plastics Act as well as the global efforts for a worldwide ban on single use plastic is not

going to pass. According to the United Nations Environment Program, single use plastic is a global problem that needs immediate attention.

"The rapidly increasing levels of plastic pollution represent a serious global environmental issue that negatively impacts the environmental, social, economic and health dimensions of sustainable development. Humanity is expected to consume over 500 million tonnes of plastic this year (2024) alone, with a large share of this used plastic quickly becoming 400 million tonnes of plastic waste. Under a business-as-usual scenario and in the absence of urgent action and necessary interventions, global plastic waste could almost triple, reaching around 1.2 billion tonnes by 2060.²⁵

The fossil fuel industry has so much money and power, they own governments, not just oil wells. Fossil Fuel giant Exxon Mobil has annual gross revenue of \$343.82 Billion.²⁶ This monster of capitalism makes approximately **\$941,972,602.74 per day**. The entire UN Budget for 2024 was a meager \$3.59 billion.²⁷ The UN is no match for a fight with the fossil fuel industry. Exxon Mobil is just one fossil fuel company.

The U.S. Congress and Senate no longer work for the American people. They are bought and paid for by the various lobbies out there who have billions, not millions of dollars. Most Americans can't afford to pay attention, much less contribute millions of their meager resources to buy a politician. But don't despair. What you can do is not buy their poisonous products. Every time you see someone holding a plastic bottle, just think to yourself without confronting them, "dumbass". The only hope to change the global pollution is for you the consumer to not buy single use plastics.

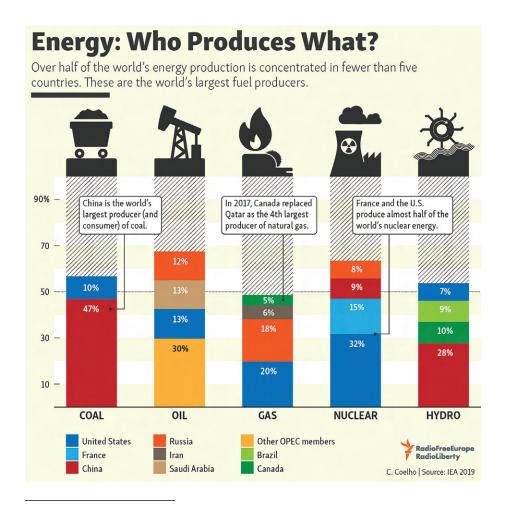
Because of the infamous U.S. Supreme Court case Citizens United, our national government is owned by an oligarchy of super rich individuals. In true cynicism, Citizens United is a non-profit that claims:

"Citizens United is dedicated to restoring our government to citizens' control. Through a combination of education, advocacy, and grass roots organization, we seek to reassert the traditional American values of limited government, freedom of enterprise, strong families, and national sovereignty and security. Our goal is to restore the founding fathers' vision of a free nation, guided by the honesty, common sense, and good will of its citizens."²⁸



As a result of this horrendous Supreme Court decision, the oligarchy of billionaires owns our government. Elon Musk, the richest man on the planet, (if you don't count Vladimir Putin or the Saudi Royal Crime Family), threw \$270 million at the Trump presidential campaign and succeeded in re-electing him as president. ²⁹

The only hope to change the global pollution is for you the consumer to not buy single use plastics and if possible, use the damn bus or your bicycle or just walk to the store. How hard is that? I mean think about it. When was the last time you contributed money to a political campaign and did your candidate "win"? But given the corruption of an institution we once admired, no one should be surprised at anything the Supreme Court does. It is also known as a Constitutional Convention in constant session. They get it wrong so often on big cases Citizens United should not be a surprise..... but I digress. Roe v. Wade anyone?



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- 30. See https://www.citizensunited.org Wealth globally is concentrated. See https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_countries_by_number_of_billionaires If you have a net worth of ONE BILLION DOLLARS, you can spend one million dollars a year for one thousand years. Giving several hundred thousand or even several million dollars to buy votes is completely within Musk's capability. Musk elected Orange Mussolini, ask yourself "what is in it for him and why is he sponsoring extreme right wing white nationalists?

CHAPTER THREE

GREED, THE SOURCE OF ALL HUMAN SUFFERING

"Greed is Good"

Gordon Geko, fictional character from the movie Wall Street

Then we are making large sums of money, we have this ridiculous belief that the sound of our voice is suddenly a heavenly choir. Money can corrupt our soul if we let it. Without controlling this lust for money, it becomes greed. Look carefully at any problem facing our small planet. The lust for money is almost always at the heart of human created problems. Oil and agricultural company executives were already richer than King Midas. They knowingly polluted the planet. Drug dealers who poison our society with pharmaceutical drugs for invented diseases are not going hungry, or living in tents, homeless. Child sex traffic criminals are not wanting for new cars or computers. Con artists who rip off the public for billions in securities, real estate fraud and numerous other white-collar crimes don't need more money. Arms dealers who sell worthless weapon systems to corrupt politicians live in opulent homes. Their children attend private schools. Why do people want several homes, more automobiles, exotic clothes, and expensive jewelry? Why do we do the silly things that we do? Part of it is to show off, the need for status. "Look at me, I'm rich." Being rich is not a cure

for bad manners. Trashing the planet is the epitome of bad manners and stupidity. Greed is a selfish, excessive desire for more of something than is needed.

Maybe my brilliant friend Tammie is right, "humans are just dirty, vicious, nasty, greedy little creatures". We have a design flaw- greed. The whole Western concept of "GOD" is wrong. Supposedly humans were created in "God's Image". As stated in Genesis 1:27: "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them." Our animal brothers and sisters do not suffer from greed.

According to the right wing born again Evangelical "Christians" we humans are supposedly created in "God's image". Really? Is this why we have trashed the planet? Unlike our animal and plant brothers and sisters, humans have free will. We can't exactly do a double-blind scientific study on it. I believe we have "free will". I also know there is "GOD". It is the Creator of the universe. Of all the amazing creatures on our small planet, only humans have fire, writing, money, the internet and "greed". Animals and plants do not lust for money. Humans are not naturally "greedy". Our social model of consumerism and materialism creates the human lust for money. Greed like hate is taught. Program the child, and you create the adult. We are taught to be selfish and oblivious to the environmental consequences of our behaviors. Children are also be taught to be kind, cheerful and pleasant to be around. At least that is what we are teaching my beautiful, brilliant granddaughter.

Before we condemn the crybaby boomer generation, let's get one thing straight right here, right now. Our ancestors were not better behaved. I'm Spanish. Our sins in how we treated other cultures is the poster child of stupidity. I don't know if my Spanish ancestors invented racism, "Sangre Azul". But the British perfected it. The only reason we did not have massive environmental problems prior to the industrial

and fossil fuel age is not because our ancestors behaved any better. It was because the chemicals, plastics, CO2 from burning fossil fuels had not been invented yet. As technology evolved, so did our ability to kill and maim each other with better weapons. For the first time in human history, we had industrial war. These new chemicals and industrial processes led to massive environmental damage. Chemical weapons not only killed tens of thousands in Europe's first attempt at mass suicide (also known as World War I). After the war, these new chemicals and other toxic substances, the byproducts of industrialization, resulted in cancer deaths. Add urbanization and we started poisoning the planet. The evidence is overwhelming of chemical harm.... and greed. There are plenty of examples throughout history.

The Hooker family created Hooker Chemical in 1903.² They manufactured a variety of very dangerous chemicals for industry, the War Department and retail use.³ Toxic chemicals, new to the human experience can sometime be toxic and remain dangerous for decades, sometimes centuries. The Hooker company executives knew exactly what they were doing when they dumped highly toxic chemicals in Love Canal, New York. As explained by Dr. Jordan Kleiman, in Love Canal, a Brief History:

"Love Canal is an aborted canal project branching off of the Niagara River about four miles south of Niagara Falls. It is also the name of a fifteen-acre, working-class neighborhood of around 800 single-family homes built directly adjacent to the canal. From 1942 to 1953, the Hooker Chemical Company, with government sanction, began using the partially dug canal as a chemical waste dump. At the end of this period, the contents of the canal consisted of around 21,000 tons of toxic chemicals, including at least twelve that are known carcinogens (halogenated organics, chlorobenzenes, and dioxin among them). Hooker capped the 16-acre hazardous waste landfill in clay and sold the land to the Niagara Falls School Board, attempting to absolve itself of any future liability by including a warning in the property deed.⁴

In a crowded world with more people needing places to live, eventually homes were built on this contaminated land. The Hooker company employees and executives had to know the families living next to Love Canal would get sick from exposure to their toxic chemicals. Again, according to Dr. Kleiman, "[p]ublic awareness of the disaster unfolded in the late 1970s when investigative newspaper coverage and grassroots door-to-door health surveys began to reveal a series of inexplicable illnesses—epilepsy, asthma, migraines, and nephrosis—and abnormally high rates of birth defects and miscarriages in the Love Canal neighborhood." Sometimes tragedy will spark positive change. Love Canal became a rallying cry for the environmental movement.

The first thing people do when they get in trouble is lie. Humans constantly lie about two things, sex, and money. "I did not have sexual relations with Stormy Daniels". "Oh, whatever Donald, you could not tell the truth if it bit you on your fat entitled ass." "Corporations" do not pollute anything because they do not exist anymore than Santa Claus is a living being. Corporations don't exist except in the minds of lawyers who share this collective legal fiction with the public. Companies, regardless of their structure are legal fictions. Like nations or the very concept of "law" corporations are just shared ideas, fictions. Just because we believe "corporations" exist does not mean they are real. When Texas executes a corporation, I will believe these imaginary creatures exist.

The Hooker family and their workers dumped dangerous toxic chemicals into the Love Canal. Hooker Chemical is a legal fiction as is Exxon Mobil, that caused the Exxon Valdez oil disaster, the Shell oil

company's massive Deepwater Horizon oil spill or any other "corporation" that commits illegal acts and dump of chemicals, municipal solid waste, or other substances into the environment. Beliefs become religion and people act accordingly. Napoleon was right, "but for religion, the poor would kill the rich." Corporations exist because we believe they exist. The idea that "corporations" are persons and should have the same rights as flesh and blood humans is as ridiculous as believing in the Monkey God, Zeus, or any other deities. Fortunately, humans can change beliefs and have a more positive view of the natural world.

Greed was more important to the Hooker family and their employees than the health and well-being of these New York families. This flaw in human behavior has been the pattern throughout modern history. The Earth has been used as a "Love Canal" for humanity's garbage. The consequences of dumping dangerous toxic garbage are what we have today- a global environmental mess. This dumping of dangerous deadly chemicals on poor communities has taken place worldwide. This type of toxic garbage is new to history because we as a species never had produced these substances. It is not because we were more enlightened in previous generations. We just did not have these toxic materials to dump on poor neighborhoods. There were no laws governing the dumping of these substances because toxic wastes did not yet exist.

This new type of dangerous garbage led to the creation of laws and agencies like the Environmental Protection Agency. Law has made a big difference in the United States.⁶ Prior to the passing of important environmental laws, and creation of agencies like the EPA, the damage to the environment seemed hopeless. Today, the United States is a cleaner country because of these changes in the law. Changing the rules works. Unfortunately, the Trump crime syndicate is gutting the E.P.A.

In Cleveland, the Cuyahoga River caught on fire.⁷ America's first major city to elect a black mayor in Carl Stokes produced some

important results. Mayor Stokes made cleaning up this river an important local and national issue. His efforts led to the drafting and passage of the Clean Water Act.⁸

Rachel Carson wrote her epic work Silent Spring in 1962. Her research sent a shock wave and concluded that insects were dying from DDT⁹ The individuals who ran those chemical companies attacked her instead of addressing the problems created by their toxic substances.¹⁰ Once again, greed consumed the people who were making money poisoning our planet.

Prior to changing these laws, landfills were not required to have liners. Garbage was just dumped into fields, rivers, worse yet the ocean, anywhere and everywhere. In the U.S. when cars first arrived on the scene in mass numbers, people would drive down the Interstate and throw garbage out their car windows. America was a dirty, disgusting place, kind of like the numerous communities in developing countries, (except Rwanda). And in many communities, it still is. Poor communities in the United States resemble poor places in the developing world. These places can also be very dirty and dangerous. Garbage service and the rule of law is often lacking in the developing world. Haiti and Afghanistan are the classic examples of failed states.

In the United States, politicians know poor people vote less, so consequently, they care less. And when we cannot find places to dump garbage in the rich countries- give it to the poor. Afterall, if you are part of the opulent "rich" living in gated communities, why care? If a rich executive wants to dump garbage in your poor community, take his garbage and dump it on his yard and see how he feels about that. Environmental racism is fine tuned racism. Offer rich people in poor countries money, pollute and destroy their homes, forests, streams, rivers. This is happening worldwide. It is easier to buy off a politician in a poor country than properly handle waste.

The convenience lifestyle we created in the "developed" world, produces massive amounts of municipal solid waste, and the near impossible to dispose of electronic waste. What do you think happens to your computer when it wears out? Or what happens to your television, or DVD player, or washer or any modern appliance? This electronic and other types of waste are shipped off to Native American reservations, poor communities and especially to poor countries.¹²



Photo from John Vidal, environmental reporter for The Guardian. Agbogbloshine Electronic waste dump, Accra Ghana.

Electronic waste is not like other types of waste streams. Your cell phone and computer are created by some very difficult manufacturing processes. The convenience of these amazing devices is not without an environmental cost- deadly toxins in our lands, waters, and ocean. When the life cycle by planned obsolesce of various consumer electronic devices reaches its end, these humans created "things" must go somewhere. Since you can't just dump old computer screens on the front lawn of a rich executive's mansion, they end up in poor countries. Ghana's leaders allowed the European Union to make part of a once beautiful country into the dumping ground for rich people's electronic waste. The individuals who were taking this electronic waste were

motivated by greed. What else could motivate rich people in a poor country to accept electronic waste from rich people in a rich country? Greed and stupidity.

This Agbogbloshie electronic waste dump receives computers, DVDs, televisions, cell phones and numerous other convenience items from all over the developed world. Why some governments would do that to their people can only be explained by a lust for money. The government officials who approved the permitting of these toxic dumps knew exactly what they were doing. The people who dumped this electronic waste on this poor country knew this dump could never be cleaned up. All for a few dollars, a community is ruined forever.

Electronic waste is now the fastest growing waste stream on the planet. He takes quite the process to create these consumer goods that are new to history. Computers, cell phones, none of these items biodegrade. Each year hundreds of millions of these convenience consumer goods are "thrown away". The whole concept of "throwing away" any consumer good is ridiculous. These forever items do not biodegrade and become quite toxic. When we produce an item, it has a life cycle. When that life cycle ends, we have to do something with the death of that computer, DVD player, television, lamp, cell phone....we dump it on the poor communities.

According to The World Counts: "E-waste is the most rapidly growing waste problem in the world. We generate about 50 million tons of it every year. This is equivalent to throwing out 1000 laptops every single second. ***E-waste contains extremely toxic chemicals, including Lead, Cadmium, Dioxins, Furans, Arsenic, Mercury, DDT, PCB, Chromium, Vinyl chloride, Antimony, Beryllium." 15

The health effects from "throwing away" our computers, cell phones and other electronic waste are poor people suffering from birth defects; damage to the central and peripheral nervous systems; distorted blood



compositions; lung, liver, and kidney damage and of course, death.¹⁶ The real question we must address is, why do humans create waste streams that are so toxic? Nature does not produce plastics that are toxic and don't biodegrade. Whether it is a simple landfill, or a pig, chicken or cattle farm, and now electronic waste streams, these toxic substances end up in poor communities all over the world.¹⁷ Asia produces the most electronic waste. This is to be expected given the industrial processes used by major Asian companies. The monsters of capitalism, like Apple Computer, Samsung, Huawei, Foxconn, Sony, and numerous other industrial technology giants create millions of smart phones, televisions, and other electronic consumer items.¹⁸

The human population keeps expanding. The world keeps adding approximately 1,000,000 people net every four days.¹⁹ With more people, and consumerism as the new religion, we will either change our economic model or create a dystopian future. Given the magnitude of these problems, we need to use this global environmental crisis as a huge opportunity for change. But please understand, that change is not going to happen because Orange Mussolini and Emperor Elon are running

Pax Americana. YOU are going to change our consumerism materialism failed economic model. Your wallet is powerful.

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There are several excellent sources on this topic of dumping electronic waste on poor communities and countries. Here is one of the better ones. "Toxic E-waste dumped in poor nations says United Nations." By John Vidal, at Our World brought to you by United Nations University, 12-16-2013 online at: https://our world.unu.edu/en/toxic-e-waste-dumped-in-poor-nations-says-united-nations See, Environmental Justice Atlas online at: https://ejatlas.org/

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CHAPTER FOUR

"NEVER LET A CRISIS GO TO WASTE"

Winston Churchill

The reality of our modern world is our consumer convenience culture has created the biggest environmental crisis in human history. We can use this crisis as an opportunity to change direction, clean up the planet, create new industries and hundreds of millions of labor-intensive jobs. There are practical inexpensive solutions to climate change, overfishing, single use plastics, electronic waste, and the numerous other environmental problems. The obvious solution is its time to end the idea of the convenience consumer culture and get off our addiction to fossil fuels. That is clearly doable.

To change direction, we need is to use the same level of scientific effort the global community used in immediately developing Covid 19 vaccines and treatments, despite all their flaws¹. Our mistreatment of the natural world has resulted in dangerous zoonotic viruses that kill and injure humans. Its nature's way of fighting back. Viruses are the white blood cells of our Earth Mother. Instead of coexisting with the natural world, we kill plants and animals. We can change this behavior by fine tuning our belief system. What is the alternative to conspicuous consumption?

There are many alternatives to our toxic energy consumption entertainment model. They involve more physical activity. You can ride your bicycle to the store instead of driving your vehicle. Use tumblers instead of plastic water bottles. Carry your own utensils instead of using single use items. Pay attention to your children instead of just plopping them down in front of your televisions, cell phones and computers. Make your own clothes, furniture, your toys. The list is endless as our imagination. Conspicuous consumption is the symptom. The real problem is mental and physical health.

By simply changing the diet that is destroying public and planetary health, we will solve many problems at once. Converting the convenience culture to a more plant-based diet is not difficult. My grandparents rarely ate meat. They ate what they grew, beans, potatoes, corn, carrots, onions, and fruits from their trees. I still remember being a young boy in New Mexico and all of the hard work of living on a farm. Killing a pig required lots of work, skill and was quite the event. This is a live animal that takes a bullet right between the eyes. It falls, is carried to an outdoor table, gutted, skinned, and cut to pieces that are either dried or frozen. It is not a simple task. Consequently, we did not constantly kill our animals for food. We ate meat but not every day. We also supplemented our diet with fish caught from the local river, deer and elk from the mountains.

As more people learn about the positive health effects of plant-based foods vs this industrial processed meat diet, there will be more converts. I am "almost" a vegetarian. I still eat American caught fish that is sustainable. I am never going to stop eating elk, bison, or lamb. I rarely eat chicken, beef, or pork. Factory farmed animals used as "food" are diseased and disgusting. To quote my friend Larry, "It is secondhand protein of rotting animal flesh. It will make you sick and it does".

Prior to the pandemic, our corrupt politicians knew they were poisoning the public and the planet. If we look closely, most global environmental, economic, and human health problems, they have one cause- failed government policies. Why are 70 percent of Americans

overweight, 50 percent obese and 40 percent morbidly obese?² America's horrible physical health is the direct result of our second-hand protein of rotting dead animals and processed foods diet. There is no mystery here. Politicians, like their wealthy benefactors have the same data available to those of us in the environmental movement. They know what is going on and how to fix it. Killing animals for secondhand protein through industrial agriculture is nothing short of criminal negligence. Politicians are greedy and corrupt, but most are not stupid. (Some like the "end of times evangelical "Christians" are dangerously stupid, but I digress). Most bought and paid for politicians know exactly what harm they are causing to public health and the massive damage they are doing with failed policies to the environment. These pig farms that have massive amounts of waste also have corrupt politicians that approved placing these stinky industrial killing factories in poor communities. They even manage to avoid having to treat the waste streams.

Diabetes is diet related. There are at least 450 drugs that are administered to animals prior to slaughtering them. Approximately 80 percent of all pharmaceutical antibiotics are for the animal agriculture industry. These pharmaceutical drugs are pumped into caged, tortured animals. Then these poor defenseless creatures are slaughtered in very unsanitary conditions. As the public has become obese, millions suffer from diabetes. Today, over 34 million Americans have Type 2 diabetes. Another 84 million Americans are pre-diabetic. As our country continues down this poor diet path, millions more will likely get type 2 diabetes, heart disease and cancer. We don't know what the diet will be in this post virus world. We do know it must change.

America's horrible diet is very expensive. In March 2018, the American Diabetes Association released the findings of their comprehensive study. The study concluded that diabetes and pre-diabetes was the most expensive chronic illness in America, costing over \$416 billion

annually. Our corporate processed food and factory farmed animal diet is bankrupting the health care system.

The United States Congress knows full well what the agricultural industry is doing to public health. They don't care. Politicians receive campaign contributions and vote accordingly. What the voting public seems to forget is, an honest politician is a person whom when bought, stays bought. In 2016 Agribusiness contributed over \$120 million to politicians. These folks are responsible for public policy. This was a cheap payoff given the billions of taxpayer dollars they received in return. The cost to public health and the environmental damage is incalculable.

In 2019 the United States Department of Agriculture announced \$16 billion in taxpayer support for farmers. Some of this was related to Orange Mussolini's ongoing trade war with China. These tax dollars are only the tip of the iceberg of corruption. These companies are selling unhealthy food and passing bad laws that are destroying public health. The industry view is, "You the consumer should have the common sense to know these foods are bad for you." With mass advertising, and outright lies, the public does not know their food is causing their health problems. All the major corporate lobbies are involved in our diet disaster. Look at the drug companies. They advertise like there is no tomorrow. Every sporting event or popular television show has their drug company advertising.

The pharmaceutical industry makes a huge amount of money in keeping people unhealthy. If you can keep people sick, you can keep selling them "drugs" forever. If a person is "cured", they are no longer a customer. The strategy is to manipulate the symptoms, not deal with the underlying causes of poor health. In the U.S., treating heart disease, diabetes and cancer is a \$1.5 trillion dollar industry. These companies and Congress know they have major conflicts of interest. Simply stated, giving campaign contributions to politicians are bribes.

They may be legal, but they are still bribes and are very profitable. The pharmaceutical industry, physicians and health professionals spend over \$230 million in 2018 on lobbying politicians. Look at the drug ads on television that are constantly being sold to the public as solutions rather than promoting a plant-based diet. Amazing how consumers are telling doctors what drugs to give them for imaginary diseases with drug treatments, not cures. Ask your doctor about *** drug X". How about do "push aways". Yes, push away from the table, go for a walk, and don't eat that garbage processed food corporate America is selling you. Look at the number of advertisements selling hamburgers, chicken, and pork. The most obvious solution is turn off your television and get a real LIFE.

The United States Department of Agriculture promotes foods which they know cause diabetes, heart disease and cancer. Yet despite all the scientific data, the USDA continues to promote meat, dairy, and eggs. These products are literally shoved down the public's throat with mass advertising. What the USDA does not do is promote a healthy plant-based diet and exercise. There are no bribes for politicians from the plant-based food industry. Consequently, these safe foods are not promoted. The reality of life is humans do not have to torture and kill animals to get protein. As Dr. Milton Mills states emphatically in the documentary, "What the Health", "all protein is made by plants.... It is not necessary to eat animal tissue to get protein."13 In fact, all of the strongest land animals are herbivores. Look at elephants, rhinos, mountain gorillas. They are huge and physically strong. Our intestines were not meant to process large amounts of meat. Yet despite the negative health effects of meat and dairy, these products are what the USDA promotes and tax dollars subsidy.

This lousy diet is at cross purposes with other government functions. The USDA promotes foods that make you sick. The sick taxpayer

now becomes a burden for Health and Human Services and the Social Security Administration. These agencies pay hundreds of billions of dollars for the higher health care costs resulting from the processed foods diet promoted by the USDA.

Public health is just one aspect of what our industrial agriculture and mass killing of animals is doing to the planet. Look at what corporate agriculture is doing to the environment. There is a massive dead zone off the coast of Louisiana where the Mississippi empties into the Gulf of Mexico. A dead zone is an area where hypoxia is occurring because pollution is depriving the water of oxygen.¹⁴

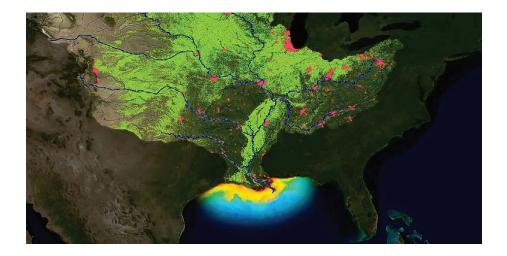
This dead zone is over 8,000 miles and its cause is industrial agriculture as well as the pollution from cities.¹⁵ The overproduction of corn and using it to feed animals which in turn are used to feed humans is dumping huge amounts of nitrogen into the rivers. This in turn deprives water of oxygen and creates a dead zone where fish cannot survive. According to Scientific American, "Nitrogen and phosphorous from agricultural runoff are the primary culprits, but sewage, vehicular and industrial emissions and even natural factors also play a role in the development of dead zones."¹⁶

The number of dead zones created by human activities like industrial agriculture, and pollution as well as sewage has increased all over the world to over 500.¹⁷ Literally every river off every continent now has dead zones. These dead zones destroy sea life. The good news is they can be reversed. We can clean up these dead zones by not dumping sewage, nitrogen and phosphorous from agricultural runoffs. In other words, we can change the diet from these huge industrial animal farms to plant-based diets and go further. As we modernize cities and eliminate waste streams dumping into the rivers all over the world, the waters will recover. The fish, the plants, shrimp, and other life will come back. The dead zones are the results of over 150 years of human activity, i.e.

industrialization and urbanization that ignored the effects on the natural world. It has not taken long to create these environmental problems. It will not take long to solve them.

Hypoxic zones are areas in the ocean where the oxygen concentration is so low that animals can suffocate and die, and as a result are often called "dead zones." The largest hypoxic zone in the United States, and the second largest hypoxic zone worldwide, forms in the northern Gulf of Mexico adjacent to the Mississippi River. This image from a NOAA Environmental Visualization Lab animation shows how runoff from farms (green areas) and cities (red areas) drains into the Mississippi. This runoff contains an overabundance of nutrients from fertilizers, wastewater treatment plants, and other sources. This nutrient pollution eventually ends up in the Gulf of Mexico, leading to the formation of hypoxic "dead zones." ¹⁸

It was not always like this where humans and the environment were at odds. In the 1700s, prior to the European migration to the New World, the natural world on this part of the planet was very healthy and abundant with wildlife. The rivers were teeming with fish. The oceans off the Atlantic were full of cod and every other type of fish. These



were caught by the European settlers and shipped back to Europe. ¹⁹ The rivers and ocean were fished out like what happened in Europe. ²⁰

The forests were so thick it was said that a squirrel could travel for miles without touching the ground. Forests were the great resource. This led to the greatest destruction of forests in history. The ax became the symbol of American life. Millions of people lived on the north and south American continents. Pristine waters teeming with life and countless species existed prior to the European migration.²¹ I hope and pray God forgives my Spanish ancestors for what we did... but I digress.

The animal and plant resources seemed inexhaustible. But they were not. Again, government policies of not looking into the future and realizing the destruction of the forests, emptying the rivers of fish, and destroying the fisheries offshore would lead eventually to what we have today- lands that are devoid of wildlife and dead zones from pollution. Time happens faster than we realize. In the 500 years since the migration from our trashy European ancestors to this side of the planet, the entire ecosystem has completely changed... for the worst. The kings and monarchs of the Europe did not have the foresight to realize that cutting down the forests, killing the fish in the rivers and overfishing the shores of the Atlantic would result in the environmental mess we have today. This is reasonable. We have no idea what human plant and animal life will be like 500 years from now. But we must change the path we are on, or civilization and possibly our species and the numerous other life forms entrusted to our care, will not survive. This requires us to change our agriculture and our diet. We must change the infrastructure of agriculture. Changing our agricultural model is clearly doable right now.

Much has been written and numerous documentaries have been made about industrial farming and the effects on the environment.

More than 150 BILLION animals are killed each year for human consumption. The current agricultural model is plant corn and soy. Use fertilizers that are by products of the fossil fuel industry. Use the corn and soy to feed cattle, pigs, and chickens. Feed these poor crowded tortured animals antibiotics sold to farmers by huge pharmaceutical companies. Kill these animals in truly repulsive slaughterhouses with unsanitary conditions. Ship the dead rotting animal flesh to giant supermarket chains like Kroger, Walmart, and others. Inject dye to give the meat and farm raised salmon a better look and sell them to the public. The results: dead zones in the Gulf of Mexico, polluted land, and air, millions of Americans with pre-diabetes and type two diabetes, millions of cancer deaths, millions with heart disease, high blood pressure. This is why the American population is unhealthy.²³

Before you can say "Rumpelstiltskin" you get old. We have an aging population. As people age, their poor health will mean early deaths and many of our environmental problems will solve themselves as the planet has less people. What will happen next? The crybaby boomers will finally DIE. It seems obvious. The terrible American diet will kill millions of people. Less consumers, less damage to the natural world. While this seems pretty extreme, we are not advocating mass die offs as a solution to anything. This is a mere observation that millions of Americans are going to die early because of the toxic food policies of the American government and the agriculture industry.

Corruption can take many forms. Because politicians in the United States receive money to run for office, large pharmaceutical, fossil fuel, agricultural, finance, defense and other companies contribute millions to political campaigns.²⁴ In return these large institutions which are in all 435 congressional districts get billions of tax dollars. Do you want better health, eat healthy foods. There is no possible way the climate crisis can be solved without changing the agriculture infrastructure. At

least 15 percent of the greenhouse gases are released by the agriculture industry with the present slaughter of animals for secondhand protein.²⁵

The post virus world does not have to be the dystopian hell of Mad Max and an apocalyptic nightmare. Change is the only constant. It's time to change to the plant-based diet animal rights activist Shaun Monson advocated in 2005. He warned everyone about zoonotic viruses to those who would listen. The plant based agricultural model is still going to require labor, soil, sunshine, and water. The same companies that created this environmental and public health disaster can produce healthy food and drinks. If you buy healthy foods, the agricultural industry will sell them.

This crisis with our global environment can be used to change the diet. Since the United States government is so corrupt, they won't change the diet, vote with your wallet. Just quit buying their meat, chicken, pork and processed foods. If you don't buy milk and cheese products, they will rot on the shelves and these companies will stop selling them. YOU are responsible for your health. If you want good health and a healthy planet, eat a more plant-based diet, exercise and quit stressing about money. You can be proactive, grow your own fruits and vegetables. Create home gardens instead of lawns. Growing your own vegetables will give you the satisfaction of your ancestors.

^{1.} The Covid 19 pandemic is the single most important medical/political event since the fall of the Roman Empire. And it was handled with the same incompetence. Orange Mussolini, also known as "President Donald J. Trump" told so many lies, millions of Americans did not get vaccinated. Add complete incompetence in educating the public about viruses and vaccines and millions of people refused to get vaccinated. For accurate information, see "Coronavirus Resource Center" John Hopkins University

- online at: https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/map.html But in all fairness to President Trump, he did appoint Robert F. Kennedy to be in charge of the Department of Health and Human Services. This is a big deal. Mr. Kennedy has as his motto, "Make America Healthy Again." Kudos for President Trump on this important change in policy and having the guts to make a very unpopular appointment.
- 2. There is substantial data on the epidemic of obesity. Here is one of the better ones. "How fat is America? An overview of obesity statistics (2020)" by Staci Gublin, January 16, 2020, online at: https://www.livin3.com/obesity-statistics See also, "The vast majority of American adults are overweight or obese, and weight is a growing problem among US children" May 28, 2014 online at: http://www.healthdata.org/news-release/vast-majority-american-adults-are-overweight-or-obese-and-weight-growing-problem-among There are several up to date articles which show the same thing. We have an obesity epidemic.
- 3. "What the Health" by Adam Harries, May 14, 2019 now online at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A-xrOHpDMj4&feature=emb_logo
- 4. "Diabetes by the Numbers" March 11, 2020 online at: https://www.cdc.gov/diabetes/basics/diabetes.html
- 5. Ibid.
- 6. "Economic Burden of Diabetes on the Rise" July 23, 2019 online at: https://blog.cardiometabolichealth.org/2019/07/23/economic-burden-of-diabetes-on-the-rise/
- 7. "Agribusiness" contributions to politicians in 2016. Online at: https://www.opensecrets.org/industries/totals.php?cycle=2020& ind=A in the 30 years from 1990 to 2020, over \$1 billion was contributed to politicians. The return was billions in tax subsidies for agribusiness.

- 8. "USDA announces details of support package for farmers" July 25, 2019 online at: https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2019/07/25/usda-announces-details-support-package-farmers See also "Farmers got billions in 2019 from taxpayers and hardly anyone objected" by Dan Charles, December 31, 2019 online at NPR: https://www.npr.org/sections/thesalt/2019/12/31/790261705/farmers-got-billions-from-taxpayers-in-2019-and-hardly-anyone-objected
- 9. An excellent overview of government programs that subsidize garbage food is available online with the documentary, "What the Health" cite 2 supra starting at minute 50. This program is required viewing.
- 10. Ibid at minute 57.
- 11. Ibid at minute 60. In return for money to politicians, laws are passed that criminalize anyone who tries to speak out against these industries.
- 12. "What the Health" cite 2 supra at minute 105.
- 13. See also, "Game Changers" the documentary Executive Producer James Cameron. Available on NetFlix https://gamechangers movie.com/ and "Vegan 19" online on NetFlix https://www. youtube.com/watch?v=2AYOViszK_A A contrary view that criticizes "What the Health" is: "Debunking the documentary 'What the Health" by the Kendell Reagan Nutrition Center, 2017 at: https://chhs.source.colostate.edu/debunking-documentary-health/?fbclid=IwAR36h6j0M9aI9BcevXoPvY0ftlO97D2rk96AQ PK7d6mZGmN3iBOrzgC3Wss
- 14. "Gulf of Mexico sees largest Dead Zone recorded, size of New Jersey." By Denisse Moreno, August 3, 2017 International Business Times, online at: https://www.ibtimes.com/gulf-mexico-sees-

- largest-dead-zone-recorded-size-new-jersey-2574113 See "Gulf of Mexico Hypoxia" July 2017 online at: https://gulfhypoxia.net/
- 15. "What causes ocean dead zones" Scientific American, September 25, 2012 online at: https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/ocean-dead-zones/
- 16. "Gulf of Mexico Hypoxia" July 2017 online at: https://gulfhypoxia.net/
- 17. Ibid.
- 18. See an excellent documentary on the early settlement of the eastern seaboard. "America Before Columbus" June 19, 2014 online at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nQCeGaTSghQ
- 19. Ibid.
- 20. See the excellent documentary, National Geographic's "America Before Columbus" August 2, 2017 online at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s-2RkTJksEc
- 21. Ibid.
- 22. "How many animals are killed each year?" Reference.com online https://www.reference.com/business-finance/many-animals-killed-year-4a2c3bcb6a02471b One of the more interesting sites is: Animal Slaughter Counter at: http://thevegancalculator.com/animal-slaughter/
- 23. See the following excellent documentaries: "The Game Changers" https://gamechangersmovie.com/ "Dominion" https://www.dominionmovement.com/ "Cowspiracy" https://www.cowspiracy.com/ "Forks Over Knives" https://www.forksoverknives.com/ "What the Health" https://www.whatthehealthfilm.com/"Food Choice" on Vimeo https://vimeo.com/197280362 "Eating You Alive" https://www.eatingyoualive.com/ "Blackfish" http://www.blackfishmovie.com/ "The Cove" https://www.opsociety.org/ our-work/films/the-cove/ "Racing Extinction" https://racing

- extinction.com/ "Ghosts in our Machine" https://www.theghosts inourmachine.com/And the most important film that started the entire animal rights movement, Shaun Monson's classic, "Earthlings" https://www.nationearth.com/earthlings-1/
- 24. See Open Secrets at cite 6, supra.
- 25. See "How Much Does Agriculture Contribute to Global Warming?" by Pierce Nahigyan, February 9, 2016 at Planet Experts online at: http://www.planetexperts.com/how-much-does-agriculture-contribute-to-global-warming/ Mr. Nahigyan references the World Resources Institute and UN data. Since the pandemic, the air in cities all over the world is now cleaner as there are far fewer vehicles on the highways.
- 26. See "Earthlings" online at: https://www.youtube.com/watch? v=M0QG_jqmjhY

CHAPTER FIVE

WE ARE WORKING ON SOLUTIONS

"During times of universal deceit, telling the truth becomes a revolutionary act"

George Orwell

People who complain, "things are hopeless", "it's too late", "nothing can be done" are almost always doing nothing to make change happen. Here is reality, whether you think you can or whether you think you can't, in either case, you are right. In sports, the mental game is the game. At a certain point, all athletes are fit, have trained and professional. Why do some win championships and others got there, but did not win it all? Success is a process, a way of life. You first must believe you can succeed. There is no question in my mind we can solve our global environmental problems for the simple reason, these are all created by humans. Reality is all human created problems have solutions. We created this mess. We can clean it up. Whether it is war, corruption, or incompetence, new players can turn things around, sometimes in a hurry.

After Hitler's war of aggression destroyed Europe, the Marshall Plan and new governments determined to have peace and prosperity, turned things around. Recovery from war also happened in Japan, China, Russia and most recently Rwanda. Peace and prosperity are possible with good governance.

