



# Why Civic Engagement?

### Teaching Civic Engagement:

- 1 Improves student learning
- 2 Prepares students to participate in democracy
- Creates better problem solvers and change agents for students, for society

## Why Higher Education?

- 1 Students will be affected by climate change. Students can become early cynics or active citizens and future