APAWI (SIOUX WORD FOR SUN)

A Practical Climate Change Solution

The Federal government, the Native American communities and indigenous groups internationally can solve many of the environmental problems created by climate change by building solar power plants on indigenous lands. The reality of climate change is settled science. For those who would question this scientific reality: the glaciers are melting. Humans cannot continue to dump over 40 billion tons of CO₂ into the atmosphere annually. Regardless of the lies, climate change is caused by human activity.

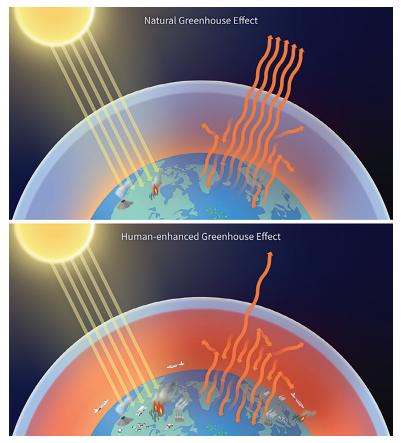
The indigenous communities globally did not create these problems of the destruction of wildlife, collapse of the aquifers, overfishing, population growth, destruction of the rain forests, and the numerous other environmental problems facing our small planet. The indigenous communities have lived in harmony with the natural world for thousands of years.

In the United States, the Bureau of Land Management has Federal land next to numerous Native American reservations. Some of these lands can be returned to the indigenous communities who understood how-to live-in harmony with the natural world. The indigenous communities are the canaries in the coal mine. The modern world can learn from the elders of the indigenous communities. They have coexisted with nature since time began.

The Climate Change Problem

Much has been written, and extensive scientific research has been done on fossil fuels and the effect on climate. The misinformation campaign of the fossil fuel industry¹ cannot overcome the massive amount of scientific data from scientists all over the world.² It is not that complex.

But it does require a careful study of the scientific data to properly understand this history changing environmental problem. The United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has just issued their latest and most alarming report. Global climate change is taking place faster than expected.³



Greenhouse effect diagram. Credit: NOAA Climate Program Office, Graphic by Anna Eshelman

As NOAA explains on their website: "Greenhouse gases (GHGs) are a category of gases that absorb heat energy emitted from the planet's surface, and they remain in Earth's atmosphere for a long time (from decades to centuries). Though they make up only a small portion of the

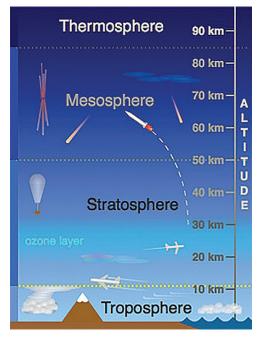
atmosphere (less than 1% of all air molecules), GHGs absorb a significant amount of heat energy and re-radiate some of it back toward the surface. They're called "greenhouse gases" because they trap heat near the Earth's surface in a manner somewhat similar to how a greenhouse allows in the sun's rays and then holds in the resulting heat."

When we take the fossil fuel out of the ground and burn it, the CO₂ waste is trapped in the atmosphere. The sunlight keeps the planet too warm because of the CO₂ waste particles. Since the advent of industrialization over the last 150 years, fossil fuels to produce energy has heated the planet.⁴ Coupled with population growth, the wildlife on land and in the oceans is being decimated. We are in uncharted territory as humans are dumping CO₂ into the atmosphere faster than nature can absorb it.⁵

How much trouble are we in? Future generations are in big trouble. The Earth will continue to get warmer. Hurricanes will become more intense. As the oceans warm, this will add more power to storms. To add to humanities' problems, the aquifers are drying up and drought will become more common. Climate change will flood entire nations and cause millions of refugees.⁶ If you think we have problems with immigration and refugees now, just wait until the glaciers melt and hundreds of millions of people are displaced and seek shelter in the nations that caused the climate change. Humanity is at a crossroads. We must face reality. Either we work to repair the planet or the oceans and life on Earth is altered such that civilization will collapse. The question is no longer should we address the causes of climate change, but how can we reverse course?⁷

If we do not immediately address the reality of climate change, our grandchildren's future will be a dystopian nightmare. Expect political turmoil as millions will seek refuge. Numerous species will continue to decline if not become extinct altogether. The coastal cities worldwide will be underwater from the melting of the icecaps. Agriculture depends on stable climate. As the weather becomes more unstable, crop yields will decline, and mass starvation is a real possibility. Again, this is happening because humans are dumping over 40 billion tons of CO_2 in the atmosphere annually.

The world depends on fossil fuels to have a modern society. From the cars and trucks we drive to the food we eat, to the homes we heat—fossil fuels have enabled over eight (8) billion people to live on a tiny planet. Add one million more people every four days, the continued consumption of over 100 million barrels of oil per day, to collapse of the fisheries, dead zones from pollution in every river emptying into the oceans dead are in serious trouble. If the glaciers continue to melt, ocean levels will rise by over 80 feet within 100 years.



The 100 million barrels of oil consumed each day15 goes up into the atmosphere as CO₂ air pollution. As the atmosphere is very thin and fragile, the CO₂ builds up there and prevents ultra violet light from going back into space. Consequently, heat is trapped in the Earth and warming occurs. The heating of the Earth is taking place at a rate not seen in modern history. The extensive use of fossil fuels can be changed to a clean and reliable source of endless energy. It can also be done fairly quickly. Converting the energy system of the planet to solar and nuclear power will prevent fossil fuel pollution from entering the atmosphere. This change in the energy system of the United States is only going to take place with leadership from the indigenous communities, namely the great Native American nations that once owned all this land. Change in energy policy must be pursued immediately. Fifty years is not a long time, and the continued pollution of fossil fuels will destroy all of creation. Native Americans must lead. (https://scied.ucar.edu/atmosphere-

layers)16

How can we be certain this will happen and how fast? We have the past as a guide. The increase in CO_2 in the atmosphere can be measured.¹⁷ The study of past climate changes in the ice cores reveals that every time the CO_2 in the atmosphere rises, there is a rise in temperature and a rise in sea level.¹⁸

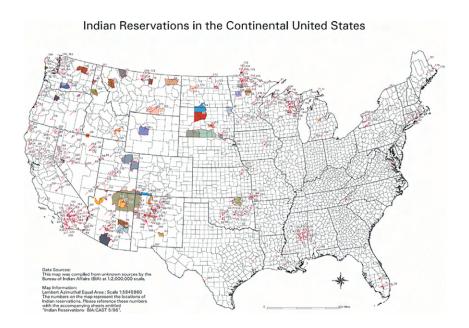
Every crisis creates an opportunity. The Native Americans and other indigenous communities have coexisted with the natural world for centuries. Before the European invasion resulted in the deaths of the majority of Native Americans in one of history's largest genocides¹⁹, there were no major environmental problems. But there was no modern world. Life was short, hard and often very violent.

This problem of climate change caused by fossil fuels to power our modern industrial world can be solved with an alternative source of energy that is clean, reliable and affordable. It is called the sun.



The present air pollution problems have been caused using fossil fuels over the last 150 years. ²⁰ Since the invention of the steam engine and using coal for industrial processes, the modern world has constantly increased their use of fossil fuels. The result has been climate change.

But there are solutions. Tribes and the indigenous communities globally can be a big part of a partial solution to climate change and numerous other health and environmental problems. One climate change solution is giving Tribe's back some of their land and to build solar power plants on Native American Reservations. Whether all Native American tribes go along and become part of this solution or not, the rest of the world is going solar. This is an amazing technological change. Solar power is the fastest growing energy source on the planet.²¹



THE WORLD IS GOING SOLAR WITH OR WITHOUT THE U.S.

The rest of the world is going with solar power.²² China, India, the European Union—solar has arrived. The five largest solar power plants are not in the United States. They are in China and India.²³

The United States is being left behind technologically. It is like insisting on using antiquated technology because of political contributions from the buggy whip and wagon wheel industry. Therefore, relying on horsepower would make America great again. This is what is happening with coal power to create electricity. The mythology is there is "clean coal", yet no science supports this ridiculous proposition

as a solution to climate change. Using coal to create electricity is an environmental disaster.²⁴

This unwillingness to properly address the problems created by the extensive use of fossil fuels and the resulting CO₂ air pollution is not only harming the environment but also leaving America behind technologically. We will be competing in this century with the last century's energy sources against China that is expanding their clean energy technology.

China and the United States are the biggest sources of fossil fuel pollution.²⁵ China has signed the Paris Climate Accord and is determined to clean up their polluted cities.²⁶ The Chinese and the Indians are committed to expanding their use of solar power²⁷



Kamuthi Solar Power Project - 648MW - India

This massive solar power plant is a photovoltaic power station spread over an area of 2,500 acres (10 km²) in Kamuthi, Ramanathapuram district, 90 km from Madurai, in the state of Tamil Nadu, India. The project was commissioned by Adani Power. With a generating capacity of 648 MW at a single location, it is the world's eighth largest (as of 2018) solar park.²⁸





Tengger Desert Solar Park - 1500MW - China²⁹

The 1547MW solar power was installed in Zhongwei, Ningxia is the world's largest solar array by far. Known as the "Great Wall of Solar" in China. The Tengger Desert is an arid natural region that covers about 36,700 km and is mostly in the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region in China. The solar field itself covers 1,200 Km (3.2%) of land.³⁰

WALDPOLENZ SOLAR PARK, GERMANY

The Germans have had a reputation for engineering since the dawn of the industrial age. From high performing cars to Panzer tanks and V2 bombs that terrified allies in World War II, the Germans have achieved with peace what was impossible to gain with war. They are the world's fourth largest economy and the economic engine for the European Union.

Waldpolenz Solar Park, which is the world's largest thin-film photovoltaic (PV) power system, is built in on a military air base to the east of Leipzig in Germany. The power plant is a 40-megawatt solar power system using state-of-the-art thin film technology.³¹



^{1. &}quot;The Climate Change Deception Dossier" by Kathy Mulvey and Seth Shulman, July 2015 at: https://www.ucsusa.org/sites/default/files/attach/2015/07/The-Climate-Deception-Dossiers.pdf

^{2.} Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, at: http://www.ipcc.ch/ scientists from every part of the planet contributed their work to preparing this report. See also, https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2018/11/26/how-extreme-weather-is-shrinking-the-planet

^{3. &}quot;Climate Change" on NOAA's website at: https://www.climate.gov/media/16466

^{4.} Ibid. See also, "Global Climate Change" at NASA's website updated December 6, 2018 https://climate.nasa.gov/causes/

- 5. "The Ecological Impact of the Industrial Revolution" by Eric McLamb September 18, 2011 at: http://www.ecology.com/2011/09/18/ecological-impact-industrial-revolution/
- 6. "Effects of Changing the Carbon Cycle" June 16, 2011 at: https://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/features/CarbonCycle/page5.php (The NASA Earth Observatory is no longer updated under the policy of the present Administration).
- 7. "Climate Change and Disasters" UNHCR at: https://www.unhcr. org/climate-change-and-disasters.html
- 8. World Resources Institute at: https://www.wri.org/blog/2017/04/climate-science-explained-10-graphics
- 9. "Did I say 30 billion tons of CO₂, I meant 40", by Phil Plait August 2016 at: https://slate.com/technology/2014/08/atmospheric-co2-humans-put-40-billion-tons-into-the-air-annually.html That report was in 2016. The data is conservative and as economic growth continues in the developing world, CO₂ emissions accelerate.
- 10. One of the better sites on the internet is: http://www.worldometers.info/world-population/
- 11. Ibid. See also, World Population, at: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_population See also, World Population Institute,
 Talking Points at: https://www.populationinstitute.org/programs/gpso/gpso/
- 12. "The world will be using 100 million barrels of oil a day by the end of the year, IEA predicts" at: https://business.financialpost.com/
- 13. Numerous scholarly studies are out there on the collapse of the fisheries. Dr. Daniel Pauly's work is required reading. He is the world's foremost authority on fisheries. See: http://www.sea aroundus.org/daniel-paulys-publications-with-pdfs/

- 14. There has been some extensive research worldwide on dead zones. Currently, there are over 400 dead zones from rivers emptying into the oceans. The biggest cause of dead zones is agricultural runoff and use of fertilizers. See "Dead Zones are a global water pollution problem—but with sustained effort they can come back to life." By Donald Scavia May 4, 2018 at: https://phys.org/news/2018-05-dead-zones-global-pollution-sustained.html
- 15. One of the more interesting articles is: "The Big Thaw, As the climate warms, how much, and how quickly, will Earth's glaciers melt?" by Daniel Glick at: https://www.nationalgeographic.com/environment/global-warming/big-thaw/ See also, https://www.nationalgeographic.com/magazine/2013/09/rising-seas-ice-melt-new-shoreline-maps/
- 16. See cite supra 11 and
- 17. "Layers of Earth's Atmosphere" at: https://scied.ucar.edu/atmosphere-layers
- 18. "Carbon Dioxide In Atmosphere Can Now Be Measured From Space, April 12, 2009" at https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/04/090401204201.htm
- 19. "Climate at the core: how scientists study ice cores to reveal Earth's climate history" by Amy Dusto 2018 at: https://www.climate.gov/news-features/climate-tech/climate-core-how-scientists-study-ice-cores-reveal-earth%E2%80%99s-climate
- 20. Much has been written about humanity's largest genocide. Native Americans did not become citizens until 1924. Before that time they were routinely murdered and no one was prosecuted. The tragedy of what happened to the indigenous people globally lives on in the damage to these traditional societies. From alcoholism and obesity to drug abuse and unsolved murders, the Native American community has had to overcome enormous

- obstacles to survive. Poverty is the rule on most Reservations. Suicide rates are higher as is unemployment and lower educational attainment. One of the more interesting articles on the tragic genocide is: "When Native Americans Were Slaughtered in the Name of 'Civilization'" by Donald L. Fixico at: https://www.history.com/news/native-americans-genocide-united-states
- 21. "The Hidden Cost of Fossil Fuels" by Union of Concerned Scientists, August 30, 2016 at: https://www.ucsusa.org/clean-energy/coal-and-other-fossil-fuels/hidden-cost-of-fossils#.XBC 9cBNKh-U
- 22. "Time to Shine, Solar Power is the Fastest Source of New Energy" by Adam Vaughan, October 4, 2017 at: https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2017/oct/04/solar-power-renewables-international-energy-agency
- 23. See generally: World Energy Council at https://www.world energy.org/data/resources/resource/solar/
- 24. See "5 Largest Solar Farms in the World" by Justine Summers October 24, 2018 at: https://www.originenergy.com.au/blog/lifestyle/5-largest-solar-farms-in-the-world.html
- 25. Coal fired power plants are an environmental disaster. From the coal dust that causes black lungs in the minors, to the pollution the air, water and land and the obvious greenhouse gas emissions, the environmental costs are horrific. That various self-serving politicians do not understand or care about the impact of burning coal does not escape the reality of the harm being done to the environment. See generally: Environmental Impact of the Coal Industry at: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Environmental_impact_of_the_coal_industry

This Will Work

- 26. See cite 7 supra. See also, "List of Countries by Carbon Dioxide Emissions" at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_countries_by_carbon_dioxide_emissions
- 27. "Paris Agreement Ratification Tracker" July 13, 2018 at: https://climateanalytics.org/briefings/ratification-tracker/
- 28. There is tremendous data on the internet regarding China and India expanding their use of and support for solar power. See cites 21, 22, 23 supra.
- 29. See "List of Photovoltaic Power Stations" at: https://en.wikipedia. org/wiki/List_of_photovoltaic_power_stations
- 30. See "The Largest Solar Power Plant in the World" at: http://www.sunpowereddreams.com/the-largest-solar-power-plant/
- 31. Ibid cite 30 supra.
- 32. See "Waldpolenz Solar Power Plant" at: https://wikivisually.com/wiki/Waldpolenz_Solar_Park

CHAPTER SIX

SOLAR POWER WORKS

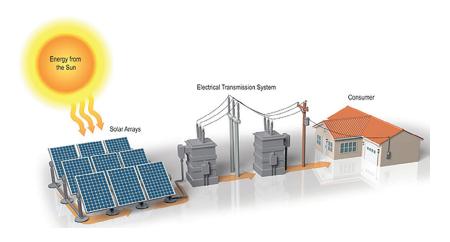
Solar power plants are standard off the shelf technology. There are various types of solar power plants. Solar-Thermal plants create steam. The steam is piped to an onsite turbine-generator to produce electricity, which is then transmitted on power lines. See infra.

There are two ways we can produce electricity from the sun:

Photovoltaic Electricity – This method uses photovoltaic cells that absorb the direct sunlight just like the solar cells you see on some calculators.³

Solar-Thermal Electricity – This also uses a solar collector: it has a mirrored surface that reflects the sunlight onto a receiver that heats up a liquid. This heated liquid is used to make steam that produces electricity.⁴

Photovoltaic solar plants work like this:5



Solar collectors capture and concentrate sunlight to heat a synthetic oil called therminol, which then heats water to create steam. The steam is piped to an onsite turbine-generator to produce electricity, which is then transmitted on power lines. On cloudy days, the plant has a supplementary natural gas boiler. The plant can burn natural gas to heat the water, creating steam to generate electricity. Solar energy works by capturing the sun's energy and turning it into electricity for your home or business.⁶

Our sun is a natural nuclear reactor. It releases tiny packets of energy called photons, which travel the 93 million miles from the sun to Earth in about 8.5 minutes. Every hour, enough photons impact our planet to generate enough solar energy to theoretically satisfy global energy needs for an entire year.⁷

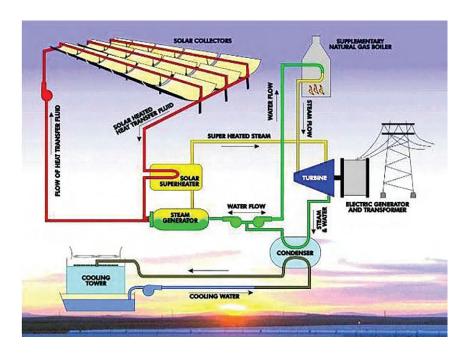
Currently photovoltaic power accounts for only five-tenths of one percent of the energy consumed in the United States. But solar technology is improving and the cost of going solar is dropping rapidly, so our ability to harness the sun's abundance of energy is on the rise.⁸

A 2017 report from the International Energy Agency shows that solar has become the world's fastest-growing source of power – marking the first time that solar energy's growth has surpassed that of all other fuels. In the coming years, we will all enjoy the benefits of solar-generated electricity.9

Unlike other sources of power, solar is continuous and does not pollute. Fossil fuel industries will continue to pollute until they either are stopped by new technologies, or the ecosystems collapse from the consequences of climate change.

HOW DO SOLAR PANELS WORK?

When photons hit a solar cell, they knock electrons loose from their atoms. If conductors are attached to the positive and negative sides of a cell, it forms an electrical circuit. When electrons flow through such a circuit, they generate electricity. Multiple cells make up a solar panel, and multiple panels (modules) can be wired together to form a solar array. The more panels you can deploy, the more energy you can expect to generate.¹⁰



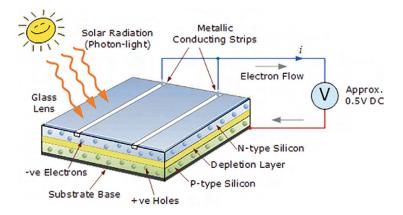
WHAT ARE SOLAR PANELS MADE OF?

Photovoltaic (PV) solar panels are made up of many solar cells. Solar cells are made of silicon, like semiconductors. They are constructed with a positive layer and a negative layer, which together create an electric field, just like in a battery.¹¹

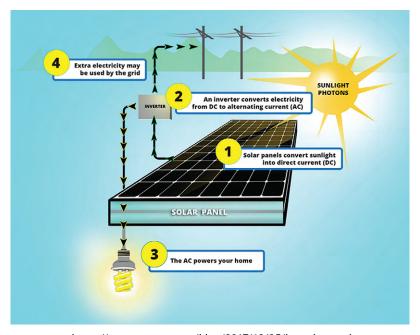
HOW DO SOLAR PANELS GENERATE ELECTRICITY?

PV solar panels generate direct current (DC) electricity. With DC electricity, electrons flow in one direction around a circuit. This example shows a battery powering a light bulb. The electrons move from the

negative side of the battery, through the lamp, and return to the positive side of the battery. 12



With AC (alternating current) electricity, electrons are pushed and pulled, periodically reversing direction, much like the cylinder of a car's engine. Generators create AC electricity when a coil of wire is spun



Sunpower.com at: https://us.sunpower.com/blog/2017/10/25/how-does-solar-energy-work/

next to a magnet. Many different energy sources can "turn the handle" of this generator, such as gas or diesel fuel, hydroelectricity, nuclear, coal, wind, or solar. AC electricity was chosen for the U.S. electrical power grid, primarily because it is less expensive to transmit over long distances. However, solar panels create DC electricity. How do we get DC electricity into the AC grid? We use an inverter.¹³

EXPAND RESERVATION LANDS AND BUILD SOLAR POWER PLANTS

Unlike states, tribes must go into business. Their tax base from just taxing their few members is too small to run government operations. With small populations and few resources, tribes have gone into a variety of businesses. Indian gaming, smoke shops, jewelry, mining, bison and cattle ranching, lumber enterprises, oil and gas operations when these resources are available, and a variety of businesses fund tribal operations. Building solar power plants and selling the power to help solve the global climate change is a natural fit for Native Americans. One tribe, the Southern Paiutes have done exactly what is being proposed in this proposal.

The Moapa Southern Paiute Solar Project is a 250 megawatt (MW) alternating current (AC) solar project located on approximately 2,000 acres on the Moapa River Indian Reservation in Clark County, Nevada. Capital Dynamics is the project owner and constructed the project using First Solar' advanced photovoltaic (PV) thin film solar modules.¹⁴

The project generates enough clean solar energy to serve the needs of about 111,000 homes per year, displacing approximately 341,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide (CO₂) annually—the equivalent of taking about 73,000 cars off the road. The Project includes an onsite substation and a new 5.5-mile 500 kV transmission line that connecting the Project to the existing Crystal Substation serving energy users in

California. Moapa Southern Paiute Solar Project has a Power Purchase Agreement with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power to deliver clean, solar energy for 25 years.¹⁵

Project Benefits

- Generates millions in income for the Moapa Band of Paiutes from lease payments, consulting fees, and the purchase of goods and services
- Generated wages and benefits for approximately 600 construction jobs at peak construction and up to five ongoing operation and maintenance positions
- Increases state and local tax revenues
- Provide educational donations for the Tribe
- Indirectly benefits dozens of businesses in Clark County¹⁶

Building solar power plants on Native American land can be accomplished in short order, absent extraordinary events usually within two to three years. This is standard off the shelf technology and solar power plants are being built all over the world. Clearly the benefits of solar power for electrical production make it the best source of energy on the planet.

In Native American culture, a social decision must be looked at its impact for seven generations. This is interpreted by Vine Deloria, Jr. in non-romantic practical terms. The decision must consider the great grandparents, grandparents, parents, the present generation, the children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. In other words, you consider the past, those who have been here before us as well as the future. If what is proposed is not safe for seven generations, don't do it. If that standard had been applied across the board to the entire planet, we would not have the massive environmental problems we are facing today.

- 1. "The Climate Change Deception Dossier" by Kathy Mulvey and Seth Shulman, July 2015 at: https://www.ucsusa.org/sites/default/files/attach/2015/07/The-Climate-Deception-Dossiers.pdf
- 2. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, at: http://www.ipcc.ch/ scientists from every part of the planet contributed their work to preparing this report. See also,
- 3. https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2018/11/26/how-extreme-weather-is-shrinking-the-planet
- 4. Ibid. See also, "Global Climate Change" at NASA's website updated December 6, 2018 https://climate.nasa.gov/causes/
- 5. "The Ecological Impact of the Industrial Revolution" by Eric McLamb September 18, 2011 at: http://www.ecology.com/2011/09/18/ecological-impact-industrial-revolution/
- 6. "Effects of Changing the Carbon Cycle" June 16, 2011 at: https://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/features/CarbonCycle/page5.php (The NASA Earth Observatory is no longer updated under the policy of the present Administration).
- 7. "Climate Change and Disasters" UNHCR at: https://www.unhcr. org/climate-change-and-disasters.html
- 8. World Resources Institute at: https://www.wri.org/blog/2017/04/climate-science-explained-10-graphics
- "Did I say 30 billion tons of CO₂, I meant 40", by Phil Plait
 August 2016 at: https://slate.com/technology/2014/08/atmosphericco2-humans-put-40-billion-tons-into-the-air-annually.html That
 report was in 2016. The data is conservative and as economic
 growth continues in the developing world, CO₂ emissions
 accelerate.
- 10. One of the better sites on the internet is: http://www.worldometers.info/world-population/

- 11. Ibid. See also, World Population, at: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_population
- 12. See also, World Population Institute, Talking Points at: https://www.populationinstitute.org/programs/gpso/gpso/
- 13. "The world will be using 100 million barrels of oil a day by the end of the year, IEA predicts" at: https://business.financial post.com/
- 14. Numerous scholarly studies are out there on the collapse of the fisheries. Dr. Daniel Pauly's work is required reading. He is the world's foremost authority on fisheries. See: http://www.sea aroundus.org/daniel-paulys-publications-with-pdfs/
- 15. There has been some extensive research worldwide on dead zones. Currently, there are over 400 dead zones from rivers emptying into the oceans. The biggest cause of dead zones is agricultural runoff and use of fertilizers. See "Dead Zones are a global water pollution problem—but with sustained effort they can come back to life." By Donald Scavia May 4, 2018 at: https://phys.org/news/2018-05-dead-zones-global-pollution-sustained.html
- 16. One of the more interesting articles is: "The Big Thaw, As the climate warms, how much, and how quickly, will Earth's glaciers melt?" by Daniel Glick at: https://www.nationalgeographic.com/environment/global-warming/big-thaw/ See also, https://www.nationalgeographic.com/magazine/2013/09/rising-seas-ice-melt-new-shoreline-maps/
- 17. See cite supra 11 and
- 18. "Layers of Earth's Atmosphere" at: https://scied.ucar.edu/atmosphere-layers
- 19. "Carbon Dioxide In Atmosphere Can Now Be Measured From Space, April 12, 2009" at https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/04/090401204201.htm

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20. "Climate at the core: how scientists study ice cores to reveal Earth's climate history" by Amy Dusto 2018 at: https://www.climate.gov/news-features/climate-tech/climate-core-how-scientists-study-ice-cores-reveal-earth%E2%80%99s-climate

CHAPTER SEVEN

ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS CREATED BY ENERGY PRODUCTION

Western United States. Virtually every river and stream in the United States has been dammed up and the ecology has been altered. The basic reality of life is, damming up rivers to produce electricity is an environmental disaster. Many of these dams are older and a danger to those downstream. Instead of being replaced, they need to be dismantled, and the ecosystem needs to be restored to its natural state. This move will restore salmon runs and immensely improve the ecosystems that were healthy before being altered to produce electricity.¹

As the Union of Concerned Scientists observed about the environmental damage caused by hydroelectric dams: The size of the reservoir created by a hydroelectric project can vary widely depending largely on the size of the hydroelectric generators and the topography of the land. Hydroelectric plants in flat areas tend to require much more land than those in hilly areas or canyons where deeper reservoirs can hold more volume of water in a smaller space.

At one extreme, the large Balbina hydroelectric plant, which was built in a flat area of Brazil, flooded 2,360 square kilometers—an area the size of Delaware—and it provides only 250 MW of power generating capacity (equal to over 2,000 acres per MW). In contrast, a small 10 MW run-of-the-river plant in a hilly location can use as little 2.5 acres (equal to a quarter of an acre per MW).



Flooding land for a hydroelectric reservoir has an extreme environmental impact: it destroys forest, wildlife habitat, agricultural land, and scenic lands. Often, such as the Three Gorges Dam in China, entire communities have also had to be relocated to make way for reservoirs.

WILDLIFE IMPACTS

Dammed reservoirs are used for multiple purposes, such as agricultural irrigation, flood control, and recreation, so not all wildlife impacts associated with dams can be directly attributed to hydroelectric power. However, hydroelectric facilities can still have a major impact on aquatic ecosystems. For example, though there are a variety of methods to minimize the impact (including fish ladders and in-take screens), fish and other organisms can be injured and killed by turbine blades.

Apart from direct contact, there can also be wildlife impacts both within the dammed reservoirs and downstream from the facility. Reservoir water is usually more stagnant than normal river water. As a result, the reservoir will have higher than normal amounts of sediments

and nutrients, which can cultivate an excess of algae and other aquatic weeds. These weeds can crowd out other river animal and plant-life, and they must be controlled through manual harvesting or by introducing fish that eat these plants. In addition, water is lost through evaporation in dammed reservoirs at a much higher rate than in flowing rivers.

In addition, if too much water is stored behind the reservoir, segments of the river downstream from the reservoir can dry out. Thus, most hydroelectric operators are required to release a minimum amount of water at certain times of year. If not released appropriately, water levels downstream will drop, and animal and plant life can be harmed. In addition, reservoir water is typically low in dissolved oxygen and colder than normal river water. When this water is released, it could have negative impacts on downstream plants and animals. To mitigate these impacts, aerating turbines can be installed to increase dissolved oxygen and multi-level water intakes can help ensure that water released from the reservoir comes from all levels of the reservoir, rather than just the bottom (which is the coldest and has the lowest dissolved oxygen)."²

Hydroelectric power has caused tremendous damage to the planet. These dams were built in the last century to provide electricity and water for agriculture. But the benefits are far outweighed by the environmental damage done to land use and wildlife.

Nuclear power provides electricity to approximately 30 percent of the United States. The 98 power plants in 34 states and 72 communities provide jobs and power without air pollution. Like all new technologies there is an environmental impact. And there have been some very serious accidents. These are well known and much has been written about Fukushima, Chernobyl, and Three Mile Island.

The biggest problem with nuclear power for electrical generation is what can be done with the low, intermediate and high-level waste. Burial in Utah's West Desert is taking place for the low and intermediate

waste.⁵ There is no present long-term global solution to the disposal of the high-level waste. The fuel rods will remain radioactive for at least 250,000 years.⁵⁵ They need to be properly stored until the nation can wean itself off nuclear power.⁶

Nuclear power can be done safely. We need to vastly expand our nuclear power capability. The fear of nuclear power has been driven by hysteria and a lack of knowledge of science. There is no question that Three Mile Island, Chernobyl, and most recently Fukushima bring public images of radiation destroying the surrounding communities. Clearly nuclear power is new to history. So is the production of electricity, the use of fossil fuels, jet travel and our limited forays into outer space. We did not stop producing automobiles when people died from car crashes. Air travel continued even though there were numerous horrific accidents early on. We lost large passenger cruise ships like the Titanic, but ship building continues. Without X-rays, C-T scans, MRIs and radioactive testing of pharmaceutical drugs, we would not have modern medicine. The hysteria on the left against nuclear power is not science. It needs to end but the concerns must be properly addressed. These concerns need to be addressed and not ignored until the next accident.

According to Bryan Dolan of Duke Energy, the fuel rods are just stored next to the reactors. There is no national policy that is working to take the spent fuel rods.

All told, the nuclear reactors in the U.S. produce over 2,000 metric tons of radioactive waste a year, according to the DoE—and most of it sits on-site because there is nowhere else to put it. «When we remove fuel from the core after its final usage, we store it in a pool on site. We have the capacity to store it there for many years,» says Bryan Dolan, vice president of nuclear development at Duke Energy Corp., which operates three

nuclear power plants in South Carolina. The space required to store it, is «incredibly small.»⁷



In the short run, at least the next 50 years, nuclear power must remain an important part of the national energy mix. It is not realistic to just shut down the nation's nuclear power plants without a substitute for this important energy source. Nuclear power is safer than coal mining and can clearly help solve the climate change problem created by fossil fuels.

Our national energy policy is in such disarray there is no politically viable long-term solution to the storage of the spent nuclear fuel that comes out of reactors. Nuclear power continues to be an important source of energy and coupled with solar power; it can be a very useful though partial solution to the massive environmental problems of climate change caused using fossil fuel.

Some of the coal fired power plants can be converted to nuclear power as the infrastructure is already there minus the reactors and the spent fuel. If managed properly, nuclear power must be looked at in the short run as a serious partial solution to reducing the world's massive use of fossil fuels. There are tradeoffs. As our Vice-President Skye Worthen observes, "In the short run, 30-50 years, humans get electricity. But it comes with a huge environmental cost. The fuel remains highly radioactive for over 250,000 years."

Mr. Worthen is right. We get skies clear of fossil fuel emissions. But the highly poisonous spent fuel rods are still there out of sight out of mind in a storage facility away from populated centers. The Earth is constantly changing. What happens when population centers reach these isolated areas full of spent nuclear fuel? Do we potentially poison future generations so people can brush their teeth with an electric toothbrush? It would be interesting to see the look on the face of the bureaucrat who signs off on the license to the permanent storage facility that is supposed to last 10,000 years.

Coal fired power plants are an environmental disaster. The data is overwhelming on the environmental damage caused by coal to produce electricity. Notwithstanding the clear and convincing evidence regarding this damage, politicians continue to rely on this energy source to produce electricity. Too often we have discovered that using a product or method of doing something is not safe. We no longer use lead in pipes or asbestos to insulate buildings because we discovered it was a public health hazard. Besides black lung disease and air pollution including acid rain, coal mining is on its way out. Other energy sources are less expensive and do not cause the air pollution and health problems created by coal.

TRANSPORTATION

Except for jets, the entire global transportation system can be converted to electric vehicles. Several companies are producing electric vehicles, and more are entering this market. This is standard off the shelf technology. Some of these electric vehicles like the Tesla automobiles are rated among the best cars on the market.

More automakers are entering the electric vehicle market. Electric vehicles have fewer moving parts than gas and diesel cars and trucks. China is once again leading the way in number of and use of electric vehicles. Manufacturing economics is so costs of electric vehicles will continue to go down. The price of solar power is going down and with it, the conversion of the planet to solar power will continue.

Elon Musk had this to say about his company, "The by far largest growth contributor is China, where we expect sales to increase by over 500 000 units to 1.1 million in 2018. The long-awaited Tesla Model-3 will contribute with over 130 000 additional units this year. With deliveries still restricted to USA and Canada in 2018, the Model-3 already was the world's bestselling EV of all categories in June, July, much likely in August and in many months to come. It will completely dominate the North American plug-in vehicle market from now on." 10

The United States will be left behind by history if it does not convert its energy system to sustainable reliable renewable solar power. Tribes can be at the forefront of helping to solve this climate change environmental problem by acquiring more land and building solar power plants.

THE TRIBES AND UTILITY COMPANIES NEED TO WORK TOGETHER

The utility companies need to work with Indian tribes and build power transmission lines where they do not exist. This will enable the Native American community to sell the power from the solar power plants directly to the national grid. In the West, Native American reservations are in isolated areas far from major urban centers. Most of these reservations are surrounded by Federal land. The Federal government, the Tribes and the utility companies can pay for these transmission lines by issuing bonds to fund the project. The bonds can be secured by the long-term contracts on electrical generation.

Given the urgency of transforming the national grid from fossil fuels and other environmentally damaging sources to solar power, these bonds can be issued and sold immediately. The public will buy the bonds because people are very concerned about the future of their children and this planet. Climate change, despite the disinformation campaign by the fossil fuels industry, is viewed as a significant political problem by the public.

BUILD SOLAR POWER ALONG THE INTERSTATE HIGHWAYS

We have an excellent opportunity to take the world on a new direction. Under the leadership of one of America's greatest presidents' Dwight D. Eisenhower signed the Federal Aid Highway Act of 1956, popularly known as the National Interstate and Defense Highways Act, (PL 84-627). It was the largest public works project in American history through that time.¹¹

Using the extensive network of highways that crisscross this great country, we can build solar power panels all along this massive system and have charging systems at the rest stops. The reason this can be done efficiently is because these highways already have the land. The easements exist and the infrastructure is there. Having charging stations at rest stops nationally will transform our economy from extensive use of fossil fuels to electric vehicles in short order.

To make this transition and foster more global cooperation, allow foreign companies to bid on these solar power systems. In an interconnected world, we must foster more cooperation, not less. Climate change is a global problem, not one that can be resolved any one society. We are a global community, and we need to work together on solving planetary problems. Demonizing other cultures may have worked in the 1930s but this behavior is not acceptable today. In an interconnected planet, climate change is global and local. As a species, we will work

together by necessity as we all have a vested interest in survival. The alternative is a dystopian future which is not an alternative.

Building solar panels all along the national highway system works. The Federal government owns the land. Thus, there is not the problem with easements and condemnation proceedings normally required in public works projects. The groundwork, the land and the laws are already in place. Now we just need the political will.

This interstate highway system brought freedom to millions of people. It created a dynamic country of numerous industries that depended on car purchases. There is the massive fuel industry that supported the automotive industry. There is the tire industries and related small companies that provided parts, and labor for automotive and fossil fuels industry. There are the home purchases from people being able to live in suburbs and travel to large cities. We cannot continue the present path. Our global economic system dependance on fossil fuels is going to change to clean energy.

Rest stops have power going to them. By building solar panels along the highway and/or windmills, the rest stops can be used as charging stations. The entire project can be accomplished within five to ten years. This is all off the shelf technology which will only improve



as it is implemented nationally and internationally. To succeed, we must provide the public with a rational alternative to fossil fuels. We cannot just demonize the fossil fuel industry. Workers need jobs and industry must continue to function. We can't just shut down the entire global economy.

USE OF INDIGENOUS FOODS TO OFFSET CLIMATE CHANGE

In addition to changing our energy sources to clean technologies, we must convert to sustainable food sources. Our present agricultural model is not environmentally sustainable. The industrial production of cattle is an environmental hazard that contributes heavily to CO₂. It takes on average over 460 gallons of water to produce one pound of beef. Cattle are not natural to this hemisphere. The industrial farming of pork, chicken and beef creates huge waste problems in addition to methane. These foods are not healthy and the extensive use of growth hormones and antibiotics as well as processed foods have created a very unhealthy nation. Factory farming of pork, chicken and beef is an environmental and health care disaster.

Because of our poor diet, obesity is the number one public health problem for the United States and the Native American community. The diet must change to a high protein low fat, non-processed foods; the diet used by the Native American community for centuries. Presently there are approximately 500,000 bison in the United States. Converting to bison and lowering our consumption of beef, chicken and pork will require a major change in agriculture. The bison herds will need to be increased to 40 million like they were before the European invasion. This will provide opportunities to ranchers, Indian tribes and all involved in making a major change. Unlike cattle that are not natural to this part of the world, bison are not only a healthier source of protein, but they are also far better for the environment.

Other indigenous communities globally need to do the same thing. Go with indigenous foods produced locally to lower the carbon footprint from importing and exporting over long distances so people can have more food choices.

The only constant in life is change. The world changed from horse and wind power to coal and oil. Now the world needs to move on to new, cleaner technologies. Working with the indigenous communities globally with the utility companies, food producers and distributors, we can solve the environmental problems facing our tiny planet. Technology created the climate change problem. Ingenuity and cooperation can solve it.

This fossil fuels problem can be solved in ten years by simply converting our entire energy grid to clean renewable solar and wind power and incorporating nuclear power. While the modern world in part originated because of the various industries created using fossil fuels, this time in history has passed. We need to move on to the post fossil fuel era. We need to create a new and more modern world of solar, wind, wave and nuclear energy.

The indigenous communities globally need to lead the world away from fossil fuels. We do not have another planet we can migrate to if we destroy this one. We can take the thousands of years of knowledge in co-existing with the natural world of the indigenous communities worldwide and incorporate it to the modern world. From the rain forests of the Amazon to the plains of the United States, we can co-exist with nature and bring the wildlife back.

^{1.} Much has been written about humanity's largest genocide. Native Americans did not become citizens until 1924. Before that time, they were routinely murdered, and no one was prosecuted. The tragedy of what happened to the indigenous people globally lives

on in the damage to these traditional societies. From alcoholism and obesity to drug abuse and unsolved murders, the Native American community has had to overcome enormous obstacles to survive. Poverty is the rule on most Reservations. Suicide rates are higher as is unemployment and lower educational attainment. One of the more interesting articles on the tragic genocide is: "When Native Americans Were Slaughtered in the Name of 'Civilization'" by Donald L. Fixico at: https://www.history.com/news/native-americans-genocide-united-states

- 2. "The Hidden Cost of Fossil Fuels" by Union of Concerned Scientists, August 30, 2016 at: https://www.ucsusa.org/clean-energy/coal-and-other-fossil-fuels/hidden-cost-of-fossils#.XBC 9cBNKh-U
- 3. "Time to Shine, Solar Power is the Fastest Source of New Energy" by Adam Vaughan, October 4, 2017 at: https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2017/oct/04/solar-power-renew ables-international-energy-agency
- 4. See generally: World Energy Council at https://www.world energy.org/data/resources/resource/solar/
- 5. See "5 Largest Solar Farms in the World" by Justine Summers October 24, 2018 at: https://www.originenergy.com.au/blog/lifestyle/5-largest-solar-farms-in-the-world.html
- 6. Coal fired power plants are an environmental disaster. From the coal dust that causes black lungs in the minors, to the pollution the air, water and land and the obvious greenhouse gas emissions, the environmental costs are horrific. That various self-serving politicians do not understand or care about the impact of burning coal does not escape the reality of the harm being done to the environment. See generally: Environmental Impact of the Coal

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- Industry at: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Environmental_impact_of_the_coal_industry
- 7. See cite 7 supra. See also, "List of Countries by Carbon Dioxide Emissions" at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_countries_by_carbon_dioxide_emissions
- 8. "Paris Agreement Ratification Tracker" July 13, 2018 at: https://climateanalytics.org/briefings/ratification-tracker/
- 9. There is tremendous data on the internet regarding China and India expanding their use of and support for solar power. See cites 21, 22, 23 supra.
- 10. See "List of Photovoltaic Power Stations" at: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_photovoltaic_power_stations
- 11. Cite 28 supra.
- 12. See "The Largest Solar Power Plant in the World" at: http://www.sunpowereddreams.com/the-largest-solar-power-plant/
- 13. Ibid cite 30 supra.
- 14. See "Waldpolenz Solar Power Plant" at: https://wikivisually.com/wiki/Waldpolenz_Solar_Park
- 15. "Solar Explained" at: https://www.eia.gov/energyexplained/? page=solar_thermal_power_plants

PART TWO

CLEANING UP THE PLANET AS ECONOMIC POLICY

CHAPTER EIGHT

HOW ARE WE GOING TO CLEAN UP THE PLANET

We've been at war with nature. Now we need to apologize

and clean up.

Gail Bradbrook

All of us have cleaned up someone else's mess. It's called being an adult. Whether it is a lazy roommate, an irresponsible spouse, an unruly child, a sick friend or relative, we have all played the unwilling janitor or maid. We did not like it. But it was either live with a garbage strewn home, apartment, neighborhood, or clean it up... even though we did not make this mess. That is the planet the Crybaby Boomers have left your generation. How are we going to clean up this huge mess? We will clean it up in the same way I cleaned my house after it was trashed by unwanted guests. Move things around, pick up the trash and properly dispose it. Reuse what we can. It was lots of physical work to clean up a mess I did not make. So, without going to the gym, (something I never do), I got my workout. Cleaning up the entire planet is going to be difficult but certainly not impossible. This is an opportunity to create new industries and millions of blue-collar jobs.

What are we going to do with all this "trash" after we pick it up? Plastic is new to the planet. Three hundred years ago, prior to industrialization and mass manufacturing, "Plastic" did not really exist. The industrial revolution did not just change the way goods and services

were created; it changed the very nature of products. For the first time in human history, products were created that did not bio-degrade.

The main features of this change were technological which included the use of iron and steel, new energy sources namely coal for steam engines. Petroleum was used as fuel for the newly invented internal-combustion engine. A whole host of new machines were invented, most using fossil fuels. From automobiles to airplanes to natural gas, name it and an invention was there to make life more comfortable and convenient. Our standard of living is measured by our consumption primarily of energy and entertainment and unfortunately consumer goods which eventually end up in landfills. What our standard of living does not measure is quality of life. Face reality America, numerous countries have a better quality of life.

Where goods were previously made by craftsmen that took great pride in their work, now products were mass produced in factories.⁴ These mass-produced goods eventually wear out. These newly created factory products do not last. Consequently, in about six months, these new products, (consumer goods) are "thrown away". This mass production led to the creation of landfills, which like the industrial revolution, were new to history. Every city soon had landfills where the now urbanized societies disposed of their "trash".⁵.

The sad part is beautiful handmade furniture, clothes and a whole host of goods that were previously hand crafted became lost items of history. My father was a master carpenter. He built a simply beautiful armure without using any nails. It is complete with a nice mirror and drawers as well as a place to hang suits and dress shirts. His craftmanship is from a time that has come and gone. He also made a beautiful coffee table. His woodworking skills are now just part of our family history. Anyone can buy a store made product produced in a factory in another

country. How many families own something that is hand crafted with love and skill. We need to teach young people to "make" furniture, clothes, toys, and other household goods. They need to be well rounded like my grandparents.



Each day in the United States, the average American produces approximately three pounds of garbage.⁶ Every year we dump a massive 2.12 billion tons of waste. If all this waste was put on trucks, they would go around the world 24 times. This stunning amount of waste is partly because 99 percent of the stuff we buy is trashed within 6 months.⁷ The problem is without consumers, the economy stops.

While it would be nice to just stop producing all this waste, our global economic model is consumer spending. Without buyers, hundreds of millions of people would immediately become unemployed. Consumer spending is approximately 70 percent of the U.S. economic activity. But this spending is on creating future garbage. These consumer items which in almost every instance are not necessary for anything other than convenience, end up in landfills, by the side of the roads, in public parks, on beaches, or worse yet, the oceans.

Virtually every single consumer good produced by our modern economy has an adverse environmental impact. From cotton shirts⁹ that

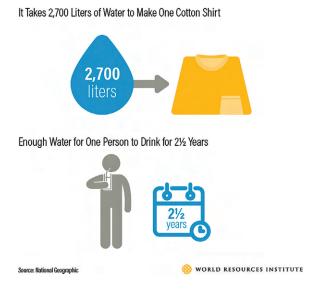
come from halfway across the world and require massive amounts of water, to packaging for toxic farm raised salmon from Chile, Norway and Canada, 10 we don't need these future garbage items.

This is where the global environmental crisis has created an opportunity for change. We need to use this crisis to change the entire global economy from consumer spending and a convenience culture to a global sustainability economic model. And changing the economic model clearly can be done. We are not asking young people to storm the shores of Normandy or fight Nazis on the Eastern Front. This is not a fight to the death against the mighty Japanese army in the jungles of Pacific islands. My father's generation and the Soviet Union saved the planet from fascism. We in the global environmental movement are fighting to save life on Earth. How are we going to win this battle to save the ocean's wildlife, rainforests, clean the rivers, the deltas, beaches and repair the damage? With knowledge and leading by example.

We are asking, not telling people, get over the "shop till you drop" mentality. Don't buy into the marketing created obsession with owning a huge truck and a massive home. Listen very carefully, "we are not our possessions". Our possessions don't define us. We are not our "things". More important, the people who really love us, they don't care what we own, what we wear, what kind of vehicle we drive or how expensive our home. If they are our friends, real friends, they care about us. They care about how we are doing, our health and share time with us. All possessions do is weigh us down as we swim through the currents of life. The more possessions you have, the harder it is to move and be free.

Cleaning up the global environment will require a complete global economic production paradigm shift. It has been done before. People just seem to forget history. The steam engine and the industrial revolution changed the world in a very short time. We went from horse and wind power to fossil fuels almost overnight. The industrial revolution

that began in Britain in about 1760 and was in full force by 1840, changed the Western world. We can shift from conspicuous convenience consumer spending to a sustainability model in a much shorter time frame. The reason we can do it is thanks to the internet, now we have the largest library and communication platform in human history. There are hundreds of millions of people who want a clean planet. With the internet, ideas spread globally in seconds. Young people are in tune with the changes that must be made. You know it is your future and that of the plants and animals that is at stake. It's your ass on the line so you better lead, follow or get out of the way.



Millions of young people participate in cleaning up beaches, rivers, forests, and the oceans. The global environmental movement is moving forward without leadership from the crybaby boomer generation that caused most of these problems. When you look at the age of politicians, business executives and celebrities who got the planet into this mess and compare their wants and needs to the desires of youth, they are not even close to being on the same page. Our present economic

model only works for a small minority of people, the "billionaires" and "millionaires".

Most young people can't pay attention, much less pay a mortgage on a \$500,000 home on a minimum wage salary. Of course, there is despair, dissolution, and desperation with youth. When you look at your future and a world without wild animals so some son of a bitch can eat shark fin soup and pretend to be "rich", that makes you angry. The way we are going to clean up the mess made by the crybaby boomers is make several simple changes in your consumption habits and LEAD BY EXAMPLE. We have to be more like my grandparents, to wit: well rounded. This will work.

We have started the "Ban the Bottle" campaign. All we are asking of you is never buy a plastic bottle that holds a drink. With a tumbler, you can make your own drink at home and just take it with you. What cities can do to help this transition from plastic bottles is have water stations on street corners every few blocks. People can take their tumblers with them. They can fill up at a water station while they are jogging along a parkway or walking every few blocks in their downtowns and public places.

There is lots of pushback from the plastic industry to keep producing single use garbage. Initiatives to ban plastic bags have not passed because conservative right wing disgusting elderly crybaby boomer politicians received money from the plastics industry lobbying groups. These old



Instead of buying a plastic container to carry a drink use a tumbler. There are plenty of containers that can be used over and over and not end up on the beach, the rivers, parks, or worse yet, the oceans. Tumblers come in every shape, size and color. Buy one as a gift for a friend and explain to them that plastic bottles are an environmental disaster. Point out that only dumb asses buy plastic bottles.

politicians put their own financial interests before the interests of the public and our youth. You can vote them out of office. Problem is that young people don't vote.

Cleaning up the planet will be very labor intensive. It will involve gathering all the single use plastic items, old tires, all the packaging. With the tires, these heavy durable items are now recycled. Tires are a global problem. An estimated 2.5 million tries are discarded every year. The rubber can be and is used by numerous companies. Laws can be passed requiring the tires to be recovered from landfills, rivers, deltas, everywhere. Job programs can be put together requiring ALL tires to be gathered and recycled. Since the planet is a closed ecosystem, there really is no place where tires or anything can just be "thrown away". The goal for the entire planet must be to gather every single tire that was every manufactured, shred them, reuse the steel, and use the rubber to make other products.

Old, abandoned tires are a huge health hazard. In addition to being a breeding ground for mosquitos, ¹³ the last thing you want is a tire dump catching on fire. ¹⁴ Because of the fuel load, these tires can burn for a long time and the fumes are quite toxic. ¹⁵ The prudent approach is to create a program in each community to properly recycle tires worldwide. The only reason tires are discarded in landfills, tire dumps, rivers, the ocean is laziness, stupidity, and political corruption. The material is there to make other products. One way to clean up the planet is manufacturing products from existing materials. Recover rubber, plastic, steel, glass, cardboard and reuse these materials. Every tire that is recycled, saves at least one gallon of oil, and reduces carbon emissions. ¹⁶

Plastics once produced, stay with us for centuries. How long, we really don't know as plastic is new to human history. One thing we do know, plastic manufacturers refuse to stop production. Humans have made over 8.3 billion tons of plastic since 1950.¹⁷ The plastics

manufacturers know their products are extremely toxic. But they make money, lots, and lots of money. Consequently, they have a vested interest in the continuation of mass production of plastic as it is profitable. To preserve their profits, they lobby various politicians and prevent legislation from being implemented that prevents bans on plastic bags, single use plastic items.¹⁸

Until the consumer stops buying single use plastic, the producers will never stop producing these toxic materials. It is common knowledge that most plastic NEVER biodegrades. The consumer is the solution. Until the crybaby boomer politicians die, they are not going to pass legislation banning the production of single use plastic. Since the plastics industry and their fossil fuel allies know this simple aspect of political reality, they buy their votes. There is money in convenience plastic. The research firm Freedonia Group has determined that by 2025, the plastic packaging market will be worth approximately \$365 billion. The fossil fuel industry and their corporate allies own Congress.



The fossil fuel industry understands the age of gas driven vehicles is coming to an end as the global move is to electric vehicles. Consequently, these same oil company executives are determined to keep their profits by vastly increasing production of plastics. According to the Center for Biological Diversity, the fossil fuel industry plans to increase the production of plastics by over 40% over the next decade.²⁰ That is the last thing our planet needs are more toxic substances that do

not biodegrade.²¹ These executives of the fossil fuel industry and their corporate allies in finance could care less. They live in gated communities with security guards, alarm systems and "the help".

This plastic pollution problem can be brought under control. The interests of a few corporate executives, their shareholders and the convenience culture mentality do not supersede the global interests of people, plants, and animals. The obvious solution to the single use plastic problem is quit producing it. By changing the economic model to recapture the plastics, rubber from tires, metal, and glass, we clearly can turn this environmental problem around overnight. Change is taking place but not at a fast enough pace.

The path to start cleaning up this mess of a planet is quit making it worse. We don't need more plastic. The first step to turning around this mess is stop production of all single use plastic items worldwide. There is precedence for this change. When the global scientific community made it crystal clear to politicians that the ozone was being destroyed by chlorofluorocarbons, the global community gathered and banned their production.²² It took years of work from the global scientific community, but it paid off. The results of this work were the Montreal Protocols and other international agreements stopped the production of very dangerous chemicals that were a clear and present danger to life on our planet.²³

The evidence is overwhelming on the damage being done to the planet from single use plastic production as well as the use of plastic fibers in clothes, blankets, car parts, virtually all consumer goods. Like chlorofluorocarbons, the global scientific community has provided the data that this use of plastics is a clear and present danger to life on our small planet. We have other messes to clean up.

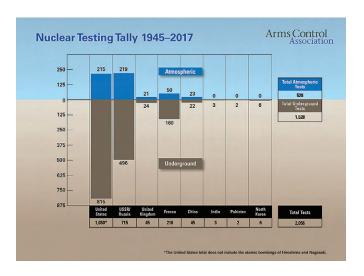
We have come together as a species in this modern age to change our behavior when it benefitted all of us. In 1945, the United States exploded a nuclear device at Alamogordo, New Mexico with the Trinity plutonium fission bomb. Whether we are against the use of nuclear explosives on the Japanese for moral reasons, it is irrelevant. After World War II, the United States and starting in 1949, the Soviet Union began testing nuclear explosives in earnest. Nuclear explosives are not "weapons". They are instruments for committing genocide. We need to quit referring to them as "weapons".



THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS NUCLEAR WEAPONS

The whole concept of weapons originated when humans were in small family units, sharpened sticks to protect themselves from predators and each other. Fights were one on one. Men and women were brave and looked their enemy in the eyes as they tried to stab them in the heart. Today, we live in a world of cowards with guns. It takes very little effort to pull a trigger and kill someone from a distance. It takes no effort to push a button and have a drone operated from the safety of Nellis Air Force Base in Nevada and bomb a wedding party on another side of our small planet.

It is impossible to know hundreds of thousands of people at one time. Open air testing of nuclear explosives was a health care disaster. There were 528 above ground nuclear tests.²⁴ Science if it is true science is politically neutral. Soon scientists from all over the planet were in a frenzy explaining to politicians that the open-air testing of nuclear explosives was causing cancer to those downwind. Thus, the term "downwinders".²⁵



"Since the first nuclear test explosion on July 16, 1945, at least eight nations have detonated 2,056 nuclear test explosions at dozens of test sites, including Lop Nor in China, the atolls of the Pacific, Nevada, Algeria where France conducted its first nuclear device, western Australia where the U.K. exploded nuclear weapons, the South Atlantic, Semipalatinsk in Kazakhstan, across Russia, and elsewhere."²⁶

Based upon the massive amount of scientific data that open air atomic testing was a healthcare disaster, the planet's political leaders signed a treaty banning these horrific and extremely dangerous behaviors.²⁷ Because the scientific evidence was so overwhelming, in 1963 nations signed the Limited Test Ban Treaty banned open air, underwater and in outer space nuclear testing.²⁸ It did not end the possession of nuclear explosives for use to threaten your neighbor. It just ended open

air atomic testing. Our species came together and agreed to change behavior. It worked except for our lack of trust; nuclear explosives still exist. The nuclear arsenals of the United States, Russia, China, Great Britain, France, India, Israel, Pakistan, and the other nuclear armed nations continue to present a clear and present danger to human and animal life on our small planet. Since these nuclear explosives are so incredibly dangerous, they have not been used since the United States bombed Japan in World War II. Now Russia is threatening to use tactical nuclear explosives in their war against Ukraine.²⁹ Whether or not this war of aggression will expand to a war using fission and fusion explosives remains to be seen. Even American politicians on the far right are not quite that stupid. Hopefully that unnecessary conflict will have a negotiated end. How it will finally play out is unknown.

Along with this increase in production of nuclear explosives, your generation is now faced with the highly toxic nuclear waste. Other than isolation of these nuclear wastes, there is not a known method to undo this damage to the environment. This nuclear waste mess gets worse by the day. You will have to figure out how to clean up nuclear waste, no ordinary waste... Nuclear Waste. Yes, it's ugly.

The path to ridding the world of single use plastic is just educate the global public on the toxicity, damage to the environment, wildlife, and now humans from microplastics. Like the chemical substances that were destroying the ozone and nuclear explosives that were causing cancer, the world got together and banned these substances. This is clearly doable. The world was able to get by just fine prior to the production of plastic. We can ban the production of single use plastic worldwide. I believe plastic, not climate change is the greatest threat to life on Earth.

There are only a small number of people who benefit from plastic production. These are the executives of the fossil fuel and plastics industries as well as their shareholders. There are far more of us being adversely affected by plastic production. Just because it is profitable for Coca Cola, Nestle, PepsiCo and other industrial food and beverage giants to sell diabetes causing sugar water in plastic bottles does not mean you have to buy these toxic containers. It is never a good idea to drink soft drinks.

Our parents, grandparents and our ancestors lived just fine without single use plastic or drinking liquids from plastic containers. As explained previously, a global treaty banning the single use production of plastic items is in the process of becoming international law. The global fossil fuel industry is trying to kill this landmark historic legislation. The greed of the fossil fuel industry and plastic manufacturers cannot be allowed to win out over a ban on these toxic substances. The way to defeat the fossil fuel industry is not buy their plastic products. Again, this small change in international law and your behavior will protect future generations plants, and animals.

This environmental crisis must be used as a global opportunity for change. We know the problem. The majority of municipal solid waste is packaging consisting of paper, plastic, metal, and glass. We can collect existing plastic in the oceans, fields, roadsides, landfills and break it down, reuse it by creating new products with these materials.

How will we pay for this massive change in the global economic model? We are already paying for this plastic production with the damage to the environment and public health.³⁰ The global public is paying the environmental and healthcare price of plastic, microplastics, and other "garbage". Change the rules so everyone can win, not just the fossil fuel industry. We can clean up the planet by changing our economic and foreign policy. This can be done with foreign aid. Instead of selling weapons to poor countries, sell them clean water systems and waste management. We can also use prison labor to clean up the planet, fight fires, and learn environmental work.

Our government has decided to lock up over two million people. This army of the unemployed that occupy our jails and prisons can be put to work as an environmental cleanup army. They can go into every city, park, riverwalks, beaches and even deploy them in other countries doing cleanup. These are labor intensive activities and will give the inmates an important sense of purpose. Their labor costs will be lower as they will be paying off their debt for the crimes that landed them in jail or prison. They can plant trees, clean river deltas, help companies not dump their waste streams into our rivers and streams. There are lots of environmental projects that can be accomplished by the incarcerated army of the unemployed. This work needs to be done.

As we have a cleaner, healthier society, the inmates need to be properly recognized for their work. It is so important to recognize people when they engage in productive activities. Whatever behavior you feed grows. Many inmates are there because they came from very dysfunctional families and were severely abused as children. Most addiction has its origin in trauma.³¹ Helping inmates to transition back to society is in everyone's best interest. Most inmates are going to go back to their neighborhoods and families. Having them clean these communities, beautify them, and be recognized for their work will help lower the chances of recidivism.

The homeless in each city can be utilized to keep streets clean. Pay them to keep the particular street they have camped out on and offer them mental health and drug addiction treatment. Cities in the United States now have more homeless than ever before. This homeless population is growing. Housing costs are continuing to go up.³² With homes being no longer affordable for large segments of our global society, it's time we admit the problem rather than demonize the victims of a failed economic model.

Normal well-balanced individuals always feel better about a clean, natural environment. Clean homes, neighborhoods, cities, and countries have happier members. People do not want to migrate from nice places with safe neighborhoods to strange lands where they are not wanted. If we want less immigrants, we need to go to these countries and help them stay home. I always feel better when I get back home to the United States. Despite all of our problems, it is truly a great country with lots of wonderful people, great science and most citizens have a respect for nature.

Cleaning up the planet needs to be viewed through the eyes of young people. It is your future we are working to protect. It is no longer a question of should we clean the mess created by the crybaby boomers. How not why is the question. There are many solutions from replanting forests, to make your own furniture, wine making and gardening. Creating less waste with a change in diet and exercise is certainly preferable to pulling out giant tires, cans, and bottles from river deltas. Keeping things clean is a far better path than fixing and replanting the forests. Clean feels better.

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2070.[5][6][7] Due to its widespread adoption and implementation it has been hailed as an example of successful international co-operation, with Kofi Annan quoted as saying that «perhaps the single most successful international agreement to date has been the Montreal Protocol».[8][9]

In comparison, effective burden sharing and solution proposals mitigating regional conflicts of interest have been among the success factors for the ozone depletion challenge, where global regulation based on the Kyoto Protocol has failed to do so.[10] In this case of the ozone depletion challenge, there was global regulation already being installed before a scientific consensus was established. Also, overall public opinion was convinced of possible imminent risks.[11][12]" The two ozone treaties have been ratified by 197 parties (196 states and the European Union),[13] making them the first universally ratified treaties in United Nations history.[14]

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Uncovering the Health Risks of Burning Car Tires

CHAPTER NINE

CAPITALISM CAN CLEAN UP THE PLANET

"Capitalism is the astounding belief that the most wickedest of men will do the most wickedest of things for the greatest good of everyone." John Maynard Keynes

Then I told a friend that "Capitalism can clean up the planet." She almost fell over laughing. "Danny, capitalism is the cause of our environmental problems, not the solution!" So, she yelled at me, and we get into this great big discussion about the need for legislation. While greed is not good or in the public interest, money can motivate entrepreneurs to develop new and better methods to produce goods and services. For all the many flaws of a capitalist system, money motivates. Innovation creates new ways to grow food, make cars, smart phone, solar panels, better appliances, all are the fruits of successful capitalism. People were making clothes, shoes, and tools before the industrial age. Our ancestors lived with less or no electricity. People survived just fine without the billions of plastic bottles that carry around drinks of flavored sugar water. Single use plastic items are new to history. Capitalism can recycle materials to create new products. Change the law and require production to be made with existing materials from landfills and consumers. Give recycle materials value.

The beauty of capitalism is it is constantly evolving. Good products and technologies are replaced by more innovative consumer and industrial goods. The jets, planes, ships, televisions, computers, smart phones, cars are all better than what we started with at the beginning of the last century. This creative destructive process is disruptive. Constant change creates anxiety. The proletariat wonders where they will work, what they will do, how they will pay for a place to live. There is uncertainty caused by the Covid pandemic, globalization, and our worsening environmental problems. Many of you worry and wonder, "what is going to happen next?" Ok, I will give you the skinny. We don't know. Here is what we do know. The only constant in human behavior is change. The world has changed dramatically in the last 300 years. Change is not something to be feared. It just must be understood. This is not possible without a thorough study of history. The harsh reality of life is change is not always a good thing. The massive population explosion of the last 200 years, combined with industrialization and consumerism as the economic model, has been a complete disaster for the wildlife.

Unlike right wing 'end of times evangelical nut job politicians, young people are not stupid. You know you have less opportunity than your parents and grandparents. You are locked out of the housing market and your wages are not enough to meet monthly expenses. The environmental and economic problems are massive, almost overwhelming and seem beyond solution. Let me be explicitly clear, it is not hopeless. Human created environmental and economic problems always have solutions. These solutions are to simply change our behavior. It is like the alcoholic who refuses to stop drinking or the drug addict that will simply not give up meth, heroin, or legal drugs like opiates. Our choice is simple. We will change our behavior, or we will probably see the collapse of civilization as other empires have experienced in humanity's short time on this small planet. We can eat and be healthy and have a healthy planet, or we

can be unhealthy like 70 percent of Americans who are overweight and/or obese.

Look around you, friends, and relatives, far too many of you have diabetes. Some you have type one diabetes because of unfortunate genetics. Most of you have type two diabetes because you eat processed foods, industrially produced beef, chicken, and pork and choose to become obese. Type two diabetes is a physical choice resulting from poor diet and lack of exercise. People choose to smoke and be physically inactive.

When we were in Afghanistan on a wheelchair distribution, one of our wonderful volunteers was quite obese. Since the locals maybe ate one meal every three days, an Afghan volunteer asked her, "why do you choose to be so big?" It was a fair question. She blushed with embarrassment. Why do you choose to be so big boys and girls? No corporate executive from Coca Cola or Kroger is forcing you to eat rotting animal flesh, processed foods or consume diabetes causing soft drinks. That is your choice. Some of my friends not only eat right but work out and it shows. You can look and be physically healthy and feel a hell of a lot better about yourself. It is as simple as turning your television set off, shutting down your cell phone, going for a walk and eating a more plant-based diet.

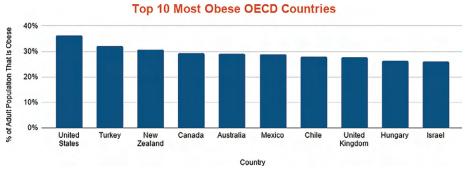
The bourgeois who own Pax Americana and most of the resources of our small planet, know the problems they have created by feeding the proletariat garbage pretending to be food. Consequently, the poor diet consisting of subsidized sugar, corn fructose, processed foods, industrially produced beef, chicken and pork has created a very unhealthy society. Our health care system is the most expensive in the world yet not everyone has access.² The United States spends over \$10,000 per person on healthcare.³ This is the result of poor government policies that subsidize a terrible diet, a sedentary lifestyle where consumption of beer while watching big men in tights trying to break each other's knees

has created a very unhealthy population. Among developed nations, the United States is now the most obese country in human history.⁴

Industrialization and the changes that came about from 1760 to the present time altered the entire nature of "work" and human interactions. The jobs that were previously held by individuals who contributed to their communities where people knew each other were wiped out by factory mass production. The village tailor was replaced by the garment district and mass production of clothes. The local small family farmer was wiped out by corporate agricultural giants. The village market was replaced by massive grocery store chains. The village cobbler was replaced by the mass production of shoes and footwear in poor countries with slave wages. The carpenter and furniture maker were replaced by mass manufacturer of tables, chairs, dressers, couches. Production moved to poor countries where labor costs were cheaper. Eventually, the village where everyone knew everyone else and were communities of trust with neighbors helping neighbors, was replaced by the internet. This evolution in western societies where neighbors knew each other, people cared about one another was replaced by the consumption culture. "Shop till you drop" became the ethos. Capitalism evolved into a global internet of things. The result is oceans with massive amounts of garbage, rain forests destroyed for palm oil or to clear to plant soy for beef production, or mining of precious metals.

Mass production has certainly made consumer goods more abundant than ever before. The downside is it has been done at the expense of the environment, public physical and mental health. How many shoes, coats, shirts, sweaters, computers, televisions, "stuff" can you own? Americans have so much "stuff" they have storage sheds next to their homes to store the largess of consumer goods. The ethos of the crybaby boomer generation was, "he who dies with the most toys wins." The reality is he who dies with the most toys died as an ignorant dumbass.

This Will Work



https://www.britannica.com/procon/obesity-debate

My best friend Tilly died of Covid November 30, 2021. I gave the eulogy at her funeral. Tilly in addition to being very smart, honest, quite striking, and incredible charisma, was successful. She did not flaunt her success. Instead, she used her wealth to help others. Whenever I was going on a wheelchair distribution, she was right there helping to raise money. Any project that involved helping the community or others in the many parts of our small planet, she was always there helping to organize, create and make it succeed. A U-Haul did not follow the hurst. She left behind her kindhearted memories and all who knew her with a broken heart.

Here is a dose of reality. We come into the world with nothing and leave memories. If people really love us, they care about how we are doing, our health and the quality of time we spend together. If they care about what we have, they are using us. My rich clients and friends are constant targets. They get tired of relatives, "friends" and solicitors begging for money.

You are not better off having more "things". But you can be far better off with a good diet, a livable wage, and a clean environment. We can create a society that is more concerned about the well-being of you, the proletariat. The bourgeois ethos of being a "billionaire" is destroying our planet. We humans are just small mammals on a tiny planet that we share with millions of other species. The difference between

humans and the other animals is we create amazing tools and produce deadly toxic wastes streams. Whales, lions, pythons, hawks, redwood trees, fungi and the millions of other living beings who share this small spaceship with us- don't need computers and iPhones. The only problem other creatures have is humans. The plants and animals don't need us or capitalism to survive. They are far better off without humans. Our species is completely expendable.

"Capitalism" like communism, socialism, religion, law, and money, is an idea. Ideas can be changed to better fit the needs of our small planet. Capitalism is constantly regulated to control the excesses of greed and stupidity. We can harvest trees. We just can't clear cut forests and kill every tree for profit. Regulation of lumber companies saved the redwood forests from destruction. Nobody is seriously opposed to carefully harvesting lumber to use for home and commercial construction. We in the environmental movement just oppose destroying ancient forests for the sole purpose of making money. As stated so eloquently by the late great Senator Hubert Humphrey: "The days have ended when the forest may be viewed only as trees and trees viewed only as timber. The soil and the water, the grasses and the shrubs, the fish and the wildlife, and the beauty of the forest must become integral parts of the resource manager's thinking and actions"

Humans stopped killing baby seals when the global public said "no" we will not purchase seal fur. Public opinion led by celebrities like Bridget Bardot changed the sick mentality that it was alright to kill baby seals to make gloves and coats for the fashion industry. There are other materials that can be used to make clothes that do not involve killing helpless animals. Killing animals just because we can is wrong on every level. This barbaric behavior is something many individuals like Ms. Bardot worked tirelessly to stop. There are numerous people who use their fame and fortune to make a difference.⁷

Companies stopped dumping toxic chemicals into rivers in the United States when Congress passed laws forbidding these reckless dangerous activities and attorneys sued the pants off these vicious greedy bastards. Today, in the United States, companies and individuals generally do NOT dump illegal chemicals into empty fields and rivers. They know they will be sued and criminally prosecuted. Capitalism's excesses again were curtailed by positive changes in the law. CERCLA, the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act and other important environmental laws have done wonders to clean up our great country. All countries can do the same thing.

The meat industry stopped selling poisoned meat because laws were changed. Upton Sinclair's groundbreaking novel exposed the exploitation of workers and dangerous conditions of the meat packing industry. One day people will learn that killing billions of animals to consume rotting flesh as secondhand protein is a very bad idea on every level. Stop killing the animals and we will stop having zoonotic viruses. These animals are defenseless. But, nature has provided them with virsuses for protection. These zoonotic viruses cause lots of damage to humans as we have seen from the many recent pandemics of ebola, sars, N1H1, and most recently Covid-19 and the various variants.

Capitalism has created alternatives to rotting animal flesh for second hand protein. Several companies are now producing plant based alternatives to meat. Beyond Meat is one of the leaders in providing the public an alternative to factory farming. As this innovative company makes clear on their website, they believe there is a better way to feed people. By shifting from animal to plant-based meat, we can positively affect the planet, the environment, the climate and even ourselves. After all, the positive choices we make every day-no matter how small- can have a great impact on our world. They are right. The success of this company is immediately generating competition. Now other companies

are finding ways to produce plant based sausage, chicken, fish and other products. The simplier solution is to just go to plant based diet and give up on factory farm raised chicken, beef and pork altogether.

When companies kill or injury people with toxic products, in the United States, they are sued and pay millions in damages because of successful class action lawsuits. The legal system at times keeps dangerous products off the market. While attorneys are viewed often in a negative light, the reality of life is, class action lawsuits work to keep the public safe from the excesses of capitalism. Bad products are removed from the marketplace and illegal practices are curtailed. Despite this corrupt Supreme Court forgetting political reality, the judicial branch in the United States is the equal of the legislative and executive branches of government. Law is very important, and most of the time, it works. No doubt, the legal system is not perfect. But you don't want to live in countries like Afghanistan, Somalia, Syria, Libya, Yemen, Honduras, Nicaragua, Haiti, and numerous other hell holes where there is no functioning legal system.

Regulated Capitalism can feed the planet without poisoning the environment. The technology exists to feed everyone. How do we feed over 8 billion people with good food that does not cause horrific health problems and is environmentally sustainable? It is doable and can be profitable. The tiny country of the Netherlands is the second largest food producer on the planet. Their agricultural model of enclosed greenhouses will work for most places on our small planet. What the Dutch have accomplished in agriculture is nothing short of a modern miracle. Their food products are safer, better, cleaner and do not pollute the ground water with all kinds of unnecessary chemicals. 14

The Dutch set the example of how to live sustainably. The Netherlands never bought into the whole Nazi ideology and fought bravely in World War II. In peace, they have achieved what other nations can emulate, sustainable healthy living, great food, and fierce competition in sports. Live by example. The Dutch set the standard for class and competence. The Netherlands agricultural model can and should be copied all over the world. Hawaii imports most of their food. This is expensive and dangerous. If the supply lines are disrupted, people can go hungry. To overcome food insecurity, all countries should become food independent and follow the Netherlands model.

The pandemic exposed the weakness in the global food chain. It is only a matter of time when there will be another pandemic, and global economic crisis. The Covid—19 corona virus was a warning. As humans mistreat the natural world, our Earth Mother fights back. By changing the agricultural practices from extensive use of chemicals, fertilizers and pesticides to a healthy Netherland's farming model, people will be better fed. A healthy planet begins with healthy people. Ok, one more time, change the diet, save the environment. With a growing global population, we must farm sustainably. By 2050, the projections are we will have 9 billion people. 16

How are we going to feed this massive population, clean the oceans and rivers, reforest the planet, and change the economic system from consumption to sustainability? That is where capitalism can work to save the wildlife. Because politicians are inept and corrupt, the global public is subsidizing pollution. People dump garbage into the oceans, the atmosphere, and the land because politicians let them. Bribe a congressman or numerous congressmen and your fossil fuels are tax subsidized. People pollute because the political system allows it. If a person is not arrested and prosecuted for dumping used tires into rivers, deltas, fields, yes.... they will do it. People pollute in other countries because the rule of law is either nonexistent or not respected.

Just because other people misbehave does not mean you have to model poor behavior. As interns and volunteers, you are expected to lead by example. Leadership means you are in front. Some of you are business majors. You will run the future industrial enterprises of our small planet. Will you be environmental warriors and stewards of the environment or just greedy "entrepreneurs" where your only concern is opulence and greed? More is not the same as enough or sustainable.

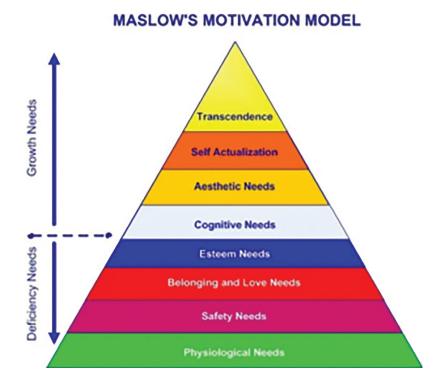
Where capitalism can save the environment is the same way it has caused so much damage. With competition for profits by using tax dollars to clean up the planet, instead of subsidizing pollution, companies big and small can work to solve our environmental problems. These environmental problems are difficult to solve but not insurmountable.

Entire new industries can be created by people making clothes instead of buying mass manufactured shirts from other countries. The village cobbler can again make a living by crafting handmade shoes, leather belts, jackets. Local farmers can once again feed his/her neighbors. Small business is the life blood of any functional society. The playing field can be leveled by not allowing massive companies to get huge tax breaks for their pollution. Our economic model needs to shift from global to local and individual production. We need to become



independent. Even simple things like xeriscaping your yard, growing a garden and planting vegetables will do wonders. Learn to make your own furniture, clothes, write books, play musical instruments, learn songs, grow herbs- be independent of mass commercialism. Is it realistic? Of course, it is. Once Maslow's hierarchy of needs is met, people's time is freed up to be the creative animals we are capable of being. Therefore, it is imperative to work from the bottom up and meet societies' basic needs. Change cannot happen from the top down. Do you think that for one minute the billionaire oligarchy cares about what they are doing to the environment?

Once people's basic needs are met, their wings are free to allow them to fly. When someone is struggling to pay rent, buy food, art, music, creativity is the farthest thing from their mind. Survival is the first thought. It is difficult to compose music when you are trying to



survive an economic storm. Where there is opportunity is in creating handmade products. Handmade furniture, clothes, shoes, will have demand because they are not mass produced. The uniqueness of the handmade product is what might give you a higher price. This paradigm change moves the market away from the factory and back to the artisan. Handmade goods will continue to gain momentum. Local artisans can bring back a sense of community to neighborhoods. Products can be made sustainably without plastic. Maslow's hierarchy of needs is often represented as a pyramid, with the more basic needs at the bottom¹⁷.

As Ten Thousand Villages states on their web site: "We're a global maker-to-market movement that addresses economic injustice. Because every handcrafted object has a life of meaning behind it. We're a way for you to shop with intention for ethically-sourced handcrafted wares – and to share in the joy of empowering makers in ten thousand villages.



"As a pioneer of fair trade, we do business differently, putting people and planet first. That means you can trust that every purchase and donation you make directly impacts the life and community of its maker in a developing country. Together we break the cycle of generational poverty and ignite social change." ¹⁸

Capitalism can work with local communities worldwide to recreate society from the current throwaway mass production consumerism model to build to last, sustainable, hand made with love. Many of us have heirlooms from our grandparents, parents, friends, or artisans from other countries. We value those items far more than the stamp and sell mass produced factory products that have no personality. Some of the hand-crafted furniture that is out there is not only unique, but beautiful. Where there is opportunity is to learn to make things, not buy them. Think about the talent your great grandparents had as they struggled to survive.

They made clothes, grew their own food, built homes, crafted furniture, raised farm animals, played music, knew common medicines and knew simple wound care. They were well rounded, worked hard to survive and lived with little or no money. That was the upside. The downside was they did not have indoor plumbing, access to adequate medical care. Life could be very short and difficult.

There is this fear among right wing circles that if the world's economy shifts to sustainability, this change will mean the loss of modern life. Sustainability is a huge change to the opulence consumption lifestyle. Calm down end of times evangelical right wingers, the change is not going to be that drastic. Our plastic convenience consumer culture will be replaced, that's all. People are still going to travel, enjoy the beach, have dinner with friends and relatives, go to concerts, purchase automobiles, move to new jobs, buy homes, and even attend school. Clothes will still be sought out and worship of various cults will continue. A sustainable economic model is not going to mean "the end of civilization". It will just mean the end of single use plastics, better sustainable packaging, more energy efficient homes and electric vehicles. In other words, relax, calm down, take a deep breath, it's going to be alright.

If you don't understand something because you only listen to ridiculous pod casts from idiots who imitate sheep, "baa, baa" don't expect to make sound decisions. It is easy to parrot those sounds of social media personalities and pretend to be smarter than others by being a contrarian. But that is not how science works. Science is not afraid to change paths when it is proved by clear and convincing evidence and peer review studies that the previous theory is not accurate. When we have better data, we change our opinion. That is all. Wisdom is acknowledging that someone else or many others may have better information. It is completely acceptable to change our minds when we have been proven we were mistaken. Capitalism can clean up the planet but only with accurate scientific data.

What kind of world do we want to live in? This is a fair question. Do we want a world where there is more plastic in the oceans than fish? By 2050, the continual dumping of garbage into the clear blue sea will mean the oceans' wildlife will be destroyed. Instead of dumping material into landfills, rivers, deltas and worse yet, the oceans, let's give these materials value and use them to build homes, roads and various other products. In other words, garbage is a state of mind. The reuse of plastic, wood, paper, metal and glass in production will work. Congress is not going to help. America's politicians are beholden to their billionaire oligarchy master's that are destroying the planet. It is up to you to create new industries, products, and the necessary jobs by reusing packaging materials. A simple change in consumption will force the oligarchy to stop destroying the planet by dumping garbage into the environment. Capitalism presently has a much bigger problem than the environment. The entire capitalist system is being propped up by massive amounts of public debt. Hopefully common sense will prevail, and we will not blow up the world or collapse the global economy with endless debt.

The proof that a clean society is possible already exists. Singapore has been voted the "cleanest nation on Earth". And with good reason. They have a comprehensive plan on how to deal with municipal waste, green energy and very strict laws on littering. This small island nation has a stellar reputation of modernity and cleanliness. Their successful model can be implemented on a global scale. In fact, what Singapore can offer the world is the blueprint for how to turn around environmental problems and co-exist with nature.¹⁹ Why is this city so clean, vibrant and modern? They strictly enforce laws on littering, plan carefully and have a well-educated populace.²⁰ Other cities globally are vibrant, clean, modern and beautiful. Barcelona has world class art, clean streets and charisma.²¹Kigali, Rwanda is very clean, modern and well planned. We were surprised when the Mobility Project executives, Lisa and Jeff Murphy and I visited this country that is the turnaround story of genocide and war becoming a modern country. We were expecting another Afghanistan and instead landed in a modern clean airport. Our hotel was cleaner and more modern than any place I had stayed in Europe. Their internet was very good, better than in Europe and many cities in the United States. They had a master plan for their capital Kigali. Their national parks protected their gorilla and chimpanzees. The roads were paved, and the people were wonderful. 21

Contrast Kigali with Kabul, a city run by a terrorist extremist "religious" government. In Kabul, electricity was off and on for three hours a day. The streets were littered with potholes from explosions. The airport was barely functional. Numerous buildings were bombed out and the people had this look of desperation and no hope. The city was filthy and non-functional. It got worse after the Taliban conquered this poor country. The Taliban and Al Qaeda are worse than reported in the media. They are the scum of the Earth, dirty hairy, illiterate barbarians.

The only skill they have is being able to terrorize their populace and pretend at prayer.

There are numerous cities globally that are wonderful places to live in and are not in the words of Orange Mussolini, "shit holes". A clean modern city, like a nice home and yard, are a choice. Make that choice for your community.

As cities become modern, there are numerous examples of transforming from dangerous, dirty places to wonderful places to live. This doom and gloom view of the world of a dystopian future is just not accurate. Paris and London were terrible places in the Middle Ages.²² With time and vast improvements in technology, these cities are vibrant and magnets for tourists. This evolution to clean environments can take place globally. Our "garbage" problems facing our small planet are not insurmountable. In the United States, we will not get any help from our national government. But change happens at home, in our small communities, cities and states. This requires competent leadership. You can provide this leadership as volunteers, interns and students. Be optimistic and involved. Be the change.

^{1.} Read, "Collapse, How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed" by Jarad Diamond, 2005. This book explains in detail how various societies throughout history have failed. The causes are everything from overpopulation, invasive species, trade wars, and destruction of the environment. It is required reading for any serious scholar who is interested in understanding why civilizations fail.

^{2. &}quot;Health Spending" 2021, at OCED, online: https://data.oecd.org/healthres/health-spending.htm

^{3. &}quot;Global Obesity Levels" at Britannica ProCon.org online: https://obesity.procon.org/global-obesity-levels/#oecd

^{4.} Ibid.

- 5. Forestry laws took off as part of the environmental movement of the late 60s and 70s. These laws would not have a chance today given the hate and division that presently exists. See, "National Forest Management Act" online at: https://www.fs.fed.us/emc/nfma/index.shtml
- 6. Ibid.
- 7. See "foundationbridgettebardot.fr" online at: https://www.fondationbrigittebardot.fr/
- 8. See "CERCLA" online summary at: https://www.epa.gov/laws-regulations/summary-comprehensive-environmental-response-compensation-and-liability-act
- 9. "The Jungle" by Upton Sinclair, 1906, summary online at: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Jungle
- 10. "Global Animal Statistics and Charts" by Bas Sanders, October 10, 2018 at Faunalytics, online: https://faunalytics.org/global-animal-slaughter-statistics-and-charts/
- 11. This ground breaking company is leading the way from factory farming and the mass slaughter of animals to plant based meats.

 See, Beyond Meat, online at: https://www.beyondmeat.com/en-US/products/
- 12. Ibid.
- 13. See "Class Actions" on Wikipedia, online at: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Class_action
- 14. "Farming for the future: why the Netherlands is the 2nd largest food exporter in the world" by Jesse Rintoul August 20, 2020 Dutch Review online at: https://dutchreview.com/culture/inno-vation/second-largest-agriculture-exporter/
- 15. Ibid.
- 16. Hawaii imports between 85-90 percent of their food. See "Increased Food Security and Self-sufficiency strategy" Office of

- Planning, 2012 online at: https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/op/spb/INCREASED_FOOD_SECURITY_AND_FOOD_SELF_SUFFICIENCY_STRATEGY.pdf
- 17. Cite 5 supra.
- 18. "Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs" online at Wikipedia: https://en. wikipedia.org/wiki/Maslow%27s_hierarchy_of_needs
- 19. There are numerous sources on the internet which list the cleanest cities and countries. See, "This Is the Cleanest Tourist City in the World, Singapore was just recognized for always keeping things squeaky clean." By Stacey Leasca April 16, 2025 at https://www.travelandleisure.com/singapore-cleanest-tourist-city-in-the-world-analysis-11711094 also see, https://www.ncesc.com/geographic-faq/"Singapore, the World's Cleanest Country" at https://www.millionairemigrant.com/cleanest-countries-world/ See also, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GcoPvrRn9_s
- 20. Ibid.
- 21. Visits to Afghanistan on a wheelchair distribution in 2004 with the Mobility Project and Rwanda in 2011. See "The Mobility Project, Adventures in Humanitarian Work" https://www.amazon.com/Mobility-Project-Adventures-Humanitarian-Work/dp/B09S MWJM6T It is not possible to put into words the suffering I witnessed in Afghanistan. This poor country deserves better than the disaster that is their terrorist government.
- 22. Read "The City in History" by Lewis Mumford for a historical view of how humans have lived and the vast improvements in major cities. https://www.supersummary.com/the-city-in-history/summary/

CHAPTER TEN

IS CAPITALISM POSSIBLE WITHOUT WAR?

"Why, of course, the people don't want war. Why would some poor slob on a farm want to risk his life in a war when the best that he can get out of it is to come back to his farm in one piece? Naturally, the common people don't want war; neither in Russia nor in England nor in America, nor for that matter in Germany. That is understood. But, after all, it is the leaders of the country who determine the policy and it is always a simple matter to drag the people along, whether it is a democracy or a fascist dictatorship or a Parliament or a Communist dictatorship. There is one difference. In a democracy, the people have some say in the matter through their elected representatives, and in the United States only Congress can declare wars. Oh, that is all well and good, but, voice or no voice, the people can always be brought to the bidding of the leaders. That is easy. All you have to do is tell them they are being attacked and denounce the pacifists for lack of patriotism and exposing the country to danger. It works the same way in any country."

Hermann Goring Nazi War Criminal

apitalism" is supposedly "an economic system in which private actors own and control property in accord with their interests, and demand and supply freely set prices in markets in a way that can serve the best interests of society". Well that is one view. Demand can

be manipulated with mass advertising and supply constrained to make products or services more expensive. Uncontrolled, unregulated greed is not necessarily in the "best interests of society". Fear can also motive one to action. This idea that capitalism is the end all be all economic system ignores what greed is doing to the environment. Climate change and perpetual war are realities we must change. We are a global society in an interconnected world on a very small planet that is beset with massive environmental problems and very dangerous human conflicts fighting wars we thought were behaviors of a distant past. Ancient tribal animosities and modern weapons' technology are a prescription for disaster. What could possibly go wrong? It is impossible to understand "capitalism" without studying Karl Marx.

If we want the wildlife and rain forests to survive, we cannot continue to dump 100 million barrels of oil into the atmosphere every day and continue with a global war economy. The planet is warming. The giant ice sheet in Antarctica that just broke off is yet another sign that continual use of fossil fuels is going to destroy many forms of complex life on our small planet.² We simply cannot continue to warm the planet without losing many life forms, especially the coral reefs. Why does capitalism stay on a path that is certain to destroy many life forms? Can we change direction? Unregulated capitalism that is dependent on a constant war will destroy life on Earth. That can and will change.

Unlike our animal brothers and sisters, and the plants that feed us and provide us with numerous medicines too many to mention, humans choose to kill each other in unnecessary war and pollute our planet. Beginning with the United States Civil War, armament manufactures have profited off perpetual war. World War I was not a "world war" but a European attempt at mass suicide. The fighting was primarily on the European continent. The participants in this holocaust were

European. The arms provided by the merchants of death were from all industrialized countries.³

If we are intellectually honest, what pulled capitalism out of the Great Depression was not the New Deal policies of President Franklin D. Roosevelt. It was World War II, (the Great Patriotic War as it is known in Russia), and the creation of over 17 million jobs.⁴

After the Great Patriotic War, the fear among America's Ruling Elite was another Great Depression. The Soviet Union had suffered over 27 million dead with some scholars listing the casualties at over 40 million. The Soviet Union's economy was in ruins. The United States was the only industrial power still standing. To prevent another "Great Depression" policy planners in the United States created the myth of "Communism" taking over the world. The great "Red Scare" was used by American policy planners to create a massive national security state. Perpetual war for perpetual peace became economic policy. Certainly "communism" was a threat. But that threat was primarily to their own people. As the mass slaughter was happening in communist countries, industrialization was beginning to seriously pollute the planet.

After World War II the United States took over the role of global empire from the British and engaged in a Cold War with the Soviet Union that literally almost blew up the world. The number of disclosed nuclear "broken arrows" is scary dangerous. There were 32 documented near miss accidents involving the U.S. atomic arsenal. We do not know how many near miss Soviet nuclear accidents occurred, not to mention the British, French, Chinese, Indian, Pakistani, Israeli, North Korean and other wannabe nuclear powers. But for the grace of God, we are still here!

I believe it was divine intervention that saved humanity from a nuclear holocaust. These nuclear explosives are instruments for committing genocide. Yet the arms race continues. Selling armaments is a valuable segment of America's economy. The United States is the largest arms merchant in human history with over 39 percent of the global arms sales.⁸

Defense spending is a central part of the U.S. economy. There is either a defense contractor and/or military installation in all 435 Congressional districts. This massive military industrial congressional labor union university complex dwarf defense spending from other countries. In fact, the United States spends more money on "defense" than the next 10 nations combined. Not included in the defense spending calculation is the Department of Energy \$46.6 billion and Veterans Affairs at \$269 billion or the cost of prior wars. If these are included, the annual "defense" budget is well over \$1 trillion. Our global empire is expensive. We have over 170,000 troops in over 150 countries globally, more than all other nations combined. With empire come the blessings of excess. People in the United States live an opulent life. But is war and the production and selling of weapons of war, and creating of massive amounts of packaging necessary for capitalism to survive? No, it is not. There are alternatives.

If true capitalism is based upon freedom of choice, supply and demand and private property, then state sponsored- constant "war" is not necessary for capitalism. A close examination of defense spending shows that it is not demand based. Government policy creates artificial demand for weapons. There is no market for an Abrams tank, a F22 fighter, an aircraft carrier battle group, intercontinental ballistic missiles, machine guns, land mines, nuclear submarines, shoulder fired anti-tank weapons, hand grenade, surface to air missiles, torpedoes, artillery, troop carriers, remote controlled drones, spy planes, sharp-shooter rifles, and the numerous other weapons sold to other countries. These expensive weapons are not purchased by private individuals or public organizations. Prices are not freely set by the marketplace. But for government

policy, the armaments industry would be much, much smaller. Other than corrupt dictators who receive U.S. foreign aid, which is used to buy our weapons, there is little demand for massive killing systems.

Capitalism as an economic system depends on freedom of choice, a free market, the rule of law, supply, and demand. An \$110 million F35 fighter plane exists because the United States government policy has ordered an advanced fighter. The congressional districts hosting the various manufactures receive government defense contracts to build this fighter plane. Unlike consumer goods, like cars, trucks, smart phones or appliances or even homes, there are few buyers for weapons. Since few individuals have millions of dollars available to buy a tank, much less a \$110 million fighter, the buyers for weapons are governments. The sad reality is most governments are so broke, they can't pay attention, much less purchase a complex, expensive weapon system. Consequently, the United States provides foreign aid so they can buy them. The United States economic and military foreign aid in 2020 was over \$51 billion. 15

While these figures may seem large, in the overall scheme of things, the global economy is so massive that U.S. defense spending is one of many parts of the capitalist system. The global economy is approximately \$115 tillion. What war and defense spending does accomplish is it





From catapults in Roman antiquity that hurled rocks at other tribes, today our species can burn entire cities.

ties up intellectual capital making conflicts far more deadly and takes resources away from necessary environmental work. Human technology has evolved from throwing rocks and sharp sticks at each other to the development of fusion explosives that can blow up entire cities. In the short span of a few centuries, humans have created the ability to destroy our species and numerous other life forms with us.

The manufacturers of the array of armaments are motived by the profits that come from feeding at the public treasury. By contributing money to corrupt congressmen and senators, defense contractors receive lucrative defense contracts. This is not "capitalism" as the demand is not created by public markets, but rather from corrupt government economic policy. Is constant war necessary for capitalism to survive? Of course not. What does this spending do to save the ocean's wildlife? Not much. But with a change in policy, defense spending can work to save the ocean's marine, fisheries, coral reefs and the numerous life forms we are discovering in the extreme depths of the oceans.

As the human population increased, technology improved in numerous areas. Weapons originated at a time when humans had to look their enemy in the eyes before trying to stab him with something sharp in the heart. Today, any coward with a gun can pull a trigger or push a button and end someone's life.

As Professor Pankaj Mehta observed in the journal, Jacobin, "[d] efense spending dominates R&D. Since the 1950s, the United States has spent roughly 1 percent of its GDP for scientific R&D (in 2018, about \$116 billion). But within the broad category of scientific R&D, military spending dominates. This pattern was most evident during the Cold War years, when military R&D consistently accounted for 60–80 percent of total R&D spending. Today, military R&D spending accounts for nearly half of all science spending by the federal government (\$70 billion in 2018). The vast majority of these funds (more than \$50 billion

a year) go directly to developing conventional or nuclear weapons. By contrast, the total amount allocated for basic research in 2018 across all federal agencies in all fields was just under \$37 billion." Funding to create new types of bombs gets priority over new energy systems, better housing, more sustainable food sources, environmental work or the "best interests of society".

The massive environmental problems of climate change, plastic Armageddon, destruction of wild habitat is not properly researched or addressed. An economic system based upon a model of constant war is not "capitalism" by any stretch of the imagination. With every congressional district tied to the permanent national security state, we cannot call this economic policy "capitalism". We can call it exactly what it is, crony corruption.

Mythology governs the lives of humans. Whether we are governed by religions that worship Marduk, the Babylonian god of war, or paying tiding to a "church" founded by delusional con artists who smile while they live in opulent mansions; humans are mammals. Consequently, an alpha male or female can lead followers astray and often do. Professor Mehta nailed it. "If scientists can make missiles that fly thousands of miles carrying nuclear bombs, and drones that can be controlled from halfway across the world, they can certainly develop technology to actually benefit humanity."¹⁸

A look at organized conflicts since Europe's second attempt at mass suicide, the only "winners" from constant war has been armaments manufacturers. The Korean war killed over 3 million people, most being civilian and has been at times referred to as "the forgotten war". It has not received as much attention as World War II which killed approximately 50 million or the Vietnam War which killed over 2 million. The cost to the United States from constant war has been studied at length by numerous scholars. But these are just economic costs. The

loss of a limb and a ruined life, the death of a loved one, a spinal cord injury, losing one's eyesight, mental trauma, these "costs" are far more important than numbers on a screen. How can you measure lifelong injuries and suffering in dollar costs? Or the shock and trauma to children as victims from the conflict or losing their parents, or siblings or friends? None of this spending on "war" has helped clean up the planet.

Wars must be financed. This can be accomplished in at least four different ways:

- Increasing taxation
- Reducing non-military spending to pay for military outlays
- Government borrowing from the public through War bonds or issuance of U.S. Treasury securities (debt)
- Money creation.²¹

As we examine each of these finance methods, it is obvious that defense spending as economic policy has little if anything to do with "capitalism". The reality is "capitalism" is mythology of an economic system we wish existed. The choice to spend money on "defense" and a free market are not the same idea. There is no demand in a "free market" for a military base that is not wanted by the Department of Defense but cannot be closed because of congressional pressure. There is no demand for extra fighter planes or ships for the U.S. Navy that the services do not request but Congress or the Executive Branch insist they purchase.²²

Now that Vladimir Putin has ordered his army's invasion of Ukraine, the U.S. military industrial labor union university congressional coalition has once again raided the U.S. Treasury. The stocks of various defense contractors shot up immediately after the illegal Russian invasion of Ukraine. CNBC's various talking heads and cheerleaders of capitalism almost wet themselves as they announced defense industry stocks had exploded to the upside.²³

Not mentioned in the reporting of defense stocks going up were the horrors of prior U.S. military adventures in Afghanistan where people are literally starving because of terrorists taking over a country. The only proper description of the Taliban is "terrorist". They hate everyone, especially women. They are worse than reported in the mass media and are in power because of U.S., Pakistani and Saudi policy.²⁴ Their hatred of women has nothing to do with free market capitalism. Their takeover of a country is the result of many policy mistakes by U.S., Russian, Saudi planners and Pakistani duplicity.²⁵ And none of the terror has cleaned up Afghanistan or the global environment.

"Capitalism" is not the present economic system of politically created wars. Demand for weapons systems is often created by the allies of defense contractors, major media companies that control public discourse. I remember I was in Washington after the Saudi Royal Crime Family's attack on America, also known as "9/11". At that time, there was lots of propaganda on television, the movies and airwaves. I asked a female reporter for Reuters, "why are the big boys giving the masses so much propaganda?" She looks at me and replies, "we are going in." I replied in disbelief, "we are going to invade the Middle East?" She replies, "yes, they are expecting thousands of body bags and are preparing the masses for this war." I finished with "this is going to be a f***ing disaster!" And it was. What happened next was a blatant violation of "international law" and the deaths of tens of thousands of Iraqis, millions more wounded and the Middle East was left in turmoil.

The Iraq War had nothing whatsoever to do with "capitalism". The mass media makes a huge amount of noise about Russia killing white Eastern Europeans. But not a word hits the airwaves about brown, black and "Asians" slaughtered by the United States and our corrupt "allies". Like Putin's war crimes, Iraq was a war of choice whose only winners were the defense contractors and their allies in Congress. "Is Capitalism

Possible Without War?". Of course, it is. The right question is, why do we have this idea of "war" in the 21st century? Greed and fear are the answer. War does not solve our environmental problems.

Like it or not, young people are going to have to learn about other cultures and be respectful. The environmental movement will need to lead the world away from a final attempt at mass suicide. We need to get the Russians and Chinese involved in saving the oceans' wildlife. Without these great countries' assistance, our efforts to save the coral reefs, stop shark finning, stop overfishing off the coasts of Africa and Latin America, will not succeed. We need Russia, China, India, Iran, Nigeria, Brazil, Japan, every country to accept our idea of a Global High Seas Marine Preserve. Without all major cultures on board, we cannot amend the Law of the Seas Treaty and create this Global High Seas Marine Preserve. How do we get other societies on board? Politely ask them. Good manners and peer review science will go much farther than shouting like petulant 13-year-old children. In Asian cultures, good manners and strong scientific arguments persuade. Shouting is viewed in Asian cultures as what very ignorant uncultured people do.

The obvious solution is to work within the United Nations Charter, use good manners, strong scientific arguments and actively seek cooperation. The West and the Soviet Union worked together to stop fascism. It was at great cost to the Soviet Union. Again, it was over 27 million people died. President Vladimir Putin lost family members in that holocaust. He takes defense of Russia seriously. Putin made a historic mistake in invading the Ukraine. That country was so corrupt, all Putin had to do was patiently wait and just buy up their industries. There was no reason to invade. It was a gross violation of international law that has killed and wounded hundreds of thousands of young Russians and Ukrainians. A global effort at space exploration will defuse the arms

race and free up money for global environmental work. See, "Space and Ocean Exploration as the Alternative to World War III."²⁷

What will happen next. The Zionists in Israel have committed genocide²⁸. Religious zealots have taken over Israel, a secular country that wanted peace with its neighbors.²⁹ If the Zionists are successful in their push for more war, this time with the Persians, God help our small planet. Our idea of amending the Law of the Seas Treaty and creating a Global High Seas Marine Preserve will not succeed because we very well could be pushed into a last and final world war. The better solution is work together. The overwhelming majority of Israelis are not religious nut jobs. But this current government led by a truly despicable man in Benjamin Netanyahu, has caused so much harm and killed so many innocent women and children, there will never be peace in that part of the world. The best we can hope for is that President Trump ends the slaughter by forcing Israel to stop their genocide. As of January 2025, that war between Hamas and Israel is in a ceasefire.³⁰

War destroys not only human life, but plants and animals. None cannot survive 2,000-pound bombs. We need to study about the various cultures. The long historic animosities need lots of work and education so people can overcome ancient tribal hatreds. Our environmental problems are so massive, we all need to work together to solve them. We don't have to like each other, much less "love thy enemy" as Jesus taught. But we must work together. Capitalism is not "constant war" and it can clean up the global environment. All that is required is changing government policy and letting the free market work it's magic.

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- 2. "Antarctica's Conger Ice Shelf Collapsed Amid Record Temperatures, Satellite Images Show" by Zoe Tidman, March 25, 2022, Online at: https://news.yahoo.com/antarctica-congerice-shelf-collapsed-130502122.html?fr=sycsrp_catchall
- 3. "Arms Industry" March 24, 22 online at: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arms_industry
- 4. "The Way We Won, America's Breakthrough During WWII, High Growth Needn't Require a War" by Doris Goodwin, December 19, 2001 online at: The American Prospect, https://prospect.org/health/way-won-america-s-economic-breakthrough-world-war-ii/
- 5. "World War II Casualties of the Soviet Union" March 25, 2022 online at: https://prospect.org/health/way-won-america-s-economic-breakthrough-world-war-ii/
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- 8. "We're #1, The U.S. Government is the World's Largest Arms Dealer" by William Hartug, March 18, 2022 Forbes, online at: https://www.forbes.com/sites/williamhartung/2022/03/18/were-1-the-us-government-is-the-worlds-largest-arms-dealer/?sh=1106 bea5bb9d
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- 11. "Department of Energy FY Budget Request from Congress for 2022" online at: https://www.energy.gov/sites/default/files/2021-06/doe-fy2022-budget-in-brief-v4.pdf
- 12. "Department of Veterans Budget in Brief 2022" online at: https://www.va.gov/budget/docs/summary/fy2022VAbudgetInBrief.pdf
- 13. See generally cite 9 supra and online search "U.S. military bases worldwide".
- 14. According to the Center for Arms Control and Non-Proliferation, "The F-35's price per unit, including ancillary costs like depot maintenance, ground support equipment, and spare parts is \$110.3 million per F-35A, \$135.8 million per F-35B, and \$117.3 million per F-35C. Those totals do not include the nearly \$1.3 trillion in life cycle costs to operate and sustain the aircraft over its 66-year life cycle, making it the most expensive weapons system in U.S. history." July 2021 online at: https://armscontrolcenter.org/f-35-joint-strike-fighter-costs-challenges/
- 15. United States Foreign Aid online at: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ United_States_foreign_aid
- 16. See "The Visual Capitalist" online at: https://www.visualcapitalist.com/the-115-trillion-world-economy-in-one-chart/
- 17. Gross World Product, by the World Bank, 1921 online at: https://statisticstimes.com/economy/world-gdp.php "The world economy, comprising 194 economies, in 2021 is projected around US\$93.86 trillion in nominal terms, according to the IMF. This figure is almost \$9.3 trillion more than compared to 2020. Global GDP in terms of PPP is forecasted around Int. \$141.96 trillion, Int. \$10.3 trillion up compared to 2020. This number is 151% of the nominal. PPP to Nominal ratio was the all-time lowest of 1.21 in 1995. But due to the higher growth rate of developing economies, which have generally higher GDP in ppp terms, this ratio has increased."

- 18. "Defense Spending, The Endless Frontier" by Pankaj Mehta, Jacobin Aug 27, 2019 online at: https://jacobinmag.com/2019/08/ defense-spending-the-endless-frontier
- 19. Ibid. See generally the incredible research that is available on the internet if you stop looking at porn and actually look for articles on this important subject.
- 20. "Korean War" at History.com, online: https://www.history.com/topics/korea/korean-war
- 21. In one of the best analysis of war and it's effect on economic activity, see "Economic Consequences of War on the U.S. Economy" by the Institute For Economics & Peace 2011 online at: https://thereformedbroker.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/ Economic-Consequences-of-War.pdf Although dated as many conflicts are now a part of 2022, this look at the economic reality of the true cost of war destroys the myth that "war is good for the economy".
- 22. "Military Base Closures: A Historic Review From 1988 to 1995" by CRS Report for Congress, updated 2004 online at: https://sgp. fas.org/crs/natsec/97-305.pdf
- 23. See rebroadcast of CNBC, February 25th and the weeks after this blatant violation of international law by the Russian government.
- 24. Wheelchair distribution to Afghanistan, 2004, see generally, "The Mobility Project" by Lisa Murphy and Danny Quintana, 2021.
- 25. See, "Afghanistan Saudi Arabia Relations" Wikipedia online at: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Afghanistan-Saudi_Arabia_relations
- 26. Conversation with a reporter from Reuters, Washington DC 2003. The name of the reporter is withheld for privacy reasons.
- 27. See, "Space and Ocean Exploration as the Alternative to World War III" by Danny Quintana. Online at savingoceans.org. The Kindle and hard copy are available at Amazon.

- 28. The book was published before Israel decided to commit genocide in their quest to create "Greater Israel". Watch the numerous YouTube videos of the renowned scholar, Chris Hedges, or Professors Jeffery Sachs, John Mearsheimer, scholar Norman Finkelstein, former UN Inspector Scott Ritter, Noam Chomsky and others. There is little question in my mind that Netanyahu's government knew Hamas was going to try to break out of that concentration camp known as Gaza. The Zionist government was looking for an excuse to destroy Gaza and seize more land and create "Greater Israel". The Gaza concentration camp is the most heavily guarded border on Earth. But as is common in human behavior, people lust for money and power.
- 29. See numerous Jewish organizations, especially, "Wrestling with Zionism" by Jewish Voice For Peace online at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z6o36UPzO8s My Jewish friends are appalled at what the Netanyahu's Zionist government has done. They did not want this war and do not approve of how Palestinians are being and have been treated.

PART THREE

OUR OCEANS ARE DYING

CHAPTER ELEVEN

THE STATE OF THE GLOBAL FISHERIES

Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day.

Teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime.

Author Unknown

It is almost inconceivable that our oceans would be in so much trouble that global fisheries could collapse. The concept of "there are plenty of fish in the sea" is no longer a true observation of current reality. As the human population has exploded, fish as a food choice in rich countries has resulted in the decimation of global fisheries.¹

The reality is the global fisheries are in far worse shape then we thought. As Graham Edgar observes in his investigation: "We



studied 230 fisheries around the world. We found populations of many overfished species are in far worse condition than has been reported, and the sustainability of fisheries was overstated. Urgent action is needed to ensure our oceans are not fished below their capacity to recover."²

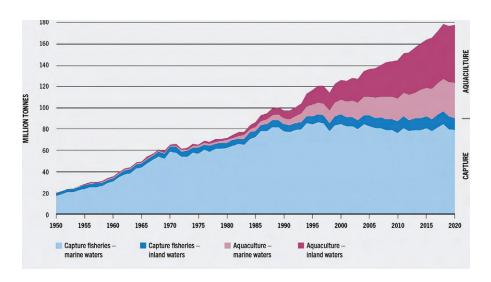
Politicians and industry have the same data as those of us in the front lines of the environmental movement. It is like the data on cigarette smoking. We knew for decades that tobacco causes cancer, heart disease and was killing people. Despite the massive efforts of the tobacco lobby, legislation was passed alerting the public to this ongoing healthcare disaster. Politicians globally know, (unless they are dense) that the global fisheries are collapsing. The only question is, how are we going to stop this slide to disaster?

We know the global fisheries are in trouble. Looking at the history of food consumption in rich countries, fish was not a food choice until recently. Many of our grandparents did not eat seafood unless they lived near the ocean. The cost of transporting seafood from the coast to the interiors of rich countries, as well as food safety made it difficult for people to consume large quantities of seafood. It was not until the advent of refrigeration that imported seafood became a food choice in major cities.³

As the human population exploded in the last century, so did the consumption of seafood. This is to be expected. More people create the need for more food production. 4.

With industrialization and vast improvements in technology, we have more fishers than ever before. Julia Mason explains this problem as follows:

"Technology and innovation: For example, industrial trawling is a technology that has drastically accelerated our ability to extract fish from the ocean, far outpacing the increase in number of fishermen.



Resource demand and distribution: A globalized economy expands economic opportunities but also disrupts local food security and increases pressure on fish stocks. Disproportionate demand for seafood in a few developed nations, particularly the US, EU, and Japan, drives increased fishing effort worldwide. Meanwhile, exploitative trade agreements may allow distant fleets to fish with impunity, at the expense of local, subsistence vessels—this has been seen with agreements between the EU and sub-Saharan West Africa, where limits on number of vessels but not catch allow industrial European ships to far outcompete less developed local fleets.

Poverty, marginalization, and equity: Inequitable social structures that impoverish or marginalize fishers may leave them with no other recourse but unsustainable fishing behaviors, a "social-ecological trap." Researchers have found that younger and poorer fishermen, who lack access to credit, other gear types, or other income sources, are more likely to use fishing gear that harms reefs or catches juvenile fish.

Governance and management: Insufficient or corrupt management may allow a few fishers to overextend stocks. Government

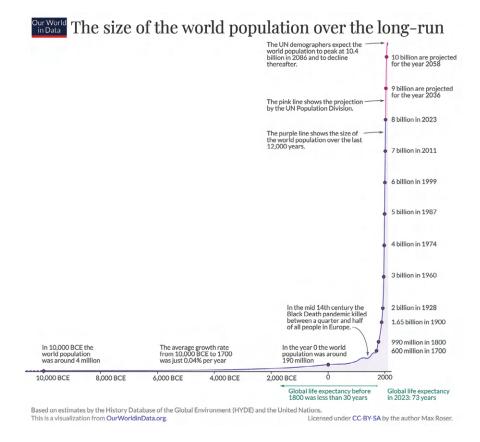


Conservation technology can reduce the impact of fishing: here, a loggerhead turtle escapes a net through a turtle excluder device. These devices are most effective and widely used when developed by or in partnership with fishers. Photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

subsidies, for instance, may encourage fishers to continue to exploit stocks despite signs of scarcity. On the other hand, many fishing communities responsibly manage their own resources. The Baja, Mexico lobster fishery achieved Marine Stewardship Council certification for its strict community-based standards to fish below national quotas and using their own funds to patrol their coastline, resulting in decades of stable catch.⁵

Like most environmental and conservation problems facing our children and grandchildren, their origin is the population explosion and subsequent industrialization that occurred since 1800. The human population increased from approximately one billion to over eight billion today. We can change international law. As the rules for global fishing change, the fisheries and the marine life will survive. We need to amend the Law of the Seas Treaty and protect 100 percent of the

oceans. How can this be accomplished in a world where the five members of the UN Security Council have made a complete mockery of the UN Charter? It all starts and ends with the consumer. Change the law, change the behavior.



^{1. &}quot;Investigation reveals global fisheries are in far worse shape than we thought – and many have already collapsed" by Graham Edgar August 2024 online at: https://theconversation.com/investigation-reveals-global-fisheries-are-in-far-worse-shape-than-we-thought-and-many-have-already-collapsed-237306

^{2.} Ibid.

This Will Work

- 3. See "Refrigeration" at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Refrigeration And "Refrigeration and Freezing of Foods" at: https://highered. mheducation.com/sites/dl/free/0073129305/398761/ch17.pdf
- 4. "The State of the World's Fisheries and Aquaculture 2022" Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations online at: https://openknowledge.fao.org/server/api/core/bitstreams/9df19f53-b931-4d04-acd3-58a71c6b1a5b/content/sofia/2022/world-fisheries-aquaculture.html
- 5. "Overfishing & Over Population: Too many fishers chasing too few fish" by Julia Mason, Nereus Program, October 14, 2017 online at: https://archives.nereusprogram.org/overfishing-overpopulation-too-many-fishers-chasing-too-few-fish/
- 6. "How has world population growth changed over time?" by Max roser and Hannah Ritchie (2023) online at: OurWorldinData.org. https://ourworldindata.org/population-growth-over-time#article-citation

CHAPTER TWELVE

MIGRATION, COLLAPSE OF THE FISHERIES AND CLIMATE CHANGE

If our species allows the collapse of global fisheries, this will have profound and far-reaching consequences, extending beyond environmental degradation and economic disruption. One of the most significant and concerning impacts will be the forced displacement of millions of people, leading to increased migration and potentially exacerbating existing social and political tensions. If you think we have problems with immigration now, let's change direction before we have a global migration disaster of biblical proportions. According to the United Nations' International Organization for Migration's 2024 report:

"Current estimates are that there are 281 million international migrants globally (or 3.6% of the world's population). While the vast majority of people in the world continue to live in the country in which they were born, more people are migrating to other countries, especially those within their region. Work is the major reason that people migrate internationally, and migrant workers constitute a large majority of the world's international migrants, with most living in high-income countries. Global displacement is at a record high, with the number of internally displaced at around 71.2 million and the number of refugees and asylum seekers at 40.7 million."

Humans are a migratory species that came out of Africa over two million years ago and have been on the move ever since. Migration is a normal activity that has been happening for tens of thousands of years. Like other mammals, we are in a constant search for food and shelter. We leave depleted hunting grounds and drought torn regions where gathering food has become difficult if not impossible. When it is a desperate situation, it is either migrate or die.

We are in a global migration crisis, because of climate change, over population and now, destruction of the global fisheries. This global problem is something all nations must immediately address. We cannot allow the global fisheries to collapse and climate change to continue to heat up the planet.

CLIMATE-INDUCED DISPLACEMENT:

Sea-Level Rise and Coastal Erosion: Rising sea levels and increased coastal erosion, driven by climate change and exacerbated by the decline of coastal ecosystems like mangroves and coral reefs (which are often impacted by overfishing), will displace millions of people living in coastal communities. And this has already happened and will continue for the foreseeable future. Climate change and the collapse of the fisheries is an ongoing disaster. Here are just a few examples:

Bangladesh: Millions of people in Bangladesh live in the Ganges-Brahmaputra Delta, a low-lying region extremely vulnerable to sealevel rise, coastal erosion, and extreme weather events. The decline of coastal fisheries, combined with these environmental threats, is already forcing many people to migrate inland.

However, this same geography also makes Bangladesh one of the most vulnerable countries in the world to sea-level rise, increasingly powerful cyclones, floods, and more.

What's more, a 2018 U.S. government report found that whopping 90 million Bangladeshis (56 percent of the population) live in "high climate exposure areas," with 53 million subject to "very high"

exposure. The threat could hardly be clearer. So, here's a breakdown of some of the major ways climate change threatens Bangladesh.¹

SEA-LEVEL RISE

Rising seas are a growing threat to people all around Bangladesh. That's because a staggering two-thirds of the country is less than 15 feet above sea level.

For reference, the elevation of Lower Manhattan in New York City ranges from 7 feet above sea level to a high of 13 feet. And the threat becomes even clearer knowing that about a third of the population of Bangladesh lives by the coast.

It has been estimated that by 2050, one in every seven people in Bangladesh will be displaced by climate change. Specifically, with a projected 19.6 inch (50 cm) rise in sea level, Bangladesh may lose approximately 11% of its land by then, and up to 18 million people may have to migrate because of sea-level rise alone.²

The island nations are in great danger. The Maldives are in great danger not just from climate change, but from overfishing.



A couple navigates around an abandoned house in the Maldives, its foundations eroded by the rising sea level, to reach Bikini Beach, where bikinis are allowed.⁴

Maldives: The Maldives, an archipelago of low-lying islands, is facing an existential threat from sea-level rise. The collapse of the fishing industry, which is a major source of income for the Maldives, could exacerbate these challenges and force many islanders to migrate to other countries, potentially becoming the first nation to be completely submerged due to climate change.³

The climate change crisis is reality now for this beautiful island nation. As President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih told world leaders at the United Nations climate conference in Scotland: "The difference between 1.5 degrees and 2 degrees (Celsius) is a death sentence for the Maldives." And that was merely the latest cry for help. A decade ago, Solih's predecessor, Mohammed Nasheed, convened a cabinet meeting underwater in scuba gear and then proposed moving the entire population to Australia for safety.⁵

Add the ongoing disaster of overfishing and this entire country as well as their neighbors are facing a crisis of where are their people going to live? This same crisis of climate change, garbage and overfishing are facing all of us.

Pacific Islands: Many Pacific Island nations, such as Tuvalu and Kiribati, are facing significant threats from sea-level rise and coastal erosion. The decline of fisheries, which are crucial for food security and livelihoods in these islands, could further exacerbate these challenges and force people to migrate to other countries, potentially leading to environmental refugees.⁶

Increased Extreme Weather Events: Climate change is increasing the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events, such as hurricanes, cyclones, and floods. These events can devastate coastal communities, destroy livelihoods, and displace large numbers of people.

Hurricane Katrina (2005): This devastating hurricane caused widespread destruction along the Gulf Coast of the United States, displacing hundreds of thousands of people. The fishing industry in the Gulf of Mexico was severely impacted, leading to job losses and economic hardship for many coastal communities.

Typhoons in the Philippines: The Philippines is frequently hit by typhoons, which can cause significant damage to coastal communities and fishing infrastructure. These events can lead to temporary and even permanent displacement of fishing communities.

The California Wildfires: The recent devastating wildfires in California, including the destructive fires in Pacific Palisades and Altadena, serve as a stark reminder of the increasing frequency and intensity of extreme weather events driven by climate change. These fires have caused widespread destruction, displacement, and economic hardship for affected communities.

They were the most expensive fires in U.S. history.

According to the L.A. Times, "The latest estimate from weather forecasting service AccuWeather puts the total expected damage and economic loss to between \$250 billion and \$275 billion. That includes the costs of damage, loss of life, healthcare, business disruptions and other economic impacts. These fires were exacerbated by climate change factors such as:

Prolonged Drought: Drought conditions, intensified by rising temperatures and altered precipitation patterns due to climate change, dried out vegetation, creating abundant fuel for wildfires.

Higher Temperatures: Warmer temperatures increase the rate of evaporation, drying out vegetation and creating more flammable conditions. Climate change is causing a significant increase in average global temperatures, leading to hotter and drier conditions in many regions, including California.

Changes in Wind Patterns: Climate change can alter wind patterns, creating stronger and more frequent Santa Ana winds, which are hot,

dry winds that originate in the Mojave Desert and can rapidly spread wildfires. These strong, dry winds further fueled the intensity and rapid spread of the 2024 California wildfires. It did not help that 2024 was the hottest year in recorded history.⁸

ENVIRONMENTAL REFUGEES

Resource Scarcity: The collapse of fisheries, combined with other environmental stressors like drought and desertification, can lead to severe food and water shortages. This can force people to migrate in search of basic necessities, leading to mass displacement and creating environmental refugees. In many parts of Africa, the collapse of fisheries, combined with drought and desertification, has contributed to increased migration from rural areas to urban centers and even to other countries in search of better opportunities.

Lake Chad Basin: The shrinking of Lake Chad, a vital source of water and fish for millions of people in the region, has contributed to significant environmental degradation, food insecurity, and conflict. This has forced many people to migrate in search of better livelihoods.

Conflict and Instability: Environmental degradation, resource scarcity, and food insecurity can exacerbate social and political tensions, leading to conflict and instability. This can further displace populations and create refugee crises. Competition over dwindling fish stocks and other resources can lead to conflicts between fishing communities, and even between nations. The decline of fisheries can also contribute to social and economic unrest, which can increase the risk of conflict and violence.

COMPETITION FOR RESOURCES

Increased Competition in Receiving Countries: The influx of environmental migrants can strain resources and social services in

receiving countries, potentially leading to social and political tensions. In many developed countries, the influx of migrants from developing countries can strain social services such as healthcare, education, and housing. This can lead to social and political tensions, as well as competition for jobs and other resources.

Competition for Land and Jobs: Migrants may compete with existing populations for land, jobs, and other resources, potentially leading to social and economic friction. In many countries, the influx of migrants from rural areas to urban centers can lead to increased competition for housing and jobs, potentially exacerbating social and economic inequalities.

NATIONAL SECURITY CONCERNS

Increased Instability: The displacement of large numbers of people due to environmental factors can contribute to regional instability and pose potential security challenge. Mass migration can increase the risk of human trafficking, forced labor, and other forms of exploitation. It can also strain international relations and contribute to geopolitical tensions.

FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITIONAL IMPACTS

Protein Deficiency: Fish provides a crucial source of high-quality protein, essential omega-3 fatty acids, vitamins (like vitamin D and B12), and minerals (like iron and zinc). These nutrients are vital for human health, especially for children's growth and development. The loss of fish would severely impact the nutritional status of millions, particularly in coastal communities and developing nations. This could lead to increased rates of:

Stunting: Impaired growth and development in children.

Anemia: Iron deficiency, leading to fatigue, weakness, and cognitive difficulties.

Cognitive Impairment: Deficiencies in omega-3 fatty acids, crucial for brain development, can have significant impacts on cognitive function and learning abilities in children.

Immune System Weakening: Vitamin D deficiency can weaken the immune system, making individuals more susceptible to infections.

SHIFTING DIETS

Increased Reliance on Livestock: The loss of fish would likely lead to increased consumption of livestock, such as beef, pork, and poultry. This shift has significant environmental and health implications: Livestock production is a major contributor to greenhouse gas emissions (methane from livestock digestion), deforestation, and water pollution.

Health Concerns: High consumption of red and processed meat is linked to increased risks of heart disease, stroke, and certain types of cancer.

Food Price Volatility: The increased demand for alternative protein sources could drive up food prices, making healthy diets less accessible, especially for low-income households. This could exacerbate food insecurity and malnutrition, particularly in vulnerable populations.

ECONOMIC DISRUPTIONS

Direct Job Losses: The fishing industry employs millions of people worldwide, including fishers, processors, and distributors. The collapse of fisheries would result in widespread job losses, impacting coastal communities and economies.

Indirect Job Losses: The fishing industry supports numerous other sectors, such as tourism, transportation, and retail. The decline

of fisheries would have ripple effects throughout these interconnected industries, leading to further job losses and economic hardship.

Coastal Community Social and Economic Hardship: Coastal communities that depend heavily on fishing for their livelihoods would face severe economic decline, increased poverty, and social disruption. This could lead to out-migration from coastal areas, further eroding the social fabric of these communities.

Loss of Cultural Heritage: In many coastal communities, fishing is deeply intertwined with cultural traditions and identity. The loss of fishing livelihoods could have significant social and cultural impacts.

Reduced Tax Revenues: The fishing industry contributes significantly to the economies of many countries. The decline of fisheries would result in reduced tax revenues, impacting government budgets and public services.

Impact on Trade: The global seafood trade is a major economic driver. The collapse of fisheries would disrupt international trade flows, impacting economies worldwide.

MORE ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

Loss of Biodiversity:

Cascading Effects: Overfishing can disrupt the delicate balance of marine ecosystems. The decline of top predators can lead to an overabundance of smaller species, disrupting the food chain and causing ecological imbalances. This can have cascading effects throughout the ecosystem, impacting other species and ultimately leading to the loss of biodiversity.

Impact on Coral Reefs: Overfishing can contribute to the degradation of coral reefs, which are vital for marine biodiversity and coastal protection. Overfishing of herbivorous fish can lead to an

overgrowth of algae, smothering coral reefs and hindering their growth and recovery.

Increased Pollution:

Algal Blooms: Overfishing can contribute to the decline of predator species that control populations of smaller organisms. This can lead to algal blooms, which can deplete oxygen levels in the water and create "dead zones" where marine life cannot survive.

Nutrient Pollution: Overfishing can also contribute to nutrient pollution, which can fuel algal blooms and further degrade water quality.

^{1.} This chapter was created in part by Google's Gemini AI

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CHAPTER THIRTEEN

THE CORAL REEFS ARE IN BIG TROUBLE

"This is where the fish live"

Author Unknown

A huge change has occurred in the oceans over the last 170 years. The once vibrant coral reefs have been severely damaged. Coral reefs, like mangroves, are very important for sea life. When we look out to the ocean from the shore, we do not see the damage being done to the coral reefs. What exactly are "coral reefs", how we can protect them.

According to Wikipedia and numerous credible sources, coral reefs are:

"A **coral reef** is an underwater <u>ecosystem</u> characterized by reef-building <u>corals</u>. Reefs are formed of <u>colonies</u> of <u>coral polyps</u> held together by <u>calcium carbonate</u>. Most coral reefs are built from <u>stony corals</u>, whose polyps cluster in groups.

Coral belongs to the class Anthozoa in the animal phylum Cnidaria, which includes sea anemones and jellyfish. Unlike sea anemones, corals secrete hard carbonate exoskeletons that support and protect the coral. Most reefs grow best in warm, shallow, clear, sunny and agitated water. Coral reefs first appeared 485 million years ago, at the dawn of the Early Ordovician, displacing the microbial and sponge reefs of the Cambrian.

Sometimes called *rainforests of the sea*, shallow coral reefs form some of Earth's most diverse ecosystems. They occupy less than 0.1% of the world's ocean area, about half the area of France, yet they provide a home for at least 25% of all marine species, including fish, mollusks, worms, crustaceans, echinoderms, sponges, tunicates and other cnidarians. Coral reefs flourish in ocean waters that provide few nutrients. They are most commonly found at shallow depths in tropical waters, but deep water and cold water coral reefs exist on smaller scales in other areas."

If you have ever been snorkeling or scuba diving, you have witnessed the sheer beauty of the incredible sea life in coral reefs. Think of the coral reefs as the apartment complexes of the oceans. The variety of life is something you must experience. In the just the last 40 years, the coral reefs have been substantially damaged. Again, according to the various sources on Wikipedia:

"Shallow tropical coral reefs have declined by 50% since 1950, partly because they are sensitive to water conditions. They are under threat from excess nutrients (nitrogen and phosphorus), rising ocean heat content and acidification, overfishing (e.g., from blast fishing, cyanide fishing, spearfishing on scuba), sunscreen use, and harmful land-use practices, including runoff and seeps (e.g., from injection wells and cesspools).²

In 1984 I had the good fortune to visit Cancun, and it was the first time I went snorkeling. The wildlife was breathtaking. I was mesmerized and fell in love with the oceans. All the colors of the various sea creatures captured my heart forever. Since then, every visit to the ocean and snorkeling, the corals were less colorful. The last time I visited Cancun in 2018, the coral reefs were grey, lifeless and almost completely

lacking in sea life. It was shocking that in just a short time of 34 years what was once a vibrant community of sea creatures was gone. In its place there was death, grey skeletons where once there were colorful corals. Why did this happen and how?



Again, as human population has exploded, our various activities have substantially damaged the homes of thousands of sea creatures. These harmful activities include everything from blast fishing to dumping of toxins.³

An excellent summary of the damage to coral reefs is explained in "Environmental issues with coral reefs".

"Human activities have substantial impact on coral reefs, contributing to their worldwide decline. Damaging activities encompass coral mining, pollution (both organic and non-organic), overfishing, blast fishing, as well as the excavation of canals and access points to islands and bays. Additional threats comprise disease, destructive fishing practices, and the warming

of oceans. Furthermore, the ocean's function as a carbon dioxide sink, alterations in the atmosphere, ultraviolet light, ocean acidification, viral infections, the repercussions of dust storms transporting agents to distant reefs, pollutants, and algal blooms represent some of the factors exerting influence on coral reefs. Importantly, the jeopardy faced by coral reefs extends far beyond coastal regions. The ramifications of climate change, notably global warming, induce an elevation in ocean temperatures that triggers coral bleaching—a potentially lethal phenomenon for coral ecosystems.

Scientists estimate that over next 20 years, about 70 to 90% of all coral reefs will disappear. With primary causes being warming ocean waters, ocean acidity, and pollution. In 2008, a worldwide study estimated that 19% of the existing area of coral reefs had already been lost. Only 46% of the world's reefs could be currently regarded as in good health and about 60% of the world's reefs may be at risk due to destructive, human-related activities. The threat to the health of reefs is particularly strong in Southeast Asia, where 80% of reefs are endangered. By the 2030s, 90% of reefs are expected to be at risk from both human activities and climate change; by 2050, it is predicted that all coral reefs will be in danger."5

If we allow the coral reefs to die off, the fisheries will substantially decline. Humans depend on these fisheries for protein. According to Nature Conservancy:

"The health of our ocean and inland waters and the livelihoods of millions of people all depends on well-managed fisheries. Fish and other seafood products provide vital nutrients for more than three billion people around the globe and supply an income for 10 to 12 percent of the world's population. From small-scale mussel and sea urchin fisheries along the Humboldt Current in South America, to nearshore octopus' fisheries in Kenya, to the freshwater fisheries of the U.S. Great Lakes and industrial tuna fisheries in the Western and Central Pacific—these diverse species are essential to healthy ecosystems and resilient communities."

Again, we all have the same data. Politicians, the captains of industry and scholars are aware of the damage taking place on a scale never seen before. What is happening to the coral reefs, global fisheries, the pollution in the oceans, overfishing, illegal fishing, fish fraud, climate change is we are creating the perfect economic and environmental storm of apocalyptic biblical proportions.

So, we are clear about the seriousness of the environmental problems we have created with the oceans– as Paul Watson, the founder of Sea Shepard stated: "if the oceans die, we die." This is not hyperbole. This is not an exaggeration of the magnitude of the environmental problems we have created. This is reality.



This Will Work

In a comprehensive study by Tyler Eddy of Memorial University of Newfoundland published in One Earth, he and his research assistants concluded "half of coral reefs have been lost since the 1950s". Scientists say climate change, overfishing and pollution are decimating these fragile ecosystems and putting communities and livelihoods in jeopardy. Their study, which is among the most comprehensive assessment of reefs and their associated biodiversity to date, underscores the rapid pace of global coral collapse.8 There are solutions.

- 2. Ibid.
- 3. See "Environmental issues with coral reefs"
- 4. 5 Ibid.
- 5. Nature Conservancy, "A Healthy Ocean Depends on Sustainably Managed Fisheries" January 25, 2021 online at: https://www.nature.org/en-us/what-we-do/our-priorities/provide-food-and-water-sustainably/food-and-water-stories/global-fisheries/
- 6. Paul Watson, founder of Sea Shephard, numerous sources online, YouTube.
- 7. "Global decline in capacity of coral reefs to provide ecosystem services" by Tyler Eddy and staff assistants, <u>One Earth</u>, Volume 4, Issue 9 P1278-1285 September 17, 2021online at: https://www.cell.com/one-earth/fulltext/S2590-3322(21)00474-7

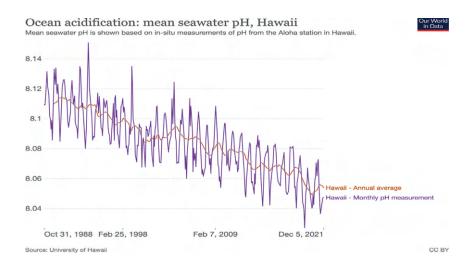
^{1.} See "Coral Reef" online at: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coral_reef#:~:text=A%20coral%20reef%20is%20an%20underwater%20ecosystem%20characterized,from%20stony%20corals%2C%20whose%20polyps%20cluster%20in%20groups.

CHAPTER FOURTEEN

CLIMATE CHANGE'S EVIL TWIN, OCEAN ACIDIFICATION

Adding to our numerous global environmental problems, a clear and present danger is from ocean acidification. What exactly is "ocean acidification"? It is the change of the chemistry of the ocean. The ocean is becoming more acidic. According to the National Ocean Service, a division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, "Ocean acidification refers to a reduction in the pH of the ocean over an extended period of time, caused primarily by uptake of carbon dioxide (CO₂) from the atmosphere.¹

The cause of this reduction in pH is human carbon dioxide releases from our massive use of fossil fuels. As human carbon dioxide increases, the pH decreases. ²



Ocean acidification means that the average seawater pH value is dropping over time. The extra CO₂ being dumped into the ocean from our massive use of fossil fuels is making the oceans more acidic. According to Professor Mark Green, "We are dissolving 30 million metric tons of carbon dioxide into the surface of the ocean each and every day."³

As the oceans become more acidic, the shells of numerous sea creatures' shells become more fragile and put them at risk.⁴ Scientists think the change is happening faster than at any time in geologic history.⁵ Most creatures that live in the ocean are sensitive to changes in acidity of their ocean homes. For corals, oysters, crab, lobsters and the numerous creatures with delicate carbonate shells, this change in acidity is disasterous.⁶

THE CULPRIT

Climate change's evil twin is the oceans are becoming more acidic. With humans dumping approximately 100 million barrels of oil into the atmosphere every day, this environmental problem is heading our small planet toward disaster. We simply cannot continue to dump fossil fuels into the atmosphere without permanently damaging the oceans. The data is grim. Humans release an increasing amount of carbon dioxide (C02) into the atmosphere. This is to be expected as population grows, and nations become "developed" thereby using more fossil fuels. The estimate is that humans release approximately 40 billion tons per annum of fossil fuels into the atmosphere. According to NASA's Earth Observatory, 8.4 billion tons are attributed to the burning of fossil fuels; primarily coal, gas and oil. 8



Photograph by cassie jensen, national geographic

WE MUST CHANGE DIRECTION

As the ocean gets more acidic, it puts additional stress on sea creatures. The present course of continued massive consumption of fossil fuels jeopardized not the sea life, but the future of our jeopardized not only the sea life, but the future of our children and grandchildren. We do not have to pass a dystopian future to upcoming generations. We clearly can solve these environmental problems created by our wasteful way of life. If a child is born in this decade, she will probably live to the end of this century. That is not a long time. In 70–80 years, what will their future be like? Will the twin evils of climate change and ocean acidification bring about a dystopia future? Can we turn it around and create a planet that is clean, vibrant, full of life with healthy people? Of course we change direction.

It is not like in Roman times when we did not understand viruses or the reality that lead was causing severe mental illness. There are numerous instances in modern times where scientists have alerted governments of danger and laws have been passed that have successfully changed human behavior. Here are just a few examples:

MONTREAL PROTOCOLS

When we learned that CFCs were destroying the ozone, scientists banned together and insisted that governments ban their use. The Montreal Protocols were successful. Had these dangerous chemicals not been banned, it would have been an environmental disaster of biblical proportions. Losing the ozone could have ended civilization.¹⁰

COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR-TEST-BAN-TREATY

During the height of the Cold War, scientists from the United States and the Soviet Union educated their governments on the dangers of nuclear war. Their governments successfully negotiated the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban-Treaty (CTBT). This historic treaty bans all nuclear explosions, whether for military or peaceful purposes. The open-air testing of nuclear explosives for war was poisoning the planet and drifting the world toward an unthinkable nuclear war that would have meant the end of Western civilization.

GLOBAL PANDEMICS

When the Covid 19 pandemic occurred, the scientists of various nations cooperated and created treatments to stop the spread of this deadly virus. We learned from this deadly virus and are better prepared for the next pandemic. ¹² Infectious diseases are not contained by political boundaries. If humans want to survive, we must cooperate on global health and environmental issues. In addition to multinational cooperation, humans also need to change international law to fit the needs of our global society. How can we properly address climate change and its evil twin, ocean acidification? We can do it with updating international law.

GENEVA PROTOCOLS ON BAN OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS

World War I, Europe's first attempt at mass suicide resulted in the ban of the use of chemical weapons in armed conflicts. The combat horrors of chemical weapons where over 500,000 to 1.3 million casualties were the result of poisonous gases. 14

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

As our technology improved and jet travel became an international reality, rules needed to be put in place for public safety. Humans got together in Chicago in 1944 and created rules and regulations on air travel. The Chicago Convention of 1944 established the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) as a specialized agency of the United Nations. ¹⁵ ICAO has made jet travel a smooth, safe mode of movement of goods and people across the globe. The result is over *640,000 flights per day!* ¹⁶

We live in an interconnected world. We can we work together to solve our global environmental and economic problems. Human created problems always have solutions. We cannot stop earthquakes, hurricanes, or tornadoes. But it is not a stretch to stop garbage from being dumped into the oceans, create green energy, use less plastics and end consumerism and war. Climate change and its evil twin ocean acidification are human created environmental problems. The question is how we are going to solve these problems. Humans have worked together on a variety of problems and come up with solutions. We have ended polio, solved the problem of global hunger, stopped using chemical weapons, banned the open-air testing of nuclear explosives and now have jet travel and international goods and services cross the oceans. There is no question we can solve our global environmental problems. We don't have to like each other and probably never will. But our species must work together and clean up the planet.

This Will Work



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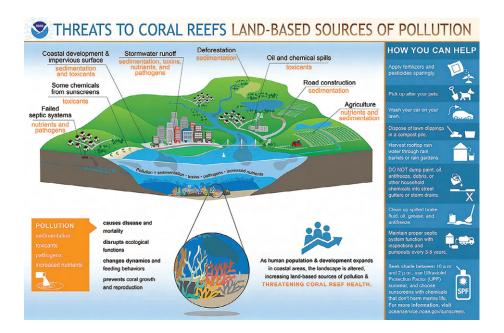
CHAPTER FIFTEEN

HOW TO PROTECT CORAL REEFS

Protecting and reviving the coral reefs requires a multi-pronged approach, targeting both local threats and broader environmental challenges. Here are some key actions governments, industry and universities can take:

Reducing direct threats:

• Combating pollution: Minimizing land-based pollution from agriculture, sewage, and industrial waste significantly reduces the stress on reefs. This involves implementing stricter regulations, improving wastewater treatment, and promoting sustainable agricultural practices.¹



- Preventing physical damage: Anchoring boats directly on reefs is incredibly damaging. Marine protected areas with mooring sites and responsible tourism practices can help prevent physical harm.²
- **Combating overfishing**: Sustainable fishing practices that avoid overfishing and destructive gear like bottom trawling are crucial for maintaining healthy fish populations that support the reef ecosystem.³
- Addressing climate change: Rising ocean temperatures
 and ocean acidification pose existential threats to coral reefs.
 Reducing greenhouse gas emissions and mitigating climate
 change are essential for long-term protection.⁴
- We must actively involve ourselves in repairing the damage done to the coral reefs. Supporting restoration and adaptation is a step in that direction. Many organizations and universities are doing exactly that.
- Coral nurseries: Growing new coral fragments in nurseries and then transplanting them onto damaged reefs can aid in faster recovery.⁵
- Assisted evolution: Scientists are researching techniques to help corals adapt to changing conditions, offering potential for future resilience.⁶
- Marine protected areas: Establishing and effectively managing marine protected areas provides safe havens for coral reefs and fosters natural recovery processes.⁷
- **Community engagement**: Educating local communities about the importance of reefs and empowering them to participate in conservation efforts is vital for long-term success.⁸

INDIVIDUAL ACTIONS

- Reduce your carbon footprint: Every step towards a more sustainable lifestyle, from energy conservation to responsible consumption, contributes to mitigating climate change and protecting reefs.⁹
- Make responsible seafood choices: Support sustainable fishing practices by choosing seafood certified by organizations like the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC). The simplest way to eat sustainable fish is only buy American caught seafood. We have the best marine fisheries laws in the world. If you buy U.S. seafood, you are supporting American fishermen and eating clean, healthy seafood.
- Spread awareness: Talk to your friends and family about the importance of coral reefs and the threats they face. Encourage them to support conservation efforts.
- Volunteer or donate: Consider volunteering your time or donating to organizations working to protect coral reefs. There are numerous credible environmental organizations that work tirelessly on ocean preservation wildlife education. Find the right ones that fit your lifestyle and budget. Everyone working together doing a little, will solve a lot. You can also visit the NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program website (https://coralreef.noaa.gov/) to explore their full range of activities and initiatives.

Remember, protecting coral reefs requires collective action, and NOAA's work exemplifies the commitment necessary to secure a future where these vibrant underwater worlds continue to thrive.

The world's coral reefs do more for the planet than provide underwater beauty. They buffer shorelines from the effects of hurricanes. An estimated 500 million people earn their livelihoods from the fishing

stocks and tourism opportunities reefs provide. The tiny animals that give rise to reefs are even offering hope for new drugs to treat cancer and other diseases.

The coral reefs around Fiji cover 3,800 square miles and face threats from climate change, overfishing, and pollution. Despite their importance, warming waters, pollution, ocean acidification, overfishing, and physical destruction are killing coral reefs around the world. Schemes to save those reefs are as creative as they are varied; most recently, scientists released data showing that marine protected areas can help save reefs if they are placed in just the right spots. Genetics is also becoming a larger area of coral research, giving scientists hope they might one day restore reefs with more heat tolerant coral.



Photograph by Greg Lecoeur, National Geographic Image Collection

Without a mix of long-term cuts in emissions and short-term innovation, there's a not-so-far-off future where coral reefs as we know them simply cease to exist, says Anne Cohen, a coral expert at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution in Massachusetts.¹²

PARKS UNDER THE SEA

Scientists often compare coral reefs to underwater rainforests, yet unlike the leafy plant base of a forest, corals are animals. The soft polyps inside the hard parts of corals are naturally translucent and get their famously vibrant color from algae living inside them. When corals experience stress from hot temperatures or pollution, they end their symbiotic relationship with this algae, typically expelling them and turning white, though one recent study indicates some coral turn a bright neon color when stressed. Coral are still alive when they bleach, but they're at risk—essentially immunocompromised—and many eventually starve and die, turning a dark brown.

People first noticed coral bleaching events in the 1980s. The problem intensified in 2016, when an El Niño weather pattern, which causes warmer waters in the Pacific Ocean, mixed with an already unseasonably warm ocean and killed off a third of the corals on the Great Barrier Reef. Since then, roughly half the corals on Australia's famous reef have died in subsequent bleaching events, jeopardizing an underwater landscape 1,500 miles long. An estimated 4,000 fish species, and some 25 percent of marine life, depend on coral reefs at some point in their existence.¹³

A recently published assessment of 1,800 reefs in 41 countries found that only 5 percent of reefs were able to provide all of their lucrative byproducts, such as healthy fish stocks and biodiversity. To increase that percentage, new marine reserves will need to be strategically placed in areas well away from humans, say experts. It wouldn't save all reefs, but it would help ensure that more reefs function at 100 percent of their potential instead of just a fraction, says Alan Friedlander, the chief scientist for National Geographic's Pristine Seas initiative and an ecologist at the University of Hawaii who helped author the reef assessment. The same strategically placed in areas well away from humans, say experts. It wouldn't save all reefs, but it would help ensure that more reefs function at 100 percent of their potential instead of just a fraction, says Alan Friedlander, the chief scientist for National Geographic's Pristine Seas initiative and an ecologist at the University of Hawaii who helped author the reef assessment.

A RACE AGAINST WARMING

Global warming is "raising the background temperature," compounding regular heat waves and making them even deadlier for corals, says Kristopher Karnauskas, an atmospheric scientist at the University of Colorado Boulder who recently published a study investigating the physical causes of the 2016 event.¹⁶

The oceans absorb and store heat very efficiently; as Earth warms, the oceans take in over 90 percent of the planet's heat trapped in the atmosphere by human-generated greenhouse gases. But their heat-storing capacity isn't limitless, and excess heat over time takes its toll on ocean inhabitants. In evolutionary history, corals date back 400 million years, and with each global temperature change Earth has undergone, corals have adapted—but never as quickly as they must today.¹⁷

"We know that because there have been six major coral reef extinctions in the geologic past where they were basically wiped out. All those have been associated with excessive heat and ocean acidification," Anne Cohen says. "Coral reefs always come back, but it takes tens of thousands of years." Now, with climate change-driven temperatures rising at a rate higher than corals have ever had to naturally adapt to, Cohen says, "we don't have that kind of time." If we are serious about protecting the ocean's incredible wildlife, we must change international law and create a Global High Seas Marine Preserve, (see infra).

^{1.} See, "How to Lower Agriculture and Land-Use Emissions Agriculture is warming the planet. Changing how we farm and manage land can decrease greenhouse gas emissions. September 2024, at Council of Foreign Relations online at: https://education.cfr.org/learn/reading/agriculture-land-use-emissions

^{2.} See, "Places Where Ecotourism and Coral Reefs are Key" by Mary Lynne Arreguin December 28, 2023 online at: https://

- www.touristsecrets.com/travel-guide/sustainability/places-where-ecotourism-and-coral-reefs-are-key/
- 3. See, "Sustainable Fishing Techniques: Protect Fish & Ecosystems" at Sustainable Living, Transforming Today for a Sustainable Tomorrow. Online at: https://sustainableliving.org.nz
- 4. See, "How does climate change affect coral reefs? The varied effects of climate change are changing the ocean; these changes dramatically affect coral reef ecosystems" at National Ocean Services, NOAA. Online at: https://oceanservice.noaa.gov/facts/coral-pollution.html
- 5. There are many sites on the internet regarding coral restoration. Here is one of the better sites: "Coral Restoration and Transplantation" Coral Reef Alliance online at: https://coral.org/en/coral-bleaching/the-future-of-corals/ see also, "Cultivate coral fragments in an artificial nursery located in a natural habitat" online at: https://www.conservationevidence.com/actions/3993 NOAA has an excellent site on this issue. See, "How NOAA Uses Coral Nurseries to Restore Damaged Reefs" online at: https://response.restoration.noaa.gov/about/media/how-noaa-uses-coral-nurseries-restore-damaged-reefs.html
- 6. See, "Scientists are researching techniques to help corals adapt to changing conditions, offering potential for future resilience." At ScienceBlog online at https://scienceblog.com/548593/scientists-successfully-breed-corals-with-enhanced-heat-tolerance/ See also, "Surprising Discovery About Corals' Resilience Could Help Them Survive Climate Change" By: Cristen Hemingway Jaynes October 18, 2023 at EcoWatch online https://www.ecowatch.com/corals-climate-change-resilience.html
- 7. See "Marine Protected Areas" NOAA, National Marine Sanctuaries online at: https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/marine-

- protected-areas/ an excellent site for general knowledge is: "The Importance of Marine Protected Areas, (MPAs)" National Geographic online at: https://education.nationalgeographic.org/resource/importance-marine-protected-areas/
- 8. An excellent video is "Marine Protected Areas, a success story"

 Octavio Aburto-Oropeza PhD online at: https://www.youtube.

 com/watch?v=zu8fSi9dpII
- 9. Numerous sites on the internet provide excellent information about community education to save the coral reefs. See, "Reefs of Hope: Supporting a Community Led Approach to Save Our Coral Reefs" Kyeema Foundation online at: https://kyeemafoundation. org/reefs-of-hope-supporting-a-community-led-approach-to-save-our-coral-reefs/ also, Corals for Conservation, https://www.corals4conservation.org
 - Here is a good site that offers practical guidance: "How to Reduce Your Carbon Footprint in 21 Practical Ways" by Joseph Hallas, January 7, 2025 at: Green Citizen online https://greencitizen.com/blog/how-to-reduce-your-carbon-footprint/
- 10. Marine Stewardship Council's website: https://www.msc.org
- 11. Among the numerous sites online, see "Status and trends of coral reefs and associated coastal habitats in Fiji's Great Sea Reef" April 26, 2022 World Wildlife Fund, online: https://www.worldwildlife.org/publications/status-and-trends-of-coral-reefs-and-associated-coastal-habitats-in-fiji-s-great-sea-reef
- 12. See "Coral reefs can adapt to climate change; you must give them a chance
- 13. 99% coral reefs will be gone by the end of this century if coordinated efforts are not taken"
- 14. By Arya Rohini 22 Sep 2022, Down To Earth, online at: https://www.downtoearth.org.in/author/arya-rohini

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15. See "Scientists are trying to save coral reefs. Here's what's working. Without these interventions, scientists say the Earth's coral reefs as we know them could disappear before the next century." By Sarah Gibbens June 4, 2022 National Geographic online at: https://www.nationalgeographic.com/science/article/scientists-work-to-save-coral-reefs-climate-change-marine-parks

See, "Meeting fisheries, ecosystem function, and biodiversity goals in a human-dominated world" by 28 scholars, Science April 17, 2020 online at: https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/science.aax9412

See, "Scientists are trying to save coral reefs. Here's what's working. Without these interventions, scientists say the Earth's coral reefs as we know them could disappear before the next century." By Sarah Gibbens June 4, 2020 National Geographic online at: https://www.nationalgeographic.com/science/article/scientists-work-to-save-coral-reefs-climate-change-marine-parks

- 16. Ibid.
- 17. Ibid.
- 18. Ibid.

PART FOUR

HOW TO SAVE THE LAND ANIMALS

CHAPTER SIXTEEN

CHANGE THE DIET, SAVE THE PLANET

"Often people with good intentions cause the most harm"

Francis D. Wormuth, Ph.D.

Prior to the pandemic, politicians knew they were poisoning the public and the planet. If we look closely, most global environmental, economic and human health problems, they have one cause-failed government policies. Why are 70 percent of Americans overweight, 50 percent obese and 40 percent morbidly obese? America's horrible health is the direct result of our second-hand protein dead animal processed foods diet. There is no mystery here. The data is overwhelming. Politicians have the exact same data available to those of us in the environmental movement. They know what is going on and how to fix it. Killing animals for secondhand protein through industrial agriculture is nothing short of criminal negligence. Politicians are greedy and corrupt, but most are not stupid.

GOVERNMENT CREATED ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECONOMIC PROBLEMS

Diabetes is diet related. There are at least 450 drugs that are administered to animals prior to slaughtering them. Approximately 80 percent of all pharmaceutical antibiotics are for the animal agriculture industry. These pharmaceutical drugs are pumped into caged and tortured animals. Then these poor defenseless creatures are slaughtered in very

unsanitary conditions. As the public has become obese, millions suffer from diabetes. As stated earlier, over 34 million Americans have Type 2 diabetes.³ Another 84 million Americans are pre-diabetic.⁴ If our country continues down this poor diet path, millions more will likely get type 2 diabetes, heart disease and cancer. We don't know what the diet will be in the post virus world. We know it must change.

America's horrible diet is very expensive. In March 2018, the American Diabetes Association released the findings of their comprehensive study. The study concluded that diabetes and pre-diabetes was the most expensive chronic illness in America, costing over \$416 billion annually.⁵ Our diet is bankrupting the health care system. Hopefully President Trumps wise choice of Robert F. Kennedy as the head of Health and Human Services will change our disastrous diet.

The United States Congress knows full well what the agricultural industry is doing to public health. They don't care. Politicians receive campaign contributions and vote accordingly. What the voting public seems to forget, an honest politician is a person whom when bought, stays bought. In 2016 Agribusiness contributed over \$120 million to politicians. These folks are responsible for public policy. This was a cheap payoff given the return of billions of taxpayer dollars.

In 2019 the United States Department of Agriculture announced \$16 billion in taxpayer support for farmers. Some of this was related to the ongoing disastrous trade war with China. These tax dollars are only the tip of the iceberg of corruption. These companies are selling unhealthy food and passing bad laws that are destroying public health. The industry view is, "You the consumer should have the common sense to know these foods are bad for you." Well with mass advertising, and outright lies, the public does not know processed food is causing their health problems. All the major corporate lobbies are involved in our diet disaster. Look at the drug companies.

The pharmaceutical industry makes a huge amount of money in keeping people unhealthy. If you can keep people sick, you can keep selling them "drugs" forever. If a person is "cured", they are no longer a customer. The strategy is to manipulate the symptoms, not deal with the underlying causes of poor health. In the U.S. treating heart disease, diabetes and cancer is a \$1.5 trillion dollar industry. These companies and Congress know they have major conflicts of interest. Bribes are profitable. The pharmaceutical industry, physicians and health professionals spend over \$230 million in 2018 on lobbying politicians. Look at the drug ads on television that are constantly being sold to the public as solutions rather than promoting a plant-based diet. "Tell your doctor about ____ drug ___". Since when does a layman have the scientific medical knowledge to advise their doctor about what drugs they should take? These ads are ridiculous and evil.

The United States Department of Agriculture promotes foods which they know cause diabetes, heart disease and cancer. Yet despite all the scientific data, the USDA continues to promote meat, dairy and eggs. These products are literally shoved down the public's throat with mass advertising. What the USDA does not do is promote a plant-based diet. There are no bribes for politicians from the plant-based food industry. Consequently, these safe foods are not promoted. The reality of life is humans do not have to torture and kill billions of animals to get secondhand protein.

As Dr. Milton Mills states emphatically in the documentary, What the Health, "all protein is made by plants.... It is not necessary to eat animal tissue to get protein." In fact, all the strongest land animals are herbivores. Look at elephants, rhinos, mountain gorillas. They are huge and physically strong. Our intestines were not meant to process large amounts of meat. Yet despite the negative health effects of meat and dairy, these products are what the USDA promotes, and tax dollars subsidize.

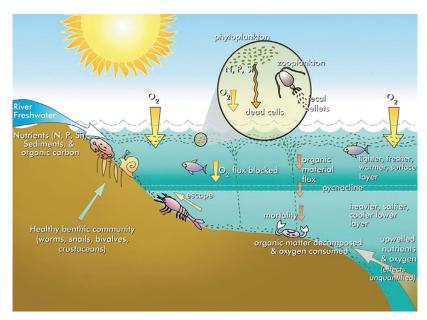
This lousy diet is at cross purposes with other government functions. The USDA promotes foods that make you sick. The sick taxpayer now becomes a burden for Health and Human Services and the Social Security Administration. These agencies pay hundreds of billions of dollars for the higher health care costs resulting from these franken-foods promoted by the USDA.

Public health is just one aspect of what our industrial agriculture and mass killing of animals is doing to the planet. Look at what corporate agriculture is doing to the environment. There is a massive dead zone off the coast of Louisiana where the Mississippi empties into the Gulf of Mexico. A dead zone is an area where hypoxia is occurring because pollution is depriving the water of oxygen.¹³

As mentioned earlier, this dead zone is over 8,000 miles and its cause is industrial agriculture as well as the pollution from cities. The overproduction of corn and using it to feed animals which in turn are used to feed humans is dumping huge amounts of nitrogen into the rivers. This in turn deprives water of oxygen and has created a dead zone where fish cannot survive. According to Scientific American, "Nitrogen and phosphorous from agricultural runoff are the primarry culprits, but sewage, vehicular and industrial emissions and even natural factors also play a role in the development of dead zones." The number of dead zones created by human activities like industrial agriculture, and pollution as well as sewage has increased all over the world to over 500. Literally every river off every continent now has dead zones.

The good news is these dead zones can be reversed. We can clean up these dead zones by not dumping sewage, nitrogen and phosphorous from agricultural runoffs. In other words, we can change the diet from these huge industrial animal farms to plant-based diets and go further. As we change our cities and eliminate waste streams dumping into the

rivers all over the world, the waters will be healthy. The fish, the plants, shrimp and other life will come back.



This runoff contains an overabundance of nutrients from fertilizers, wastewater treatment plants, and other sources. This nutrient pollution eventually ends up in the Gulf of Mexico, leading to the formation of hypoxic "dead zones." ¹⁶

It was not always like this where humans and the environment were at odds. In the 1700s, prior to the European migration to the New World, the natural world on this part of the planet was very healthy and abundant with wildlife. The rivers were teeming with fish. The oceans off the Atlantic were full of cod and every other type of fish. These were caught by the European settlers and shipped back to Europe. The rivers and ocean were fished out like what happened in Europe. The forests were so thick it was said that a squirrel could travel for miles without touching the ground. Forests were the great resource. This led to the greatest destruction of forests in history. The ax became the symbol of American life. Millions of people lived on the north and south

American continents. Pristine waters teeming with life and countless species existed prior to the European migration.¹⁹

The animal and plant resources seemed inexhaustible. But they were not. Again, government policies of not looking into the future and realizing the destruction of the forests, emptying the rivers of fish and destroying the fisheries offshore would lead eventually to what we have today- lands that are devoid of wildlife and dead zones from pollution. Time happens faster than we realize. In the 500 years since the migration from Europe to this side of the planet, the entire ecosystem has completely changed... for the worst. The kings and monarchs of the Europe did not have the foresight to realize that cutting down the forests, killing the fish in the rivers and overfishing the shores of the Atlantic would result in the environmental mess we have today. This is reasonable. We have no idea what human plant and animal life will be like 500 years from now. But we must change the path we are on, or our civilization will not survive. This requires us to change our agricultural model and our diet. Cleaning up the environment will require us to clean up our political system. The buying and selling of politicians are a disaster for the global environment.

Since the fossil fuel industry and the agricultural lobby own Congress, you will have to change your diet. Politicians do not control your spending on toxic foods and drinks. You have the power with your purchases. If you buy healthy foods and exercise, you will have a healthy life and planet.

^{19.} There is substantial data on epidemic of obesity. Here is one of the better ones. "How fat is America? An overview of obesity statistics (2020)" by Staci Gublin, January 16, 2020, online at: https://www.livin3.com/obesity-statistics See also, "The vast majority of American adults are overweight or obese, and weight is a growing

- problem among US children" May 28, 2014 online at: http://www.healthdata.org/news-release/vast-majority-american-adults-are-overweight-or-obese-and-weight-growing-problem-among There are several up to date articles which show the same thing. We have an obesity epidemic.
- 20. "What the Health" by Adam Harries, May 14, 2019 now online at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A-xrOHpDMj4&feature=emb_logo
- 21. "Diabetes by the Numbers" March 11, 2020 online at: https://www.cdc.gov/diabetes/basics/diabetes.html
- 22. Ibid.
- 23. "Economic Burden of Diabetes on the Rise" July 23, 2019 online at: https://blog.cardiometabolichealth.org/2019/07/23/economic-burden-of-diabetes-on-the-rise/
- 24. "Agribusiness" contributions to politicians in 2016. Online at: https://www.opensecrets.org/industries/totals.php?cycle=2020& ind=A in the 30 years from 1990 to 2020, over \$1 billion was contributed to politicians. The return was billions in tax subsidies for agribusiness.
- 25. "USDA announces details of support package for farmers" July 25, 2019 online at: https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2019/07/25/usda-announces-details-support-package-farmers See also "Farmers got billions in 2019 from taxpayers and hardly anyone objected" by Dan Charles, December 31, 2019 online at NPR: https://www.npr.org/sections/thesalt/2019/12/31/790261705/farmers-got-billions-from-taxpayers-in-2019-and-hardly-anyone-objected
- 26. An excellent overview of government programs that subsidize garbage food is available online with the documentary, "What the

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- Health" cite 2 supra starting at minute 50. This program is required viewing.
- 27. Ibid at minute 57.
- 28. Ibid at minute 60. In return for money to politicians, laws are passed that criminalize anyone who tries to speak out against these industries.
- 29. "What the Health" cite 2 supra at minute 105.
- 30. See also, "Game Changers" the documentary Executive Producer James Cameron. Available on NetFlix https://gamechangersmovie. com/ and "Vegan 19" online on NetFlix https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2AYOViszK_A A contrary view that criticizes "What the Health" is: "Debunking the documentary 'What the Health" by the Kendell Reagan Nutrition Center, 2017 at: https://chhs.source.colostate.edu/debunking-documentary-health/?fbclid=IwAR36h6j0M9aI9BcevXoPvY0ftlO97D2rk96AQPK7d6mZGmN3iBOrzgC3Wss
- 31. "Gulf of Mexico sees largest Dead Zone recorded, size of New Jersey." By Denisse Moreno, August 3, 2017 International Business Times, online at: https://www.ibtimes.com/gulf-mexico-sees-largest-dead-zone-recorded-size-new-jersey-2574113 See "Gulf of Mexico Hypoxia" July 2017 online at: https://gulfhypoxia.net/
- 32. "What causes ocean dead zones" Scientific American, September 25, 2012 online at: https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/ocean-dead-zones/
- 33. "Gulf of Mexico Hypoxia" July 2017 online at: https://gulf hypoxia.net/
- 34. Ibid.
- 35. See an excellent documentary on the early settlement of the eastern seaboard. "America Before Columbus" June 19, 2014 online at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nQCeGaTSghQ

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- 36. Ibid.
- 37. See the excellent documentary, National Geographic's "America Before Columbus" August 2, 2017 online at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s-2RkTJksEc

CHAPTER SEVENTEEN

CLEAN POLITICIANS, MIGHT CREATE A CLEAN ENVIRONMENT

Much has been written, and numerous documentaries have been made about industrial farming and the effects on the environment. More than 150 BILLION animals are killed each year for human consumption.² The current agricultural model is plant corn and soy. Use fertilizers that are by products of the fossil fuel industry. Use the corn and soy to feed cattle, pigs and chickens. Feed these poor crowded animals antibiotics sold to farmers by huge pharmaceutical companies. Kill these animals in truly repulsive slaughterhouses with unsanitary conditions. Ship these dead animals to giant supermarket chains like Kroger, Walmart and others and sell them to the public.

The results of this failed agricultural model are dead zones in the Gulf of Mexico, polluted land and air, millions of Americans with pre-diabetes and type two diabetes, millions of cancer deaths, millions with heart disease, high blood pressure and an unhealthy American population.²

How did we get to where we are? Corruption can take many forms. Because politicians in the United States receive money to run for office, large pharmaceutical, fossil fuel, agricultural, finance, defense and other companies contribute millions to political campaigns.³ In return these large institutions which are in all 435 congressional districts get billions of tax dollars. The taxpayer money hires millions of workers. They spent their paychecks on these agricultural products that are saturated with what is in realty poisoned food. Then the workers get sick from

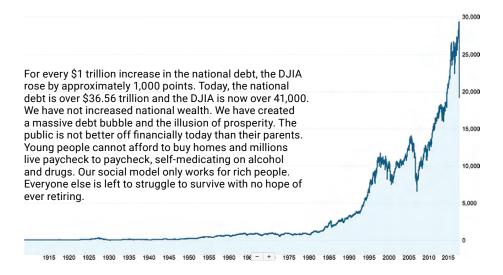
the terrible diet and the pharmaceutical companies treat the symptoms instead of dealing with the cause of the illness. The result of all this cycle of corruption is a sick under employed society and a damaged environment. The cycle of sickness continues. And people self-medicate to tolerate their miserable lives.

The campaign contributions did benefit one class of people. What happened over the last 40 years is quite clear. A massive transfer of wealth, most of it borrowed, was transferred from working- and middle-class people to a tiny handful of families. Today, approximately 300 individuals have more combined wealth than the bottom 3 billion humans. The data on wealth concentration is simply overwhelming.

In the United States, what happened is rather simple. The Property Party with its two wings, Republicans and Democrats cut taxes for people who are very rich, ran up a massive budget deficit and transferred the wealth to a small handful of politically powerful families. These very wealthy families in turn made campaign contributions to the same politicians who cut the taxes and borrowed money to make wealthy people richer than any social class in the history of the world.⁶

Now if you look at the national debt which went from near zero when Reagan was elected to today's unpayable \$36.56 trillion (and increasing at the rate of \$1,000,000 every 30 seconds), you can observe what is happening. Taxes were cut for the Super Rich under Reagan⁷ at the same time the Federal budget deficit was increased. The ridiculous idea that was floated was "trickle-down economics" would result in a larger economy and more jobs. It was all a lie and everyone from both wings of the Property Party knew it. When Reagan left office, the national debt had almost tripled from \$944 billion to over \$2.6 Trillion.⁸

The workers ended up with less income as a proportion of the total national GDP and more income and assets continued to "trickle down" from the workers and small businesspeople to the tiny handful of Super Rich. Taxes were cut again for the Super-Rich under Bush II⁹ and most recently under Orange Mussolini, aka "President Donald J. Trump."¹⁰ Today, it no longer matters. The entire economic system temporarily collapsed from the Covid pandemic. Hundreds of millions of people all over the world were left unemployed. We were lucky to avoid starvation. The massive wealth of the Super Rich will not save them from the end of civilization. Greed is not good. They can either be part of the solution or die with the rest of us. Their massive greed is not going to protect them from viruses and social unrest from hundreds of millions of unemployed expendable workers. Without courts and banks, money is worthless.

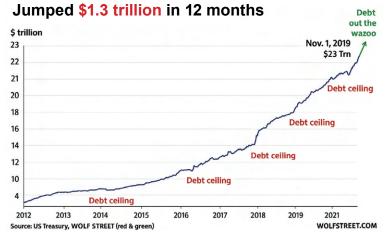


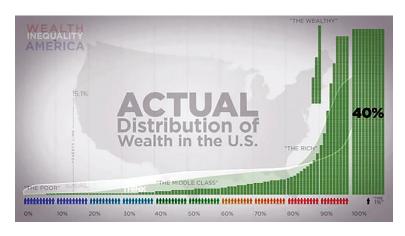
The two wings of the Property Party, Republicans and Democrats, have ran the Empire, Pax Americana right into the edge of bankruptcy.¹¹

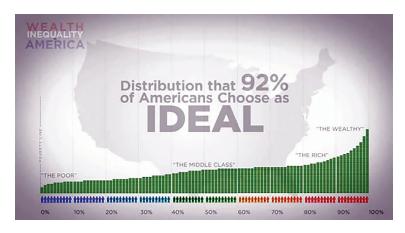
A tiny handful of families own most of the wealth of the world. You can thank Congress and the Property Party for this massive transfer of assets to the "richest people" on the planet.

Jesus' observation, "the lust for money is truly the root of all evil" is one of the major flaws in human behavior. The greed of politicians

The U.S. National Debt passed \$23.3 trillion.







was revealed in the Panama Papers.¹² The offshore accounts of the rich and powerful exposed the obvious, national borders are no barrier to hiding from taxes and avoiding the law. The proletariat does not have the luxury of moving large sums of money offshore. The simple reason is most workers are so poor they can barely afford toilet paper much less a plane ticket to Panama or some other offshore tax haven.

There is no possible way the climate crisis can be solved without changing the agriculture infrastructure. At least 15 percent of the greenhouse gases are released by the agriculture industry with the present slaughter of animals for secondhand protein. The post virus world does not have to be the hell of Mad Max and an apocalyptic nightmare. Change is a constant. We must deal with it, like it or not our wasteful way of life is over. It's time to change to a plant-based diet Shaun Monson advocated in 2005 when he warned everyone who would listen. The plant based agricultural model is still going to require labor, soil, sunshine and water. The same companies that created this environmental and public health disaster can produce healthy food.

Since the United States government is so corrupt they won't change the diet, just quit buying industrial beef, chicken, pork and processed foods. If you don't buy milk, cheese and processed meat products, they will rot on the shelves and these companies will stop selling them. YOU, not your corrupt congressman or corporate executive are responsible for your health. The power lies in your wallet. If you want good health, eat a plant-based diet and exercise. It really is that simple. Demonizing immigrants who work as farm hands is not going to get us fed. It's time to move on.

Bottom line, you cannot possibly change the diet without changing what you pay the working poor. When people cannot afford to buy a place to live despite working two jobs, they are not going to be able to adequately feed themselves. We must raise the minimum wage to a

survivable wage. A livable wage will help the family unit so people can afford to have one parent at home with pre-school children. There are realistic solutions.

- 1. "How many animals are killed each year?" Reference. com online https://www.reference.com/business-finance/many-animals-killed-year-4a2c3bcb6a02471b One of the more interesting sites is: Animal Slaughter Counter at: http://thevegancalculator.com/animal-slaughter/
- 2. See the following excellent documentaries: "The Game Changers" https://gamechangersmovie.com/ "Dominion" https://www.dominionmovement.com/ "Cowspiracy" https://www.cowspiracy.com/ "Forks Over Knives" https://www.forksoverknives.com/ "What the Health" https://www.whatthehealthfilm.com/"Food Choice" on Vimeo https://vimeo.com/197280362 "Eating You Alive" https://www.eatingyoualive.com/ "Blackfish" http://www.blackfishmovie.com/ "The Cove" https://www.opsociety.org/our-work/films/the-cove/ "Racing Extinction" https://racingextinction.com/ "Ghosts in our Machine" https://www.theghostsinourmachine.com/And the most important film that started the entire animal rights movement, Shaun Monson's classic, "Earthlings" https://www.nationearth.com/earthlings-1/
- 3. See Open Secrets at cite 6, supra.
- 4. See "Global Wealth Inequality" 2017 this short video summarizes global data in just four minutes. Online at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uWSxzjyMNpU
- 5. See "Income Inequality: Evidence and Implications with Professor Edward Saez, May 7, 2013 University of California, online at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_y7Xtwxd90I See also, cite 25 and one of the best sites on the internet at: "Wealth

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- Inequality in the United States" online at: https://inequality.org/facts/wealth-inequality/
- 6. "Wealth Inequality in America" online at: https://en.wikipedia. org/wiki/Wealth_inequality_in_the_United_States
- 7. "The Economic Recovery Tax Act of 1981" online at: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Economic_Recovery_Tax_Act_ of 1981
- 8. Ibid. When Reagan came into office the national debt was \$900 billion. When he left office it was at over \$2.6 Trillion.
- 9. See "Economic Growth and Tax Relief and Reconciliation Act of 2001" online at: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Economic_Growth_and_Tax_Relief_Reconciliation_Act_of_2001 Cutting taxes for the richest Americans reduced government revenue and exploded the national debt to over \$10 Trillion. Bush II left office with the 2008 Republican Recession and an economy in freefall.
- 10. See "Tax Cuts and Jobs Act" of 2017 gave over 70 percent of the tax benefit to the top 20 percent. Cutting government revenue further exploded the deficit. Now with the pandemic, the country is trying desperately to borrow our way out of this mess.

 Historically, no nation or individual has ever borrowed their way to prosperity. Today, the national debt can't be calculated as it keeps growing by the day. With millions of unemployed, the tax revenue will not be there and the national debt will explode to levels never seen before in history. See Institute of Tax and Economic Policy at: https://itep.org/tcja-2020/
- 11. Charts on wealth inequality courtesy of Joey Devilla, 2013 and updated on his blog. Online at: http://www.joeydevilla.com/2013/03/04/viral-video-of-the-moment-wealth-inequality-in-america/Dow Jones chart courtesy of Charles Schwab. There are several

- sources on the total amount of the national debt. The best site on the ongoing national debt is: https://usdebtclock.org/
- 12. "The Panama Papers", The Shady World of Off Shore Companies." When we were in Sao Tome, Africa delivering wheelchairs with the Mobility Project, I counted ten international banks in a tiny island nation of less than 400,000 people. It was obviously not a drug haven as it did not have that stench of narcos. What it did have is rich white boys flying in on private jets. I looked at my friends and started laughing, "geez, cocao is really valuable." There are numerous tax havens all over the world that shelter money from corrupt politicians and super rich people who refuse to pay their share of taxes.
- 13. See "How Much Does Agriculture Contribute to Global Warming?" by Pierce Nahigyan, February 9, 2016 at Planet Experts online at: http://www.planetexperts.com/how-much-does-agriculture-contribute-to-global-warming/ Mr. Nahigyan references the World Resources Institute and UN data. Since the pandemic, the air in cities all over the world is now cleaner as there are far fewer vehicles on the highways.

CHAPTER EIGHTEEN

THE SUSTAINABLE FOOD RESOLUTION

"You can't convince people to change their diet. You have to inspire them."

Kris Delaney

en should always listen to women. They have wisdom. Kris knows exactly what she is talking about. Another law, ordinance, regulation is not the answer. With her help, and that of our board of directors and volunteers, we have developed a Resolution on Sustainable Food. Here is the letter I sent to a Salt Lake County Commissioner Ross Romero that explains our Sustainable Food Resolution.

Dear Commissioner Romero,

There are numerous advantages to a city and/or county "Sustainable Food Resolution" versus an ordinance, a state statute or even more unattainable, national legislation. There are 435 congressmen and 100 senators. Some of these crazy individuals believe it is "the end of times" and humans should not do anything to stop the destruction of the global environment. These religious nut jobs are ridiculous. Laws are very difficult to change as they should be. Coercion breeds resistance. We must inspire people to do the right thing, not try to convince or coerce them. Getting people to change their diet and consumption habits can be done by example. Our global environmental

problems are not beyond solution. Things are not even close to being "hopeless". There are realistic solutions that are practical and readily available with present technology. Here is what we propose.

Our long-term plan is work with various international and national organizations to amend the Law of the Seas Treaty and create a Global High Seas Marine Preserve. This will protect 100 percent of the oceans forever. This will protect and preserve 70 percent of the planet.

Our short-term solution is changing the diet. The land creatures, rain forest, rivers and lakes can be protected and restored to good health primarily by changing the diet. This change will also vastly improve public health. Approximately 70 percent of Americans are overweight or worse yet, obese. Approximately 38 million Americans suffer from diabetes, all primarily due to diet which is also the leading cause of heart disease and many types of cancer. Changing the diet to something more sustainable and with an emphasis on public health will lower healthcare costs, locally and nationally. This change will also solve most of our global environmental problems on land. We will not cut down the rain forest to grow soy to feed to chickens, cows and pigs on these environmentally destructive factory farms. The overproduction of corn is destroying public health. The pollution has created a huge dead zone where the Mississippi river empties into the Gulf of Mexico. The same thing is happening worldwide. Every river on our small planet is polluting the oceans.

Eating seafood from other countries destroys global fisheries which are already overfished. We import approximately 80 percent of our seafood from poor countries yet only inspect less

than four percent. Global fisheries in poor countries are in huge trouble. While a global ban on industrial fishing for five to ten years would do wonders to help restore fisheries, the leadership is not there to accomplish this necessary environmental conservation goal. But by working from the grassroots up, these goals are obtainable. As we go city by city, county by county and "ask" citizens and residents to do the right thing, show some leadership, nature will take care of the rest. We can inspire people to change their diets, use less plastic and improve their health with something so simple as daily exercise.

Staying on the present course of a poor diet of processed foods and not addressing the reality of single use plastics and misuse of water resources will lead to a disaster of biblical proportions. Continuing to import seafood from poor countries that do not have our excellent marine, and fisheries laws will lead to a collapse of the global fisheries. Then over one billion people will not have access to protein. Couple that with environmental destruction and if you think we have immigration problems now, all hell will break use when the fisheries collapse, and people cannot grow food because of flooding, drought and environmental destruction.

Rich countries do not need to import seafood from poor countries for "food choice". Our grandparents did not eat seafood from poor countries. We can eat locally sourced food and only buy American caught, sustainable seafood. Our fisheries are healthy and sustainable. Other countries do a horrible job in managing their marine resources. We need to help these poor countries preserve and protect their marine resources. We need to support our hard-working American fishermen. That is the patriotic thing to do. We need to support our local family farms.

They cannot compete with these huge taxpayer subsidized corporations. This all starts at the local level. We do not have time to waste. Look at your children and grandchildren. It is their future we are working to protect. This must be done immediately. I trust you will do what you can and provide the necessary leadership to accomplish this very simple task. It is only a "Resolution". It does not have the force of law. Now you are elected. Lead by example, pass this Resolution and encourage residents to eat right and exercise.

Thank you,
Danny Quintana
President
Global High Seas Marine Preserve

I like to people watch. Here in Waikiki, some observations are disturbing. Without doing a scientific poll and embarrassing obese tourists, there are some glaring fat facts. Almost all the Americans over 40 are overweight and/or obese. The Asian tourists are fit and healthy. The Europeans and South Americans, most are healthier than the American. The young Americans under 30 are walking while looking at their cell phones, not conversing with each other.

What we propose is not a change in the law, enacting a new ordinance or regulation. We are merely advocating that people eat sustainably, buy locally sourced foods to support small farms, grow their own gardens, xeriscape their yards to save water, buy less plastic, and support American fisherman. We do not want to coerce people to change their diets. Coercion builds resistance. Instead of passing another law, regulation or ordinance, ask people and set an example.

No nation on Earth is a "threat" to the United States. We are our own worst enemy. Our diet is not just killing millions of animals and damaging the environment, it is killing people. So, we created this Sustainable Food Resolution which we have circulated to all of America's largest cities. Here is the one we sent to Honolulu, a big city located in what was once the Kingdom of Hawaii and is now our 50th state. We did not ask Hawaiians to become part of the United States. We just overthrew their government and forced them to join our empire... but I digress.

RESOLUTION HONOLULU IS A "SUSTAINABLE FOOD CITY"

WHEREAS, Oceans cover 70 percent of the Earth's surface, contain 97 percent of the Earth's water, and represent 99 percent of the living space on the planet by volume.

WHEREAS, Over three billion people depend on marine and coastal biodiversity for their livelihoods.

WHEREAS, Over three billion people depend on the Oceans as their primary source of protein, making the Oceans the world's largest protein source.

WHEREAS, Experts estimate global fisheries could collapse by the year 2050, unless numerous conservation measures are taken.

WHEREAS, Populations of marine vertebrates have declined by 49% between 1970 and 2024 with some fish species declining by almost 75%, according to the best available scientific studies.

WHEREAS, the Cities in Developed Nations consume seafood as a food preference and not as a primary source of protein.

WHEREAS, The City of Honolulu is committed to sustainable, environmentally sound living and co-existing with nature and has a policy of reducing our carbon footprint.

WHEREAS, seafood as a food choice leaves a large carbon footprint and causes environmental damage to the planet.

WHEREAS, the consumption of non-sustainable and threatened species of seafood is causing permanent damage to the oceans and the planet.

WHEREAS, buying food that is locally produced will lower the carbon footprint for the planet.

WHEREAS, a more plant based diet will improve public health and is better for the environment.

WHEREAS, we define "sustainable food" by the following criteria:

- 1. Fish must be caught in a manner that does not permanently damage their environment;
- 2. Fish must be caught in a manner that does not result in destruction of other fish species; and
- 3. Fish must not be caught before they can reproduce thereby damaging the species population.
- 4. We encourage residents of Honolulu to purchase American caught seafood as it is better for public health and environmentally sustainable.
- 5. Food that is grown locally is better for the environment and public health.
- 6. Cutting down the rain forest to grow soy and use as feed for livestock to feed people in rich countries damages the planet.

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that in keeping with our policy of being a low carbon use city, the City of Honolulu proclaims itself as a "Sustainable Food City".

We encourage all Honolulu residents and businesses to educate themselves on the problems of the destruction of the wildlife in the Oceans, on Land and how to only sell and eat sustainable food.

We encourage our residents and businesses to seek out sustainable food options wherever possible and communicate your interest in sustainable options wherever they are not available.

We further encourage our residents to lower their carbon footprint wherever possible, educate themselves on the problems of global climate change and what can be done to combat this environmental problem.

Finally, we encourage our residents to xeriscape their yards, grow vegetables, plant gardens and exercise. Healthy people will result in lower healthcare costs and a healthy planet. We encourage other cities all over the world to follow our example.

This Sustainable Food Resolution is part of our organization's national campaign to save the ocean's wildlife by changing the diet. We tried unsuccessfully to get Congress to amend the Magnuson Stevens Fisheries and Conservation Act. We wanted to ban the sale of foreign seafood for five years to allow the fisheries time to recover. This and working with other governments, would help the global fisheries to recover. The United States imports approximately 80 percent of its seafood yet only inspects approximately four percent. The unregulated, illegally caught imported fish reduces the value of fish caught by American fishermen who abide by national and international law. Our fishermen play by the rules which insure sustainability. Other countries don't.

In addition to the harm illegal fishing does to the global fisheries, according to an analysis done by the World Wildlife Fund, if the U.S. government was to stop illegal, unreported, unregulated fish from being sold in the U.S. market, our fishermen would see a 20 percent

increase in revenue.³ We think Americans should go a step further. We recommend in our Resolution that consumers only purchase American caught seafood. Help our fishermen, buy American caught, American safe and sustainable, healthy clean seafood.

So, people can lower their food costs and eat healthier, we recommend that people support local farmers. This will lower our carbon footprint and keep local farms alive. The loss of the small farmer is an ongoing national economic tragedy. The 2022 census reveals that: "[t]he number of farms operating in the United States and the number of farm acres have both fallen significantly. The 2022 Census of Agriculture reports 141,733 fewer farms in 2022 than in 2017. The number of farm acres fell to 880,100,848, a loss of more than 20 million acres from just five years earlier."

By working at the grassroots level, we can encourage and inspire people to eat locally, sustainably and exercise. Change comes from the individual and best occurs at the local level. It is unrealistic to expect 435 congressmen and 100 senators to agree on fixing our massive diet problems with processed foods. Congress can't solve a math problem; much less fix that national disaster we call our American diet. The entrenched bureaucracies and massive lobbies as well as the need to constantly fund raise, makes important policy changes almost impossible.

Changing the diet is a national security issue. At least 77 percent of young Americans would not qualify for military service without a waiver. This is due to being overweight, using drugs or having mental or physical health problems.⁴ How can we turn this around? We encourage all cities to adopt our resolution. Learn everything possible about processed foods and good health habits. This requires understanding nutrition, teaching it in schools and bringing back exercise as part of education. A healthy public will result in a healthy planet.

What are processed foods? Google's Gemini defines them as:

"Processed foods refer to any food that has been altered from its natural state through various methods. Here's a breakdown:

Minimally Processed: These foods undergo simple processes like: Washing, Cutting, Freezing

Canning, Pasteurization. These processes aim to preserve freshness, improve safety, and enhance convenience. Examples include: Frozen vegetables, Canned fruits, Pasteurized milk.

Highly Processed: These foods undergo extensive processing and often contain numerous additives. This can include **Refining:** Removing parts of the original food (like removing bran from grains to make white flour). **Adding ingredients:** Such as sugars, fats, salt, artificial flavors, colors, and preservatives.

Extensive processing techniques: Like extrusion, hydrogenation, and homogenization.

Examples of highly processed foods: Fast foods, Sugary cereals, Soda, Processed, meats, Packaged snacks (chips, cookies).

Important Note: Not all processed foods are unhealthy. Some processed foods, like fortified cereals or canned beans, can be nutritious. The key is to choose minimally processed foods whenever possible and limit your intake of highly processed foods."

The simplest thing you can do is seldom to never eat at fast food restaurants, never drink sodas and go for long walks while you use your binoculars bird watching. Appreciate nature and enjoy it. A walk by the beach is far better for you than living in front of your television watching others. Be a participant, not a spectator in the game of life. Drink water with a slice of lemon and stay away from alcohol. Think about everything you can do, not what Washington can do for you. Control your spending and you will save the wildlife. Share this sustainable food resolution with your city council. Despite the corruption

at the national level, local politics is where positive changes will be made.



See, "Seafood Import Monitoring Program" Oceana online at: https://usa.oceana.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2023/08/IUU-Fact-Sheets.pdf

^{2.} Ibid. American fishermen lose about \$1 billion to illegally caught fish sold in the US market.

^{3.} See "New Census Shows Alarming Loss of Family Farms" Feb 13, 2024 American Farm Bureau, online at: https://www.fb.org/about/who-we-are

^{4.} According to a Pentagon study, "Even More Young Americans Are Unfit to Serve, a New Study Finds. Here's Why." Military News, online at: https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/09/28/new-pentagon-study-shows-77-of-young-americans-are-ineligible-military-service.html

^{5.} Google Gemini AI- search "What are processed foods" Jan 2024

CHAPTER NINETEEN

THERE IS THIS CREATURE CALLED INTERNATIONAL LAW

"Recent vituperative attacks on U.S. policy by famous and respected men like Nelson Mandela and John Le Carré, although excessive, are echoed in a Web site poll conducted by the European edition of TIME magazine. The question was "Which country posed the greatest danger to world peace in 2003?" With several hundred thousand votes cast, the responses were: North Korea, 7 percent; Iraq, 8 percent; the United States, 84 percent. This is a gross distortion of our nation's character and America is not inclined to let foreign voices answer the preeminent question that President Bush is presenting to the world, but it is sobering to realize how much doubt and consternation has been raised about our motives for war in the absence of convincing proof of a genuine threat from Iraq."

Nobel Prize Recipient President Jimmy Carter



The Secretariat building in New York City, where staff of the UN Secretariat carry out the day-to-day work of the UN along with other staff in New York and UN Secretariat staff members world-wide. UN Photo/Manuel Elías

There are many misconceptions about the existence of international law. Does it exist? Enough countries believe in the rule of international law, that we have a functioning global legal system. Without international law we would not have the modern world. It is because we have global rules of conduct that we can make international phone calls, transfer money to other countries, sell goods and services and travel all over the world. The idea that there is no international law is simplistic and completely ignores all the benefits conferred on nations from trade, communications, and travel.

Jet travel thanks to international law is an everyday occurrence. The International Civic Aviation Organization (ICAO)¹ was created to help facilitate safe air travel. While it is not a regulatory body, its work has helped make us an interconnected planet. In their words, "the ICAO is funded and directed by 193 national governments to support their diplomacy and cooperation in air transport as signatory states to the Chicago Convention (1944)."²

What WWII accomplished is fighter planes and bombers became commercial passenger jets. The initial 54 nations that met in 1944 during the middle of World War II and created the groundwork for future plane travel. It succeeded. The ICAO, an organization few people even know exists accomplished through peace and law the creation of international travel. As stated on their web site:

"The Second World War was a powerful catalyst for the technical development of the aeroplane. A vast network of passenger and freight carriage was set up during this period, but there were many obstacles, both political and technical, to evolving these facilities and routes to their new civilian purposes.

Subsequent to several studies initiated by the United States, as well as various consultations it undertook with its major allies, the U.S. government extended an invitation to 55 States to

attend an International Civil Aviation Conference in Chicago in 1944.

These delegates met at a very dark time in human history and traveled to Chicago at great personal risk. Many of the countries they represented were still occupied. In the end, 54 of the 55 States invited attended the Chicago Conference, and by its conclusion on 7 December 1944, 52 of them had signed the new *Convention on International Civil Aviation* which had been realized.

Known then and today more commonly as the 'Chicago Convention', this landmark agreement laid the foundation for the standards and procedures for peaceful global air navigation. It set out as its prime objective the development of international civil aviation "...in a safe and orderly manner," and such that air transport services would be established "on the basis of equality of opportunity and operated soundly and economically."³

World War II technology helped create international trade. Larger ships that could carry huge amounts of cargo became commonplace. Fighter planes and bombers evolved to passenger jets. A set of rules was established on how goods and services could be transported among nations. International trade has long historical roots. Trade, not torture, goods and services, not bullets and bombs, has created the modern world. Consumers have more choice than ever before. What started in antiquity and prehistory as people trading simple food items, wine and some finished goods has evolved into products of every kind and from numerous parts of the world filling store shelves.

Your coffee might be from Costa Rica, your cacao might originate in Sao Tome, your shirts from the Dominican Republic and your automobile was partially assembled in Mexico and Canada. All these conveniences and consumer choices which in antiquity were luxuries

only royalty could want or afford, are there for your purchase. Products and services from all over the world are something all of us are accustomed to and expect. International trade is governed by the World Trade Organization which was created in 1995 and is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland. The World Trade Organization, or WTO is the international institution that deals with the global rules of trade between nations. Its function and goal are facilitating trade between nations. Despite the ignorance of right-wing extremists, this is not some conspiratorial group of "rich" people who are out to control the world. The WTO is an organization that through the rule of law makes international trade a reality. This important international institution has the following objective:

"The overall objective of the WTO is to help its members use trade as a means to raise living standards, create jobs and improve people's lives. The WTO operates the global system of trade rules and helps developing countries build their trade capacity. It also provides a forum for its members to negotiate trade agreements and to resolve the trade problems they face with each other."

Consumers drive BMWs created by a nation that once tried to conquer the world. They drink coffee from other countries while wearing clothes made in faraway lands. Young people look up a video on TikTok created by someone on the other side of the planet. This consumption is proof positive that international law is working.

The evidence of the success of international law is all around us. The benefits are enormous. From the Argentine wine we might enjoy as we are eating French cheese, grapes from Chile to the special gift we bought for a loved one, while we listen to new music from Senegal or watch an interesting Korean film, we are better off today than any humans who have ever lived. Despite the negativity of the "news," most

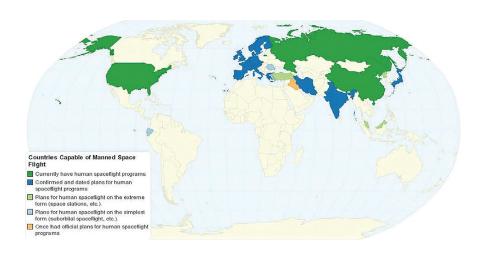
people in the developed world are far better off than any generation in human history.

Of course, there are huge problems created by international consumerism and this conspicuous consumption economic model. These international environmental problems require more international law, not less. Nature does not recognize man-made political boundaries. It is easy to forget why these international institutions were created. Dag Hammarskjold, the great Secretary General of the United Nations observed, "The United Nations was not created in order to bring us to heaven, but in order to save us from hell" Nations are legal fictions. Like each other or not, humans are one species. We have the same wants, feelings and needs. There are certainly differences between us in language, customs, foods, and dress. Regardless of color, the skin is the body's largest organ, and this is the same for all our species. The bones, nervous system and organs are all the same. Our different beliefs is not cause for a dystopian future.

There are over 560 international treaties governing everything from human rights to environmental issues deposited with the United Nations. International law not only exists, but it is thriving. Where it does not work is when great powers become law breakers. No governing body has the power to arrest Dick Cheney for the war crimes committed by the United States in Iraq, or President Putin for this illegal war in Ukraine. Consequently, when international law is violated, there is not enforcement. It does not mean these rules of the road don't exist. It just means the leaders of powerful nations act like criminals. So, what can be done? Take the path of least resistance. Go with one of the major laws of human nature, whatever you feed grows.

We can build on what works. There are numerous instances where because of international law, everyone benefits. Space exploration has provided numerous benefits to humanity. Initially two nations, the United States and the Soviet Union led the efforts to get humans into space. Here is where there is hope for humanity. Exploring space, the final frontier, is the most challenging human activity in history. The difficulty is planets, and the asteroid belt are a long way away and not hospitable. Pointing guns at each other will not explore anything. Working together on the exploration of the solar system will bring long term benefits. The asteroid belt can be mined¹². More importantly, life on this small planet will survive and prosper. Exploring the inner solar system is the way out for humanity. The science will help save the wildlife with exciting new technology. This is all possible with international law.

COUNTRIES CAPABLE OF MANNED SPACE FLIGHT¹³



^{1.} The International Civic Aviation Organization is a specialized UN Agency. Online at: https://www.icao.int/about-icao/History/Pages/default.aspx

^{2.} Ibid.

^{3.} Ibid.

This Will Work

- 4. "History of International Trade" at: https://www.managementstudyguide.com/history-of-international-trade.htm
- 5. Ibid.
- 6. Ibid.
- 7. "World Trade Organization" at: https://www.wto.org
- 8. Ibid.
- 9. Ibid.
- 10. "Does International Law Work?" TED Talk by Sayidkomil Ibodullaev at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=511Wd1wf1B4
- 11. "United Nations Treaty Collection" at: https://treaties.un.org/#:~: https://treaties.un.org/#:~: text=The%20Secretary%2DGeneral%20of%20the,more%20than%20toeacheral%20treaties.
- 12. "Space Mining: Scientists Discover Two Asteroids Whose Precious Metals Would Exceed Global Reserves" by Jamie Carter Oct 19, 2021 at: <a href="https://www.forbes.com/sites/jamiecartereurope/2021/10/19/the-age-of-space-mining-just-got-closer-as-scientists-discover-two-asteroids-whose-precious-metals-would-exceed-global-reserves/?sh=351f67f3713b
- 13. See: http://chartsbin.com/view/1231

CHAPTER TWENTY

WHY THE UNITED NATIONS HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO KEEP THE PEACE

Western reporter asking Mahatma Ghandi, "what do you think of Western Civilization"? His reply says it all, "I think that would be a good idea."

or a Global High Seas Marine Preserve to be created and be effective, we must be a season of the sea tive, we must believe in the rule of law. When we stop believing in law, all hell breaks loose and the worst of human behavior plagues humanity. No law results in complete chaos, lawlessness and man becomes the worst of all animals. The classic examples are the fall of the Roman Empire and Nazi Germany. The collapse of the Roman Empire left Western Civilization in ruins and lawless for over 1,500 years. Law is very important. After the fall of the Roman Empire, international trade in Europe came to a standstill, cities declined in population, disease was rampant, the life span declined. The Dark Ages were a complete disaster. Imagine a world where there are no police, no army to prevent dirty, hairy, illiterate criminals from robbing and raping. That is what happened when there were no longer Roman courts, magistrates, and soldiers to protect the sea lanes and trade routes. Without the rule of law, there is no peace, no prosperity, no economy and no human rights. This describes Afghanistan, a country run by terrorists.

Nazi Germany is the other example of what happens when the rule of international law is ignored. The reality of over 50 million people slaughtered because of German, Italian and Japanese fascism led humans to create the United Nations. For the United Nations to be effective, the leaders of nations must abide by international law. Chapter V, Article 23 of the U.N. Charter reads as follows:

"The Security Council shall consist of fifteen Members of the United Nations. The Republic of China, France, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America shall be permanent members of the Security Council. The General Assembly shall elect ten other Members of the United Nations to be non-permanent members of the Security Council, due regard being specially paid, in the first instance to the contribution of Members of the United Nations to the maintenance of international peace and security and to the other purposes of the Organization, and also to equitable geographical distribution."

Prior to the Vietnam War, the United States was the richest, most powerful nation in history. The human cost of the Vietnam war was over 58,000 American dead, over 150,000 wounded and 70 to 300,000 suicides after the conflict.² These figures do not include the over 2,000,000 Vietnamese who were slaughtered defending their country³ or the approximately 1,000,000 Cambodians who lost their lives⁴ or the destruction from Agent Orange, millions more wounded or the damage to the United States' reputation as the defender of freedom and liberty.

This "war" was a humanitarian, ecological and financial disaster. After this unnecessary holocaust there was the inflation of the 1970s. The United States funded "The Great Society" social programs of President Lyndon Johnson while at the same time funding a holocaust in Southeast Asia.⁵ Instead of learning a lesson from this unnecessary war of choice, the United States continued with defense spending as

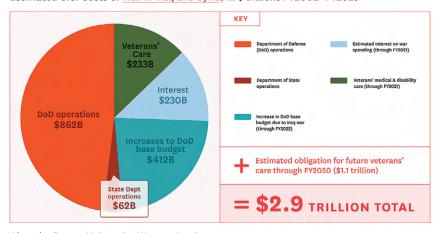
the economic model. The Reagan Administration increased defense spending to levels not seen since World War II.⁶

During the Reagan administration, there was talk about "winnable nuclear war." Fortunately for humanity the Soviet Union was led by a brilliant reformer who wanted an end to the Cold War. Mikhail Gorbachev was very well read and wanted peace. Had Gorbachev not stepped back from the abyss, it is probable that humanity would not have survived "winnable nuclear war." After the end of the Cold War, the United States invaded Iraq in 2003 in violation of the United Nations charter. This war of choice and aggression caused untold suffering for Iraqis and Syrians. Over 500,000 people, mostly civilians were killed in this unnecessary conflict.9

Afghanistan was yet another American foreign policy disaster. Not learning the lessons from the British failure or the Russian misadventure, the United States invaded this battle-hardened country. Like Britain and Russia, it was a long costly disaster both for the Afghans and the United States. The number of Afghan deaths from over 40 years of war is unknown but must be in the hundreds of thousands. The result of American intervention is this country is destroyed. Now Afghanistan has an extremist regime of religious nutjobs that suppresses women and a county with starvation. In

The sad reality of life is all five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council have repeatedly violated the UN Charter. China ignored the wants of the peaceful citizens of Tibet and just annexed the entire country. France tried to hold on to its colonies in Africa and Southeast Asia through the massive use of force and failed. The British Empire should have ended in the 1800s. Instead, it collapsed with the final embarrassment of a failed Suez Canal military operation and Hong Kong being ceded to China. There is not much that can be added to Putin's war in telling the people of Ukraine, "marry me

or I will kill you." This war of choice and aggression is a humanitarian disaster. The worst violator of the U.N. Charter is the United States. Our great country, the most powerful in human history has violated the UN Charter so many times, it is near impossible to keep count. After the illegal invasion of Iraq, a Pew Research poll listed the United States as the greatest threat to world peace. 16



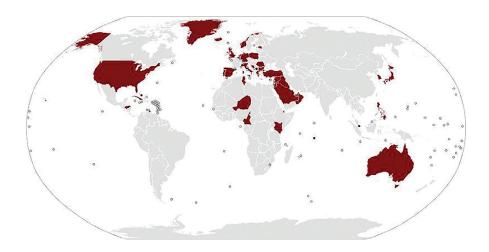
Estimated U.S. Costs of War in Iraq and Syria, in \$ Billions FY2001-FY2023

Chart by Brown University Watson Institute.

The "great powers" repeated violations of the United Nations Charter have not made our small planet a better place. In addition to being a disaster for the countries attacked by these imperial powers, it has been a financial disaster for the invader. The United States operates military bases and/or installations in over 80 countries.¹⁷

This figure does not include cooperative agreements with friendly nations like Canada, Mexico, Central and South American governments.

The world is a dangerous place where one country lives in fear of being attacked by a more powerful neighbor. Fear is a powerful motivator. After Russia's illegal invasion of Ukraine, military spending took a shot of adrenalin. European defense spending immediately increased, Finland and Sweden immediately applied for protection from NATO.



Now Taiwan is under threat from the People's Republic of China with invasion. ¹⁸ Global defense spending is now over \$2.23 Trillion. The total United Nations program budget for 2023 is a miniscule \$3.4 Billion. ¹⁹

This tiny amount of money for the United Nations reveals a harsh reality. The United Nations is a policeman without a gun, a jail, or a court to prosecute war criminals. By any stretch of the imagination, Henry Kissinger was a war criminal as is George W. Bush, Dick Cheney, Paul Wolfowitz, Vladimir Putin, Condoleezza Rice, General Sergie Surovikin, General Valery Gerasimov, Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu, Benjamin Netanyahu and numerous others. Like bullies in a school playground, without the power to enforce international law, the big boys do what they want knowing there will be no repercussions. Consequently, there is no world peace and the drift toward a nuclear holocaust gets closer with each day as these illegal wars in the Ukraine and Gaza continue.

Will they or won't they use tactical nuclear weapons? Will Israel attack Iran? These are the questions on many people's minds regarding the very real threat of Russia's President Putin. Is Russia losing this unnecessary war and if it does, will Putin order his armed forces to use tactical nuclear explosives?²⁰ It is unacceptable for humanity to be held

hostage by illegal wars that threaten to blow up the world. What can be done about these very dangerous nuclear threats?

Tactical nuclear "weapons" are lower yield nuclear explosives than the city buster strategic weapons.²¹ There is absolutely NO guarantee that if the Russians are losing this war against Ukraine, that they will not use tactical nuclear explosives. Will it stop at Ukraine is the silent question many of us are asking? Or once the nuclear door is open, will it escalate? Humanity, plants, and animals cannot take that chance. But how can we stop this war? Who is going to stop it?

The United Nations is a toothless tiger. Americans spend over \$136 billion on pets, this is over 40 times more than the entire budget of the UN.²² Regardless, this global institution can work. The United Nations was organized after World War II to stop another holocaust. What is required for the United Nations to work is for the five Permanent members of the Security Council to simply obey international law. The United States cannot continue to violate international law and expect other countries to "do as I say, not as I do." In an interconnected world, this is not a realistic foreign policy.

All legal systems are fictions. They work if we believe in laws. If we do not believe in a rule based international system, then it does not exist. Human laws are voluntary and can be violated all the time. We call these people "criminals." In nature, the laws of physics, biology and chemistry are final. We can argue with the law of gravity, but we are not going to win.

Humanity will either live with the law or die by the sword. We have now reached the point of no return. A Third World War will be the last. With over 12,000 nuclear explosives in the hands of nine countries²³, our children, grandchildren as well as the plants and animals are all in grave danger. And for what? Why would anyone want to kill their neighbor, a child, a mother, a young man? What would

be gained by having another human being you don't even know die? Nothing.

This is not the 15th century. Vietnam, Cambodia, Iraq, Afghanistan, and the various Central American governments the United States attacked are not better off because of military intervention. In fact, they are worse off. The resources the United States wasted on these failed military adventures while at the same time cutting taxes for the richest citizens has left our great country in massive debt. Again, as stated earlier, the United States national debt is increasing at the rate of over \$1,000,000 every 30 seconds.²⁴ We are not alone. The United States is not the only country burdened with massive debt. China, the world's second largest economy is over \$7 Trillion in debt.²⁵ Japan, the world's third largest economy is in massive debt.²⁶ Then there is the European Debt Crisis where several EU members were so far in debt, they could not make their debt payments.²⁷ Despite the lies from the Putin Administration, Russia's economy is a complete mess. For the first time since the 1918 Revolution, Russia defaulted on their foreign debt.28

Russia did not gain anything by attacking their neighbor other than the wrath of Europe, the United States and Japan. They are now a pariah state, an arrest warrant was issued on March 17, 2023, by the International Criminal Court for President Vladimir Putin.²⁹ Russia, the nation with the most resources and world's largest country, has an economy smaller than that of the state of Texas. They were properly described by Senator John McCain, "Russia is a gas station with nukes." They export raw materials and import finished products. If the country was not so corrupt, given their vast resources, it would be the richest nation in human history. Despite their corrupt government, Russia has a terrific space program, brilliant scientists, engineers and wonderful people.

This Will Work

It is only a matter of time before there is a nuclear accident and one of these 12,000 nuclear explosives goes off. To date, six nuclear weapons have been lost and never recovered."³⁰ Only with law can we save the global fisheries from collapse, properly address our global environmental problems and avoid a final world war that will end "civilization", such as it is. The United Nations is an idea. Just like the United States, the European Union or any other political entity, it works if people adhere to the rule of law. We need to work together to properly fund and straighten the United Nations, not constantly criticize it. If the great powers adhere to the law, there will be peace on our small planet.



Artwork by Winston Smith San Francisco Artist.

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This Will Work

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PART FIVE

THE GLOBAL HIGH SEAS MARINE PRESERVE

CHAPTER TWENTY-ONE

HISTORY OF THE LAW OF THE SEAS

"Law approximates a body of rules that are approximately enforced." Francis D. Wormuth, Ph.D.

For our species to amend international law, the Law of the Seas Treaty, and create a Global High Seas Marine Preserve, we must understand the concept of "Law". What it and how does it work? Natures laws are binding. Law is a shared fiction. Human laws exists because we believe. This shared consciousness is a set of rules which are supposed to govern human behaviors. As Aristotle observed, "The law is reason for the common good." ¹. International law is what makes the modern world possible. That is what makes international trade, travel and communication the reality of present civilization. The problem is we do not have enforceable international law protecting the oceans' wildlife. We aim to change that. Our organization, the Global High Seas Marine Preserve is working to change international law and protect the ocean's wildlife. The path to reaching this important goal in human evolution is laid out by centuries of legal work. Maritime law has had centuries to develop.

Marine law, also known as admiralty law, has a rich and fascinating history dating back to the earliest days of seafaring. It's a unique legal system that governs everything from collisions and salvage to piracy and environmental protection. Like all international law, this area is evolving. A Global High Seas Marine Preserve will save the ocean's wildlife.

ANCIENT BEGINNINGS

- The earliest documented maritime laws originate with the Rhodian Sea Laws.² These set of laws were developed by the island of Rhodes around 900 BC.³ These laws covered a wide range of topics, including ship collisions, salvage, and bottomry loans. They were highly influential and formed the basis for many later maritime legal systems.⁴
- Other ancient civilizations, such as the Phoenicians, Greeks, and Romans, also developed their own maritime laws. These laws were often based on custom and practice, rather than formal written codes.⁵

FREEDOM OF THE SEAS

- Amid growing competition over sea trade, Dutch jurist and philosopher Hugo Grotius—considered the father of international law generally—wrote *Mare Liberum* (*The Freedom of the Seas*), published in 1609, which set forth the principle that the sea was international territory and that all nations were thus free to use it for trade. He premised this argument on the idea that "every nation is free to travel to every other nation, and to trade with it." Thus, there was a right to innocent passage over land and a similar right of innocent passage at sea. Grotius observed that unlike land, on which sovereigns could demarcate their jurisdiction, the sea was akin to air, a common property of all:
- The air belongs to this class of things for two reasons. First, it is not susceptible of occupation; and second its common use is destined for all men. For the same reasons the sea is common to all, because it is so limitless that it cannot become a possession of anyone, and because it is adapted for the use of all, whether we consider it from the point of view of navigation or of fisheries.⁶

MEDIEVAL DEVELOPMENTS

- In the Middle Ages, the Consulate of the Sea, a collection of maritime customs developed in the Mediterranean, became increasingly important. The Consulate was eventually adopted by many European countries and remained a major source of maritime law until the 19th century.
- In England, the development of common law gradually led to the creation of a separate body of admiralty law. The English Admiralty Court, established in the 14th century, had jurisdiction over all maritime matters.⁷



As the global population exploded and technology improved, maritime law evolved.8

19TH AND 20TH CENTURIES

• The 19th and 20th centuries saw a period of rapid growth and change in maritime law. This was due in part to the development of new technologies, such as steamships and airplanes, which led to an increase in maritime trade.

- International Treaties and conventions also played a major role in the development of maritime law. The most important of these is the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, (UNCLOS) which was adopted in 1982. The UNCLOS is a comprehensive agreement that governs all aspects of the use of the oceans. Here are some of the key principles of marine law:
- **Freedom of the seas:** All ships have the right to navigate freely on the high seas, subject to certain limitations.
- **Flag state jurisdiction:** Ships are subject to the laws of the country whose flag they fly.
- **Port state jurisdiction:** A coastal state can exercise jurisdiction over foreign ships in its ports.
- **Salvage:** Anyone who rescues a ship or cargo from danger is entitled to a reward.
- **General average:** If a sacrifice is made for the common good of all involved in a maritime adventure, the loss must be shared proportionally among all who benefit.¹⁰

The United Nations High Seas Treaty, also known as the Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction treaty or the BBNJ treaty, is a legally binding instrument for the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction.¹¹



© Nuno Vasco Rodrigues/UN World Oceans Day 2023

A team of scientific divers assess the marine biodiversity on the top of a seamount in Porto Santo, Madeira, Portugal. ¹²

The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) was finalized during an intergovernmental conference at the UN on 4 March 2023 and adopted on 19 June 2023. Both states and regional economic integration organizations can become parties to the treaty. The treaty addresses four themes:

- (1) Marine genetic resources (MGRs), including the fair and equitable sharing of benefits;
- (2) area-based management tools (ABMTs), including marine protected areas (MPAs);
 - (3) environmental impact assessments (EIAs); and
- (4) Capacity building and transfer of marine technology (CB&TMT). The area-based management tools and environmental impact assessments relate mainly to conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity, while the marine genetic resources and capacity building and transfer of marine technology include issues of economic justice and equity.¹³

Greenpeace called it «the biggest conservation victory ever». The main achievement is the new possibility to create marine protected areas in international waters. By doing so the agreement now makes it possible to protect 30% of the oceans by 2030 (part of the 30 by 2030 target, see infra). Though the agreement does not directly address climate change, it also serves as a step towards protecting the ecosystems that store carbon in sediments.

The treaty has 75 articles, and its main purpose is "to take stewardship of the world's oceans for present and future generations, care for and protect the marine environment and ensure its responsible use, maintain the integrity of undersea ecosystems and conserve marine biological diversity's inherent value". The treaty recognizes traditional knowledge. It has articles regarding the principle "polluter-pays", and

different impacts of human activities including areas beyond the national jurisdiction of the countries making those activities. The agreement was adopted by the 193 United Nations Member States.¹⁴

Before the treaty can enter into force, it needs to be ratified by at least 60 UN member states. This process is likely to take some time. The former treaty, UNCLOS, was adopted in 1982 and entered into force in 1994. In 2023, UNCLOS is ratified by 167 states and the European Union; however, some states have yet to sign and ratify it. **The United States has signed but not ratified the High Seas Treaty.**¹⁵ This ratification is obviously not going to take place while Orange Mussolini is president of our great country.

Given our current political realities, we need to work at the grass roots level to educate the public on the importance of this Treaty. The United States needs to ratify this important international agreement. We have some of the best marine and fisheries laws in the world. We need to go a step further and become a party to this important international Treaty.



Map of parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. 28 February 2015. Wikipedia Common.

This Will Work

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CHAPTER TWENTY-TWO

THE 30 by 2030 INITIATIVE

(written with help of Google's Gemini)

"It is often people with good intentions who cause the most harm"

Dr. Francis Wormuth

The 30×2030 initiative (sometimes written as 30 by 30 or 30×30) is a global effort to conserve at least 30% of the Earth's land, inland waters, and coastal and marine areas by 2030. This ambitious goal aims to reverse biodiversity loss, mitigate climate change, and ensure the long-term health and resilience of the planet's ecosystems. The 30 by 30 initiative is truly a global endeavor with a diverse range of organizations playing crucial roles in its development, advocacy, and implementation. Here's a glimpse into some key players.

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD): The CBD serves as the primary international treaty for biodiversity conservation. It adopted the 30 by 30 target as part of its post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.

The Ocean Project: This organization fosters public awareness and drives action towards ocean conservation, actively campaigning for 30% ocean protection through its 30x30 initiative.

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP): UNEP provides scientific expertise and supports countries in

implementing environmental policies, including those related to protected areas expansion.

GOVERNMENTS AND PARTNERSHIPS

High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People (HACNP): A coalition of national governments leading the push for ambitious global biodiversity goals, including 30 by 30.

Global Ocean Alliance: This alliance of governments, NGOs, and research institutions advocates for ambitious ocean protection measures, including the 30x30 goal for marine areas.

Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES): IPBES provides policymakers with science-based assessments to inform environmental decision-making, including regarding the 30 by 30 target.

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (NGOS)

World Wildlife Fund (WWF): This global conservation organization actively supports and participates in initiatives like 30 by 30 through research, advocacy, and on-the-ground conservation projects.

Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS): WCS works in numerous countries to protect wildlife and ecosystems, with the 30 by 30 goal forming a cornerstone of its conservation strategy.

Conservation International (CI): CI focuses on biodiversity protection and sustainable development globally, actively endorsing and promoting the 30 by 30 initiative.

INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

Numerous indigenous communities worldwide manage and steward their territories with traditional knowledge and practices. Recognizing their rights and involving them in protected area management is crucial for achieving the 30 by 30 goal effectively.

This list is not exhaustive, and countless other organizations, research institutions, and individuals contribute to the 30 by 30 initiative.

Here are some key points about 30x30:

Targets: The initiative covers all types of natural ecosystems, including forests, grasslands, wetlands, rivers, lakes, and oceans. It emphasizes protecting areas with high biodiversity, ecological connectivity, and carbon storage potential.

Benefits: Achieving 30x30 is expected to provide numerous benefits, including:

 Protecting endangered species and habitats: Preserving essential areas for diverse plant and animal life will help prevent extinctions and promote healthy ecosystems.



The goal is protect the diverse plant and animal species.

Combating climate change: Conserving natural areas improves carbon sequestration, helps regulate temperatures, and builds resilience against climate impacts like floods and droughts.

Safeguarding water resources: Protected ecosystems play a crucial role in filtering and replenishing freshwater supplies, ensuring clean water for drinking, agriculture, and other uses.

Supporting indigenous communities: Many indigenous communities rely on healthy ecosystems for their livelihoods and cultural practices. 30x30 recognizes the importance of their traditional knowledge and stewardship practices in conservation efforts.

Progress: Over 100 countries have already expressed support for 30x30, and progress is being made towards achieving the target through various initiatives. These include:

Expanding protected areas: Governments are creating new national parks, marine protected areas, and indigenous territories to increase the percentage of land and water under protection.

Improving management of existing protected areas: Strengthening management practices within existing protected areas is crucial to ensure their effectiveness in conserving biodiversity and ecological functions.

Supporting indigenous and local communities: Engaging indigenous and local communities in conservation efforts is essential for long-term success, as they often have deep knowledge of their environment and traditional practices that contribute to sustainability.

Challenges: Implementing 30x30 faces various challenges, including: **Securing funding**: Significant financial resources are needed to establish and manage protected areas, especially in developing countries.

Balancing conservation with development needs: Finding ways to reconcile conservation goals with economic development and resource needs for local communities is crucial.

Addressing equity and justice concerns: Ensuring that the benefits of 30x30 are equitably distributed and that indigenous and local

communities are not negatively impacted by conservation measures is essential.

Overall, the 30x30 initiative presents a bold and ambitious vision for protecting the planet's biodiversity and ecosystem services. While challenges remain, its potential benefits for biodiversity, climate change, and human well-being make it a crucial effort for shaping a more sustainable future.

Unfortunately, there isn't a single, definitive text for the 30 x 2030 initiative. The goal itself is a broad commitment adopted by various organizations and countries, each with their own specific approaches and implementation plans. However, several key documents and resources provide valuable insights into the initiative:

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework:

This international treaty serves as the primary framework for global biodiversity conservation efforts. It includes Target 3, which calls for "30 by 30" protection of land and ocean areas by 2030. The full text of the framework, including Target 3, can be accessed here: https://www.cbd.int/post2020/

High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People (HACNP) Declaration:

This coalition of governments champions ambitious biodiversity goals, including 30 by 30. Their declaration outlines their commitment and provides a roadmap for achieving the target: https://www.hacfornatureandpeople.org/

Global Ocean Alliance 30x30 for the Ocean Campaign:

This alliance focuses on ocean protection and advocates for 30% marine protection by 2030. Their website provides resources and information about their specific approach to the 30x30 goal: https://theoceanproject.org/30x30/

National and regional plans:

Many countries and regions have developed their own strategies and plans for implementing the 30 by 30 target. These plans provide detailed information about their specific goals, priorities, and approaches. You can find them through the websites of relevant government agencies or environmental organizations.

Additional Resources:

The World Wildlife Fund (WWF) website offers a comprehensive overview of the 30 by 30 initiative, including its history, goals, and progress: https://explore.panda.org/cop15/30by30 The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) website provides information about the 30 by 30 target within the context of the broader post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework: https://www.unep.org/unep-and-biodiversity

While there isn't a single document encompassing the entire text of the 30×2030 initiative, exploring these resources and others specific to your region or interests will provide a comprehensive understanding of this ambitious and multifaceted global conservation effort. Remember, the 30×2030 initiative is still evolving, and new resources and information are constantly emerging. Stay informed and engaged by following relevant organizations and initiatives. Contribute to this important movement in any way you can. Get educated, involved and share your thoughts with your family, friends and communities. The more you do at the local level, the greater the change. Be the change.

Data for Chapter 20 was created with assistance of Gemini AI

CHAPTER TWENTY-TWO

WHY STUDY ASTRONOMY

"To look at the sky and behold the wondrous heart of silence. I have thought, and studied, and worked for years, and I know so little — all I can do is to adore when I behold this unfailing regularity, the miraculous balance and perfect adaptation. The majesty of it all humbles me to dust."

— Copernicus

We cannot possibly understand the importance of life on our small planet unless we study astronomy. By studying the heavens, we get an appreciation on why life on Earth is so precious and sacred. It is a miracle that there is complex life only here on this planet, in this star system. By studying astronomy, we learn more about our planet. We have not fully explored our solar system. Space exploration is still in its infancy. The few scientific probes we have sent to planets, asteroids and moons in our solar system revealed it is devoid of all complex life.

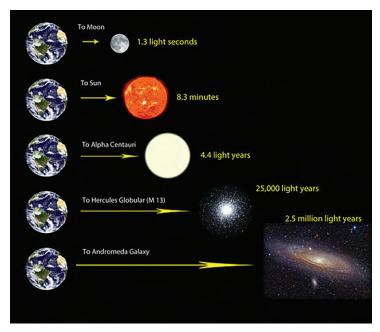
We have not made much progress in rocket propulsion technology. Like the gas combustion engine from the turn of the last century that depends on fossil fuels, rockets still depend on controlled chemical explosions. Launches to Earth orbit and beyond may seem routine but it is in fact very dangerous. Nine nations can launch satellites into Earth orbit. Fewer still have been able to send probes to other planets. Even less can send humans to outer space. Only the United States, Russia and China can send humans into space. The exploration of the last frontier

has just begun. And now, private wealthy individuals have joined this important exploration endeavor.

Humanity's situation today is like Europe's plight in the early 1500s at the dawn of the Age of Discovery. Spain, Portugal, France, Britain and other countries knew there was a whole planet out there to explore, but these tribes were so busy fighting among themselves they missed an opportunity to cooperate. This tribal violence eventually led to two largely European world wars. Colonization of other parts of our small planet ended but global cooperation did not replace ancient tribal behaviors. The United States, Russia, China, the nations of the European Union all know there is a solar system out there waiting to be explored.

But, with a lack of meaningful cooperation, humans do not have the means to colonize other planets. It is extremely difficult to just get humans to the International Space Station, much less build a moon base or God forbid, a joint human expedition to land on Mars. There is not one global agreed upon plan for space exploration. We remain so tribal we are still pointing nuclear explosives at each other.

The minor exploration of the inner solar system with less than 100 probes, powerful telescopes and computer analysis has revealed, there are no habitable planets or moons in our solar system. There is no meaningful life of any kind in our solar system. Complex life is exclusive to Earth, our home and center of our universe. This is why we need to continue to explore our solar system. We need to learn everything we can about these dead worlds so we can preserve life here. Why is there no complex life in our solar system? These other worlds are dead. Could that happen to us? A brief look at these other planets reveals why we must protect our home. Our Earth is precious and full of life. These planets are hot and cold dead rocks.



The Andromeda Galaxy is the most distant object most people can see with the unaided eye. Image via Bob King

There are countless reasons why studying astronomy can be an enriching and rewarding pursuit, both intellectually and personally. Here are just a few:

Understanding our place in the universe: Astronomy allows us to explore the vast cosmos, from the swirling galaxies millions of light-years away to the intricate dance of particles within our own solar system. It helps us answer fundamental questions about our origins, our place in the grand scheme of things, and the possibility of life beyond Earth.

Developing critical thinking and problem-solving skills: Astronomical research involves analyzing complex data, building models, and testing hypotheses. Studying astronomy hones your analytical skills, logical reasoning, and ability to approach complex problems with a scientific perspective.

Fostering creativity and imagination: Astronomy fuels our sense of wonder and inspires creativity. Gazing at the night sky or studying breathtaking images from space telescopes ignites our imagination and opens doors to new ways of thinking about the world and our place in it.

Appreciating the interconnectedness of everything: Astronomical phenomena like gravity, light, and energy play crucial roles in shaping our universe, from the smallest subatomic particles to the largest galaxies. Studying astronomy fosters an understanding of these fundamental forces and how they connect seemingly disparate entities across vast distances.

Contributing to scientific advancement: Astronomy is a dynamic field with constant discoveries and ongoing research. By studying astronomy, you can potentially contribute to groundbreaking discoveries that expand our understanding of the universe and potentially impact various fields like physics, technology, and even philosophy.

Personal growth and inspiration: Studying astronomy can be a humbling and awe-inspiring experience. It reveals the immense scale and complexity of the universe, fostering a sense of perspective and reminding us of our place within this vast cosmic tapestry. This can lead to personal growth, a deeper appreciation for life, and a renewed sense of wonder at the mysteries that surround us.

And these are just a few reasons. Whether you're interested in the technical aspects of space exploration, the philosophical questions about our existence, or simply the breathtaking beauty of the cosmos, astronomy has something to offer everyone. Remember, exploring the universe starts with curiosity and a thirst for knowledge. I encourage you to dive into the fascinating world of astronomy and discover its wonders for yourself. *Study of heavens will give you a global perspective of the importance of saving life on Earth.

THE OORT CLOUD- These are the farthest known objects in the solar system. Located on the outskirts of the solar system, it is a "junkyard" of countless icy bodies left over from the solar system's formation. We believe the Oort Cloud is a vast shell of billions of comets that wraps around the entire solar system.

We believe based upon observations with our probes, our telescopes that the Oort Cloud is a giant spherical shell surrounding the entire solar system. We think it is like a shell containing billions or even trillions of icy objects that wraps around the entire solar system. Why it exists and what it is made of is not known at this time. We have not explored this far from home. Is the Oort Cloud a protective barrier completely surrounding the entire solar system? There are so many questions we need to answer regarding this shell that is out there in deep space.

HUMAN TECHNOLOGY IS IN ITS INFANCY

There is so much about our solar system we just do not know yet. That is to be expected. We have only had electricity for our cities on a consumer scale since the 1930s. This is less than 100 years since we have had lights in our homes and cities. Some of us can remember when homes did not have indoor plumbing. Those of us who grew up

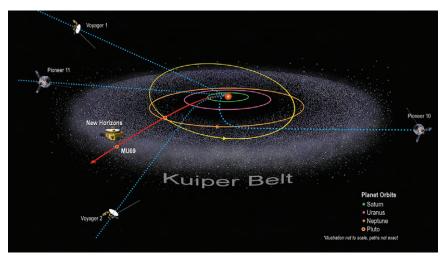


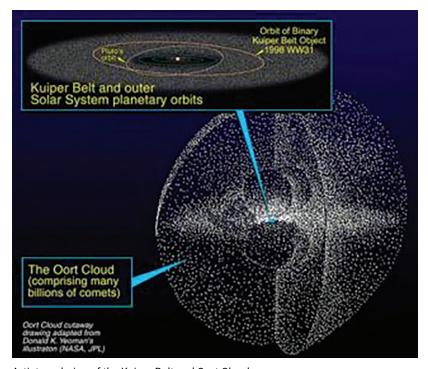
Image from NASA artist rendition of Kuiper Belt and U.S. probes

on farms without indoor plumbing remember having to take baths in aluminum tubs with the water heated on wooden stoves. Yet even this primitive technology does not exist anywhere in our solar system except here on our planet, the Earth.

As interns, you will be doing research on astronomy and search for answers to these huge philosophical questions. Why are humans here on this small planet? What is our purpose in life? Are we alone in the universe? Is there life after death? Where is "God" in all this suffering and destruction? Do we have free will? What the Hubble and the James Webb telescopes discovered is the universe is a huge place almost too massive for humans to grasp. Your research will work to reverse climate change, save the ocean's wildlife, the rain forests and retool the global economy. As you can see from this brief overview of astronomy, ours is a very small planet.

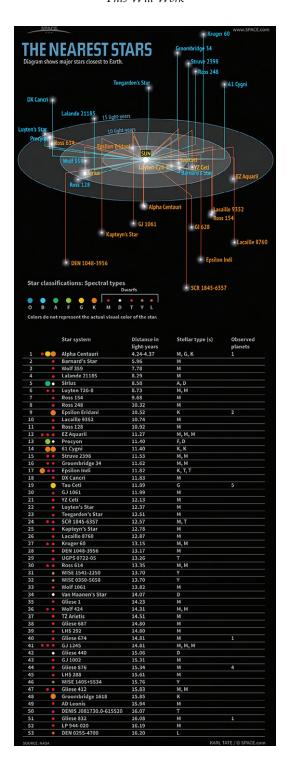
To get to Earth from another star system, an alien intruder needs to pass through the first defense shield- the Oort Cloud. We do not know why this shell around the entire solar system exists. We do not know what is in the Oort Could, but do know it has billions of icy objects, comets. If an alien intruder gets by the Oort Cloud, it will have to successfully navigate through the Kuiper Belt. This asteroid like belt is full of dwarf planets, more icy objects and Lord only knows what. After aliens get by the Kuiper Belt and manages to get past the gravity of the large planets, they will still have to maneuver past the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter. This massive asteroid belt is full of dangerous debris that can tear a spaceship apart. Finally, this alien craft will have to be able to enter our atmosphere without burning up. Why are there all these protective layers shielding our small planet and all the precious animals and plants which exist only here? It must be because the Creator of the universe has

made life on our small planet special and unique. We are here with billions of other living plants and animals. We need to appreciate our uniqueness.



Artist rendering of the Kuiper Belt and Oort Cloud.

Copernicus and the great minds who followed him changed our cosmic paradigm which had the Earth as the center of the universe. It is time to change it back. A child born today will be age 80 at the turn of this century. These children have a right to a home that is full of life and a planet that has clean water, healthy rain forests, oceans full of wildlife and fisheries that are intact. That can only happen by recognizing the uniqueness and importance of life here on our tiny planet. The Earth is the center of our universe and all complex life here is important.



Just because we can kill other creatures and destroy the rain forests does not make it right. We humans should be the stewards of the Earth, not the destroyers of creation. Plants and animals clearly do not exist on any of the planets in our star system. Since these other distant worlds are presently out of our technological reach, we must vigorously pursue space exploration so we can preserve life here on Earth. Our fate is tied to that of the other life forms that share the Earth, the center of our universe. As is stated in Ecclesiastes 3:19–21: "Man's fate is like that of the animals; the same fate awaits them both: As one dies, so dies the other. All have the same breath, man has no advantage over the animal. Everything is meaningless. All go to the same place; all come from dust and to dust all return. Who knows if the spirit of man rises upward and if the spirit of the animal goes down into the earth?"

We need to get people to look up at the sky so they can appreciate this precious Earth, the center of our universe. This is the only universe that matters. By exploring the solar system, we and the other creatures who inhabit spaceship Earth, might survive. This is our planet. We all live here and need to keep our home clean, safe for all the plants and animals. We are not always going to like each other. But like each other or not, we must work together. Find the organization you like and reach out to them. Ours is an Environmental Army. You are our warriors fighting to protect life on this small planet. We have allies and friends. You are smart. Now be brave. That is why you are an Environmental Warrior.*

^{*}This chapter is from my book "Copernicus was Mistaken, Why the Earth is Still the Center of the Universe" online at savingoceans.org and on Kindle. Cites are omitted. All information in this chapter is available via Google's Gemini which helped create this content.

CHAPTER TWENTY-FOUR

THE GLOBAL HIGH SEAS MARINE PRESERVE

"The fate of the living planet is the most important issue facing mankind."

Gaylord Nelson



The imminent collapse of the fish stocks is a global problem that can be solved. Commercial interests subsidized by national governments who don't care about the collapse of the fish stocks will ruin it for the rest of us. Failure will affect all future generations. We don't have to like each other; but like each other or not we have no choice but to stop the slaughter of the oceans' wildlife. The reality is humans need the fish from the oceans for food. As the Pew Charitable Trust Global Ocean Legacy observed on their website:

"The ocean covers nearly three-fourths of the globe and is home to nearly half of the world's known species, with countless yet to be discovered. Producing almost half of the oxygen in the atmosphere, it also absorbs vast amounts of carbon dioxide. The ocean helps support more than 250 million people who depend directly or indirectly on fishing for their livelihoods, and provides the main source of animal protein to more than 2.6 billion people. The oceans play an essential role in sustaining life on our planet, but human activities are increasingly threatening their health. Research shows that very large, fully protected marine reserves are key to rebuilding species abundance and diversity and protecting the overall health of the marine environment."

Tens of thousands of people and hundreds of organizations all over the world are aware of the problems created by overfishing. Many organizations are working to stop the slaughter of the oceans' fisheries. What is working globally is the creation of marine preserves to revive the fish stocks and create healthy oceans. Amending the Law of the Seas Convention and creating a Global High Seas Marine Preserve that carefully regulates commercial fishing will save the marine life and fish stocks. The other choice is a dystopian future with the extinction of the ocean's wildlife. A marine preserve is a protected ocean area like a national park. It is off limits to development and to commercial fishing. When you travel to the Florida Keys, the fish are protected by the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary. This beautiful marine preserve is jointly operated by the National Ocean Atmospheric Administration and the State of Florida. Fishermen can recreationally fish, divers can visit the coral reefs and shipwrecks, as well as enjoy the beauty of protected oceans.

Contrast that national marine preserve with the fish stocks on the eastern coast of Florida. When you fish off the pier at Deerfield, Florida, you might catch a sunburn and if lucky maybe you will get one bite or two. The fish are few and the beaches are full of people. Between polluted oceans and overfishing, fish stocks globally are in big trouble.

The Office of National Marine Sanctuaries is the trustee for a network of 18 marine protected areas encompassing more than 170,000 square miles of marine and Great Lakes waters from Washington state to the Florida Keys, and from Lake Huron to American Samoa. As of 2023, there are over 6,500 protected marine areas on our small planet. These protected areas represent less than three (3) percent of the ocean. With over 97 percent of the oceans available for huge fishing vessels armed with 40-mile-long line, radar, sonar, small planes as spotters and



(National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration website)

miles and miles of long lines, it is not a fair fight. The fish stocks are being slaughtered like the passenger pigeon and the buffalo. This slaughter can and must be stopped. The fish stocks can be revived. It is a winnable battle.

NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY SYSTEM



The network includes a system of 18 national marine sanctuaries and the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument.⁴

There is hope. Unlike the military-industrial complex, the agricultural lobby, big pharma, big finance or the firearms lobby, the Fishing Industrial Complex is not very powerful. The global fishing industry as a whole is not a very large business. Without government subsidies, these industries can't compete. According to CNN International:

"The worldwide fishing industry employs around 200 million people, generating \$80 billion a year. But a hefty chunk of the industry's revenues come from subsidies, which are currently estimated at around \$34 billion a year. Those most responsible for subsidizing the fishing industry are Japan (spending \$5.3 billion a year), the European Union (\$3.3 billion) and China (\$3.1 billion), according to activist group Oceana." ⁵

This is not a huge industry compared to the giants of commerce out there in the global economic jungle. Retail global giant Wal-Mart has annual gross revenues of over \$540 billion. Industrial giant General Electric has gross revenues of over \$144 billion. Defense giant Lockheed Martin has gross revenues of over \$45 billion. Commercial fishing companies would not survive without government subsidizes. Banning government subsidies globally and creating a Global High Seas Marine Preserve, the fish stocks can be saved. This is an environmental fight we will win.

Carefully regulating global commercial fishing will allow humans to continue to harvest fish by monitoring the catch using the best available science. It will not mean the end of fish consumption. Each government can then best protect their fisheries as the United States and other nations are trying. What it will accomplish is save the fisheries as a food source. World-renowned scientist Dr. Daniel Pauly describes what has happened to the fish stocks as follows:

Our oceans have been the victims of a giant Ponzi scheme, waged with Bernie Madoff-like callousness by the world's fisheries. Beginning in the 1950s, as their operations became increasingly industrialized — with onboard refrigeration, acoustic fish-finders, and, later, GPS — they first depleted stocks of cod, hake, flounder, sole, and halibut in the Northern Hemisphere. As those stocks disappeared, the fleets moved southward, to the coasts of developing nations and, ultimately, all the way to the shores of Antarctica, searching for icefishes and rock cods, and, more recently, for small, shrimplike krill. As the bounty of coastal waters dropped, fisheries moved further offshore, to deeper waters. And, finally, as the larger fish began to disappear, boats began to catch fish that were smaller and uglier — fish never before considered fit for human consumption. Many were renamed so that they could be marketed: The suspicious slimehead became the delicious orange roughy, while the worrisome

Patagonian toothfish became the wholesome Chilean seabass. Others, like the homely hoki, were cut up so they could be sold sight-unseen as fish sticks and filets in fast-food restaurants and the frozen-food aisle.

The scheme was carried out by nothing less than a fishing-industrial complex — an alliance of corporate fishing fleets, lobbyists, parliamentary representatives, and fisheries economists. By hiding behind the romantic image of the small-scale, independent fisherman, they secured political influence and government subsidies far in excess of what would be expected, given their miniscule contribution to the GDP of advanced economies — in the United States, even less than that of the hair salon industry. In Japan, for example, huge, vertically integrated conglomerates, such as Taiyo or the better-known Mitsubishi, lobby their friends in the Japanese Fisheries Agency and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to help them gain access to the few remaining plentiful stocks of tuna, like those in the waters surrounding South Pacific countries.

Beginning in the early 1980s, the United States, which had not traditionally been much of a fishing country, began heavily subsidizing U.S. fleets, producing its own fishing-industrial complex, dominated by large processors and retail chains. Today, governments provide nearly \$30 billion in subsidies each year — about one-third of the value of the global catch — that keep fisheries going, even when they have overexploited their resource base. As a result, there are between two and four times as many boats as the annual catch requires, and yet, the funds to "build capacity" keep coming.⁷

The result of industrial harvesting of fish by giant vessels like the massive Atlantic Dawn is one cause of the current collapse of the

world's fisheries. It is reminiscent of the slaughter of the buffalo when railroads made their way across the continent. When faced with the reality of extinction, some forward-thinking individuals saved the buffalo. Where once buffalo herds were massive. The herds were in the millions. Humans slaughtered them without care and almost made them extinct.

The same thing happened with whales. Without the hard work of conservationists, every last whale in the oceans would have been hunted to extinction. Mountain gorillas and other large apes, too, would be extinct but for the efforts of brave individuals like Jane Goodall and numerous others. It takes courage to stand up against the forces of greed and at times sheer stupidity. The planet has concerned individuals like scientist Dr. Daniel Pauly, director and adventurer James Cameron, actor Harrison Ford; hundreds of non-profit organizations, government agencies and tens of thousands of workers and millions of citizens globally that care about the environment.⁸

Stopping giant commercial fishing vessels from slaughtering the fish stocks can be accomplished with public participation and political will. If millions of citizens demand that the fish stocks be saved from collapse, political leaders will create a Global High Seas Marine Preserve. Politicians don't lead, they follow. Citizens need to lead their politicians in the right direction and force change from the bottom up. Like all social movements, it will not happen from the top down. If citizens hold public protests of commercial fishing vessels and boycott the purchase of endangered fish, the slaughter will stop. Here is where the consumer and government, not the commercial fishing companies, have power. Nobody is forcing anyone to buy fish that are going to become extinct from overfishing. If there is no profit in fishing, these companies will stop fishing.

As Charles Clover observed, "Atlantic Dawn is the greatest fish killing machine the world has ever seen." The collapse of the fisheries resulted by pursuit of short-term profits rather than the long-term survival of the fish stocks. These huge commercial fishing vessels are emptying out the oceans. Governments know about the slaughter. Politicians get money to be elected. They take money from the highest bidder, including campaign contributions from the fishing industry. In return, politicians provide subsidies to a fish industry that is too large for the number of fish being harvested from the oceans. The result is overfishing. Politicians can be voted out of office. If the fish stocks become extinct, they cannot be voted back to life. Politicians have the same data as the scientific community. They just don't care if the fish stocks collapse. If you like sea food, then you need to vote these individuals out of office.

Another reason extremist politicians will not work to stop the slaughter of the fish stocks and are not concerned about environmental issues is their religious beliefs. Some extremist politicians believe the problems facing the planet are signs of "the end of times". Consequently, trying to solve any of these problems is going against "God's will". The "End of Time" politicians don't care about the future of the Earth because they don't believe there will be a future. As Glenn Scherer observed:

"People under the spell of such potent prophecies cannot be expected to worry about the environment. Why care about the earth when the droughts, floods, and pestilence brought by ecological collapse are signs of the Apocalypse foretold in the Bible? Why care about global climate change when you and yours will be rescued in the Rapture? And why care about converting from oil to solar when the same God who performed the miracle of the loaves and fishes can whip up a few billion barrels of light crude with a Word?" 10



(Charles Clover online at: http://britishseafishing.co.uk/atlantic-dawnthe-ship-from-hell/)

When democracies elect people with no regard for the health and wellbeing of the planet, of course fish stocks are going to collapse. This can all be changed with votes. The collapse of the fish stocks is best exemplified by the decline of the jack mackerel. Having fished out the Mediterranean and the North Atlantic and been banned from destroying the protected fish stocks of the United States, the fleets of Europe and Asia are attacking the jack mackerel in full force. The result of greed, political ineptness and mismanagement is that a natural resource becomes extinct. As Mort Rosenblum and Mar Cabra reported in a New York Times story: "It's going fast," he said as he looked at the 57-foot boat. "We've got to fish harder before it's all gone." Asked what he would leave his son, he shrugged: "He'll have to find something else."

Jack mackerel, rich in oily protein, is manna to a hungry planet, a staple in Africa. Elsewhere, people eat it unaware; much of it is reduced to feed for aquaculture and pigs. It can take more than five kilograms, more than 11 pounds, of jack mackerel to raise a single kilogram of farmed salmon.

Stocks have dropped from an estimated 30 million metric tons to less than a tenth of that in two decades. The world's largest trawlers, after depleting other oceans, now head south toward the edge of Antarctica to compete for what is left.

An eight-country investigation of the fishing industry in the southern Pacific by the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists shows how the fate of the jack mackerel may foretell the progressive collapse of fish stocks in all oceans. In turn, the fate of this one fish reflects a bigger picture: decades of unchecked global fishing pushed by geopolitical rivalry, greed, corruption, mismanagement and public indifference. Daniel Pauly, an eminent University of British Columbia oceanographer, sees jack mackerel in the southern Pacific as an alarming indicator. "This is the last of the buffaloes," he said. "When they're gone, everything will be gone.".¹¹

Unlike the massive military-industrial complex and the \$1 trillion plus defense budget, the fishing industry is tiny. This problem can be solved by giving the world's navies a new mission, explore the oceans, protect the high seas from illegal commercial fishing. While this is being done, expand the network of marine preserves globally from less than 3 percent of the ocean to 100 percent with the creation of a Global High Seas Marine Preserve. Limit the size of fish catch by quotas approved by scientists, not politicians or industry.

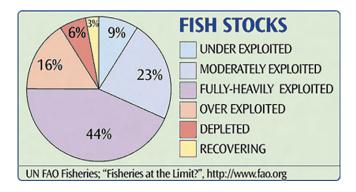
The collapse of the fish stocks is the result of numerous historical forces all coming together at once. The human population increased from 1 billion in 1800 to over 8 billion in 2025. In the same 225 year time frame, technology vastly improved. As technology developed, the natural world was slaughtered. Ancient trees were no match for chain saws, power blades, bull dozers, explosives and sawmills. Buffalo and whales cannot possibly fight back against gunpowder and bullets.

By the year A.D.1800 in the Western calendar, human population was exploding. Yet there was wilderness; numerous areas of the planet were unexplored. Whaling was an industry that had not yet driven these species to the brink of extinction. Buffalo were hunted and used for food and furs. Numerous indigenous nations still had territory that they could defend. European powers still had global empires and cultures were distinctly different. There were few cities on the planet with over one million people. No city had electricity. Automobiles, planes and coal-fired power plants did not exist. Nuclear power was not even an idea. Global fish stocks were healthy. The ancient forests of giant Redwoods and Sequoias were largely intact. Wolves and grizzlies still roamed the mountains and plains of America.

Globally, the mountain gorillas had their own vast territories along with the wild elephants, and tens of thousands of other species. Humans lived near these wild animals but have not yet slaughtered them to near extinction. Today, a simple creature like a tuna fish cannot possibly survive against a modern killing machine like the giant fishing vessels. It has never been a fair fight between modern technology and the natural world. It is like a human armed with a bow and arrow up against a F-22 fighter or a redwood against a chainsaw. Time from a historical perspective is short. Approximately 500 years ago, in the time of Columbus there were millions of sea turtles. Their sound could be heard from miles offshore. A mere 200 years ago the oceans were filled with numerous types of fish and the rainforests were intact and wildlife was abundant.

As population increased and technology improved, numerous fish stocks are on the edge of collapse. According to Dr Holden Harris, an expert in Fisheries Sciences from Florida University, "today, it's likely that 1/3 of the world's fish stocks worldwide are overexploited or depleted. This is certainly an issue that deserves widespread concern."¹²

Overfishing is an understatement. What humans are doing in too many parts of the world is emptying the oceans of fish.¹³



"75% of the major marine fish stocks are either depleted, overexploited or being fished at their biological limit." ¹⁴

The legal framework already exists under international law to create these marine preserves. The 1958 International Convention on Fishing and Conservation of Living Resources of the High Seas includes the following provision:

ARTICLE 4

If the nationals of two or more States are engaged in fishing the same stock or stocks of fish or other living marine resources in any area or areas of the high seas, these States shall, at the request of any of them, enter into negotiations with a view to prescribing by agreement for their nationals the necessary measures for the conservation of the living resources affected.¹⁵

The Obama administration was not able to obtain the cooperation of Congress on the important issue of preserving the fish stocks. President Obama took the initiative. He increased the size of the Pacific Remote Islands National Monument established by President George W. Bush. America's largest marine preserve was made six times larger. Marine

preserves protect the entire ecosystem of the oceans.¹⁶ Increasing the size of this National Monument did not generate much media attention. Few fishermen venture out into this area, probably because it is not a major fishing site.

What the Obama administration failed to do was seize the opportunity and call for an international conference on the oceans and create a Global High Seas Marine Preserve. "The worst culprits contributing to this crisis are developed countries, with their vast fleets and technological prowess. Ten countries — Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Spain, the United States, Chile, China, Indonesia, the Philippines, and France, in descending order – account for 70 percent of the fishing by value in the high seas".¹⁷

Because technological limitations no longer limit the ability to fish, a Global High Seas Marine Preserve is an excellent global policy change to revive entire ecosystems. The U.S. Navy, working with other nations, can patrol it and keep these preserves free from poachers. Absent people foregoing fish as food, a Global High Seas Marine Preserve patrolled by the world's navies is the best solution to reviving the fish stocks.

The power of the consumer can force substantive change. The United States, Canada and Mexico, the three North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) nations, form the largest economy on the planet with a combined GDP of over \$33 trillion dollars. The European Union is the second largest economic power with a combined GDP of over \$28 trillion dollars. The two world's largest markets can put significant pressure on any nation to comply with accepted global rules of behavior. Here the public can help by boycotting nations' products that refuse to quit overfishing and destroying the oceans.

Consumer boycotts work. When enough people put economic pressure on South Africa, as well as the hard work of Nelson Mandela

and others, the evils of apartheid finally ended. The ultimate power to create change always lies with the individual in a consumer-based economy.

Since the Trump Administration is not saddled with political correctness, they can take the leadership role on this issue. Trump can pressure other countries to stop destroying the oceans. Trump can't be attacked from the extreme right wing of the Republican Party. He can get United States to ratify the Convention on the Law of the Seas discussed earlier. We cannot expect other nations to comply with international law if our nation refuses to be bound by the same rules. This is an excellent opportunity for President Trump to save the global fisheries and prevent disaster.

There are inexpensive solutions to the fish stock collapse problem. President Trump can get the United States to initiate a global education campaign on overfishing and the consequences. Advertising can be donated by the major media conglomerates and the ads can be produced by environmental groups and research universities. Huge retail chains like Wal-Mart and Kroger can insist on sustainable catch. Consumers can help by only purchasing ocean safe seafood and not eating Ahi tuna, sea bass and other endangered species.

To accomplish the removal of the fishing vessels, the world's governments are going to have to initiate condemnation proceedings and purchase them from their owners. Governments are going to have to provide unemployment insurance for the fishing crews who will temporarily lose their jobs. The developed world will have to help these countries with foreign aid to offset this financial loss by the fishermen. It is clearly something we can accomplish with governments and non-government organizations working together.

Only a small handful of truly massive fishing vessels exist. According to the United Nation's Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO),

there are less than 30,000 industrial size commercial fishing vessels in the world. Of these, approximately 15,000 belong to China.²⁰ President Trump can use economic pressure on China to stop overfishing, polluting the oceans and be a partner in conservation. China needs U.S. markets for their economy to prosper.

President Trump can also work to get these huge fishing vessels off the high seas. They are not part of the fishing that is done in traditional societies who depend on the oceans for nutrition. The expensive ocean-going industrial fishing vessels belong to a handful of countries and companies. The indigenous fishermen who feed their families do not use giant ocean-going vessels complete with sonar and massive industrial nets and freezers. They use traditional fishing techniques that do not drive species to extinction. Given the need to reduce our national debt, a good place to cut is subsidies to the fishing industry and force other countries to do the same.

Good governance, public awareness and responsible industry practices can turn this around. As the FAO observed in its outlook on the future of the global fish stocks:

"The future of the fisheries and aquaculture sector will be influenced by its capacity to address strategic interconnecting challenges of global and local relevance. Population and income growth, together with urbanization and dietary diversification, are expected to create additional demand for animal products, including fish in developing countries. Thus, the future of the sector will be the result of social development, in its ecological, social and economic contexts, at local, regional and global scales."²¹

There are some successes in stopping the slaughter of the oceans. The tiny nation of Kiribati has banned all commercial fishing in an area the size of California.²² This tiny country is taking on the global

fishing industry by creating the world's largest marine park to help the wildlife recover. When the smallest countries on the planet decide to protect their wildlife, the largest countries can also choose the moral high ground and stop the slaughter of the oceans. A problem faced by small countries is protecting the marine preserves. They don't have powerful navies and sufficient patrol vessels. President Trump can use the U.S. Navy to protect small countries' fisheries. Instead, what he has done is made matters worse, far worse.

Again, the best protection of the fish in the world's oceans is to expand national marine preserves and make the high seas off limits to commercial fishing. This proposal to make the high seas off limits is being made by numerous international organizations. That move is long overdue and the world is finally moving in that direction. The world's navies can help small nations and enforce this ban to help revive the fish stocks. Dr. Daniel Pauly, the world's foremost scholar on fisheries, said this about the initiative to close the high seas:

"The expansion of the law of the seas is not on the agenda of any country. It's an idea whose time has not yet come. It has only recently been proposed. It will take one to two decades." "But if we continue with business as usual, I am afraid that the fish stocks will completely collapse. Closing the high seas to fishing is about 60 percent of the oceans. This would benefit all countries. The catch would improve so it would make it that the fish stocks are healthier and therefore larger catch."²³

While he is concerned about the current destruction of the fish stocks, his work and the work of many scientists has led to great changes.

"Large marine preserves is an idea whose time has come. There are certain areas like Antarctica that could be declared as a marine reserve. Closing the high seas would help large fish like tuna and others. Technically it would work. Coastal fish would not be protected. Species like rock fish would not have protection."²⁴

These coastal fish could be protected by local marine reserves and laws of individual nations that have a vested interest in the preservation of their fisheries. The Florida Keys and the recent protection of Bristol Bay are prime examples of the United States working to protect marine wildlife.

The United States must lead on this issue to move the world in the right direction. As Dr. Pauly observed: "The task in the United States is to get the U.S. to ratify the Law of the Seas. It is simply not ratified. The crazies in Congress will not allow it to be ratified."²⁵

THE TRAGEDY OF THE COMMONS

The collapse of the fisheries is a tragedy of the commons. Since the tuna and other ocean catch belong to everyone, they are protected by no one. The goal is to get yours before they are all fished out. By creating a Global High Seas Marine Preserve and inviting all the fishing nations we can preserve the fish stocks. The 200-mile state limit will insure that nations can still fish. But by protecting the wild stocks out in the high seas they won't be overfished. The tragedy of the commons has resulted in the collapse of the fish stocks. The large fish will be slaughtered to extinction without global protection.

In 1968 Garrett Hardin concluded "a finite world can support only a finite population; therefore, population growth must eventually equal zero". His article in Science "The Tragedy of the Commons" shaped environmental thinking and is required reading to fully understand the problem of the collapse of the fisheries. The tragedy of the commons²⁶ is the concept that individuals acting independently with their self interest in mind will behave contrary to the best interests of the whole group by depleting some common resource. Here the common resource is the

fish that are owned by everyone. Since no one fishing company owns them and no one nation can protect them this resource is over fished. The fishermen try to get their share before every fish is gone. Despite the limits recommended by scientists without enforcement, the fish stocks continue to decline.

The tragedy of the commons with the fish stocks can be overcome by recognizing that the fisherman cannot be marginalized, but they cannot be subsidized either. The 200 mile national limit will still allow fishing within the national boundaries of the various nations that boarder the oceans. Numerous nations are doing a very good job of creating marine preserves. Now humans just need to take it to the next level and make the high seas off limits to commercial fishing. This legal move will save the fisheries for future generations.

The U.S. Navy and other navies can enforce the ban on commercial fishing. The United Nations, which many scholars consider toothless, can working through the Security Council oversee this ban. The Law of the Seas Convention must be amended to create this Global High Seas Marine Preserve. Like all international agreements, it can be accomplished because it is in everyone's interests that the fisheries humans depend on for food not become extinct.

We have been fishing for thousands of years. We can continue to fish for thousands more. We just cannot empty out the oceans with these giant commercial government subsidized fishing vessels that make up a very small part of global fishing but do the most damage. These giant trawlers are not "fishing", they are emptying the oceans. The interests of a tiny handful of rich people who are destroying the oceans with commercial fishing are outweighed by humanity's interest in preserving the fish stocks. This is one fight against a handful of wealthy individuals we can win. We at the Global High Seas Marine Preserve are working to educate the global public on the need to

protect 100 percent of the oceans. Our goal is to preserve fishing, not end it.

President Trump is not completely hopeless. He passed important environmental legislation in his first term. The Great American Outdoors Act makes a significant commitment to America's natural spaces. Not only does it provide \$9.5 billion over five years for essential maintenance through the National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund, but it also permanently guarantees \$900 million per year for the Land and Water Conservation Fund, ensuring ongoing support for conservation efforts.²⁷ His environmental record from his first term speaks for itself.²⁸ In his words, "Every day of my presidency, we will fight for a cleaner environment and a better quality of life for everyone of our great citizens." This statement has been completely undone with one Executive Order.

President Donald John Trump was in a similar position like President Richard M. Nixon was when the United States established full diplomatic relations with Communist China. Only Nixon could open that door. He could not be attacked by the crazies in the Republican Party on the extreme right. This change in foreign policy by President Nixon led to a much safer world. China is a great society with a long cultural history, incredible science and intelligent people. President Trump could have worked with China to save the oceans' wildlife by working to amend the Law of the Seas Treaty and creating a Global High Seas Marine Preserve. No president in U.S. history had been in a similar position because they can all be politically attacked by powerful right-wing forces in Congress. He would have gone down as the most responsible environmental president in history. "Orange Mussolini", as those of us who are his critics, would be known forever as the man that saved the ocean's wildlife and prevented a global catastrophe. His attention to dealing seriously with migration and the need for global

stability is justification for leading the world in saving the ocean's wildlife and cleaning up the planet. Instead, he has made everything worse with one Executive Order.

Only Orange Mussolini could have changed our economic policy from consumerism to sustainability and cleaning up the planet. He likes his surroundings to be clean, modern and properly maintained. He could have used his leadership skills to create new industries, and millions of jobs by helping nations to clean up their environments. Instead of providing foreign aid to corrupt governments, American companies could have helped other countries develop clean water systems, sustainable food production and clean their filthy environments. The advantage President Trump had, like him or not, is he does not give a damn about political correctness. True leadership is what is necessary to solve the planet's massive environmental and migration problems. I like to tease by calling him "Orange Mussolini". Humor aside, President Donald John Trump had the opportunity to host an international conference to amend the Law of the Seas Treaty and create the Global High Seas Marine Preserve. Instead, he has with one stroke of the pen undone decades of ocean environmental work. On April 17, 2025, without any public discussion or impute from the global environmental organizations or any scientific analysis, the Donald signed the Executive Order "Restoring American Seafood Competitiveness" 30.

The problem with the oceans is overfishing and pollution by several nations. Instead of addressing the emptying of the oceans by China, Japan, the European Union, the Philippines, Indonesia, India he is opening up the national monument created by President Obama to commercial fishing.³¹ The tragedy of the commons is ignored. The last paragraph of this outrageous Executive Order reads as follows:

(h) Within 180 days of the date of this order, the Secretary of Commerce, in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior, shall review

all existing marine national monuments and provide recommendations to the President of any that should be opened to commercial fishing. In making these recommendations, the Secretary of Commerce will consider whether the opening of the monuments to commercial fishing would be consistent with the preservation of the historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest originally identified in the proclamations establishing the marine national monuments.³²(emphasis added).

President Obama understands the oceans having grown up in Hawaii. In 2016 his administration helped create the one of the world's largest conservation park, the Paphanaumokuakea Marine National Monument.³³ Here's a summary of its key features:

- **Size and Location:** It's one of the largest marine conservation areas in the world, encompassing 582,578 square miles of the Pacific Ocean. It stretches across a vast area of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.
- **Significance:** The monument is recognized for both its natural and cultural importance. It's home to a diverse array of ³⁴The area includes islands, atolls, coral reefs, and both shallow and deep-sea environments.
- **Cultural Importance:** Papahānaumokuākea holds deep cultural and spiritual significance for Native Hawaiians. It's considered an ancestral environment and is woven into their traditions and beliefs.
- World Heritage Site: It's a UNESCO World Heritage Site, recognized for both its natural beauty and cultural value.
- Management: The monument is co-managed by several agencies, including the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

(FWS), the Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources, and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.³⁴

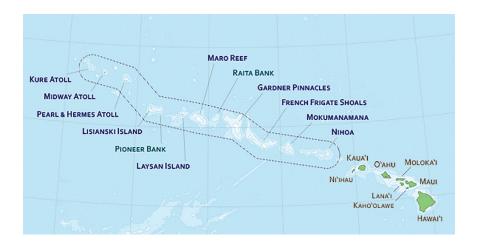
This national monument is a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.³⁵ The monument designation protects the wildlife from commercial fishing. This designation was a huge accomplishment for ocean wildlife protection. Commercial fishing must be regulated worldwide. Unless brought under control, industrial commercial fishing will collapse the global fisheries create a global crisis which is going to cause massive immigration problems. This ocean conservation national monument was a bi-partisan accomplishment first created by President George W. Bush and later expanded by President Obama.

"Originally designated in 2006, by then-President George W. Bush, Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument previously protected the waters within 50 miles of the uninhabited Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. In 2010, the monument was inscribed as a mixed natural and cultural World Heritage Site by UNESCO, making it the first mixed UNESCO World Heritage Site in the United States.

Now, President Obama has expanded most of the monument out to 200 nautical miles within federal waters. The expanded area will provide additional protection for open ocean features including seamounts, submerged reefs and sunken islands. The monument will continue to be managed by NOAA, US Fish and Wildlife, and the State of Hawai'i, and will also include the Office of Hawaiian Affairs within the co-trusteeship.

Commercial fishing and other resource extraction activities, which are currently prohibited in the boundaries of the existing monument, are also prohibited within the expanded monument boundaries. Noncommercial fishing, such as recreational fishing

and the removal of fish and other resources for Native Hawaiian cultural practices, is allowed in the expansion area by permit, as is scientific research."³⁶



This reckless Executive Order will destroy this pristine environment which already has enough trouble from the plastic pollution that gets into the oceans every day. People do care about the environment and how we can make a change. But allowing commercial fishing to expand and undoing the regulations which protect the wildlife is the exact wrong approach to pressing ocean wildlife problems.

Orange Mussolini's hatred of President Barrack Obama goes back to him being the butt of jokes made at the White House Correspondence Dinner^{37.} President Obama was the subject of the birther lie that President Trump perpetuated over and over.³⁸ Trump has such a fragile ego that he does not tolerate being humiliated. This is why he constantly makes fun of other people and has such a complete lack of manners.

This man who tried to overthrow our government and was convicted of 34 felonies, has filed bankruptcy on his businesses at least four times has now decided to open America's largest marine conservation area to commercial fishing.³⁹ Until the United States has a president that

believes in the rule of law and understands environmental problems, there is no hope of ratifying the Law of the Seas Treaty.

This reckless Executive Order will destroy this pristine environment which already has enough trouble from the plastic pollution that gets into the oceans every day. People do care about the environment and how we can make a change. But allowing commercial fishing to expand and undoing the regulations which protect the wildlife is the exact wrong approach to pressing ocean wildlife problems.

The reason the United States has the world's best fisheries is because they are so carefully regulated. If other countries paid careful attention to their marine resources, 90 percent of the large predator fish would not have been slaughtered. We would not have the problems with shark finning. Undoing carefully drafted, scientifically based regulations will destroy our fisheries and our grandchildren's future. At a certain point, no amount of money will protect the richest people on the planet from climate change, plastic pollution, the collapse of the fisheries and environmental refugees. Four years is not a long time. Creating a Global High Seas Marine Preserve is an idea that is ahead of its time.

Imagine that this is 1825 and we are advocating an end to slavery, women having the right to vote, Native Americans becoming U.S. citizens. We are ahead of our time with our idea of a Global High Seas Marine Preserve, but we are not wrong. Only through the rule of law can we protect life on our small planet. This is why international law must be protected and expanded. It is the rule of law that has created the modern world. With law man is the best of species. Without law, man is the worst of all animals. A Global High Seas Marine Preserve will solve the problems of pollution, overfishing, and protection of the ocean's wildlife. Education is the key. As more people study about the oceans and the global environment, get accurate data regarding climate change and the danger of plastics, change will occur. The ocean's

wildlife can be saved with hard work and updating international law. It is time for the United States to ratify the Law of the Seas Treaty and commence the negotiations with all nations to create a **Global High Seas Marine Preserve**.

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CONCLUSION

Impossible is not a fact, it is an attitude"

Christiana Figueres

Dear Elena, my little angel, you are just two years old. At the turn of this century, you will be age 78 years old. I will not be here except in spirit. Please understand that we in the environmental movement are doing everything possible to save your future. I have dedicated my life to creating a Global High Seas Marine Preserve to protect 100 percent of the oceans. That is 70 percent of the planet. The land areas can be protected by changing the diet. This will result in not cutting down the rainforests to grow soy to feed to pigs, chickens and cattle. We don't need to cut down the rain forests to produce palm oil. Simply stated, we don't need to cut down the rain forest for anything. We can clean up the planet.

Elena, when you are older you will learn that humans change behavior when confronted with life ending crises. World wars end, pandemics burn themselves out as viruses run out of hosts. Global viruses force scientific cooperation. Clean energy technologies are constantly being developed to help solve the climate change crisis created by dumping fossil fuels into the atmosphere. Obesity is now a much greater plague on humanity than global hunger. Polio has for the most part been eradicated. As our species created "problems" are solved, new ones arise like mushrooms after a rain. Here is reality, most governments are poorly run. This is to be expected. Politicians are often, insecure individuals with low self-esteem who having failed at numerous endeavors,

seek the purple cloak and the applause of the masses. Often, politicians are first rate, second rate human beings. They lie because they are terribly insecure. The false bravado and arrogance are the result of deep-seated inferiority complex. And they are right. They are inferior. When someone must constantly remind you, they are rich, smart and have all the answers. Well, are they that "rich", "smart" and do their sound bites which are often mistaken by the ignorant, actual policies that make sense? When you are older, we expect you to move past the media noise and make informed decisions.

FAST FORWARD TO 2045

It is amazing how fast 20 years have gone by. We taught you that you control your wallet. You learned to eat nutritious healthy food, exercise, grow vegetables, and be kind. We have encouraged you to use less plastic and go for walks in nature. With millions of young people working at the grass-roots level huge progress was made. We were able to get our Sustainable Food Resolution passed by numerous cities. Coca Cola, Nestle and various food and drink giants are still out there producing plastic bottles with sugar laced addictive drinks and colorful foods that appeal to thirst and hunger. You have been taught to not drink these toxic poisons. You are physically and mentally healthy. While a global single use plastic ban would have been ideal, despite our best efforts, that was just not possible. Unfortunately, our government is still corrupt.

You live in an interdependent, interconnected world. All who would listen and followed our advice benefited from changing their diet. The twin curses of religion and nationalism still plague our planet and need to be discarded into the trash heap of history.

Young people like you no longer believe in Zeus, Apollo, Visnu, Marduk, Shiva and numerous other imaginary deities. Climate change

really did a number on the planet. Your generation survived, despite the environmental damage and millions of refugees. You were taught that we are one species with many different cultures and tribal hatreds that have their origin in pre-history. We encouraged you to think past the tribalism. You learned that humans have very dangerous behaviors and beliefs. Israel, Palestine, Russia, Ukraine, Sudan, Myanmar, Persia, Rome, Britain, Spain, Portugal, the Netherlands, Vikings, the Congo only exist because we believe in these legal fictions. You were taught to only see humans and put the tribal labels in the garbage heap of history. These ancient tribal hatreds mixed with modern technology resulted in a world war that almost destroyed civilization. Your generation barely survived. The planet is healing from the massive destruction created by the materialism consumerism and constant war economic model. Many of the fish species are coming back. The rain forests are growing and expanding. We have climate change under control but live in a much hotter world. This peaceful environmental revolution began and ended with our wallet. Freedom is never free if you are unwilling to control your decisions and emotions. The only rights you have as human beings are those you are willing to fight for. The internet was potentially the greatest invention since fire and the wheel. But it was also dangerous. Lies spread at light speed. Truth crawls like a turtle slowly spreading her message through the sands of time.

The environmental problems facing our small planet were difficult but not impossible or "hopeless". Humanity was in uncharted territory. The year 2024 was the hottest in recorded history. With courage and lots of physical work, we cleaned up the planet. We inspired people to change their diets. We stopped killing the rain forest. We succeeded because success was the only option. Like World War II, we defeated fascism. We fought for your future and that of the plants and animals. We won. This was the biggest fight in human history. Like the brave

This Will Work

Russian soldiers fighting on the Eastern Front and Allied forces storming the beaches of Normandy, it was either win or die a slave to fascism. We were brave, smart, and became the change that saved your future. I love you, Elena.

Your Grandfather,
Danny Quintana
President
Global High Seas Marine Preserve



Credit...Mark Abramson for The New York Times January 10, 2025

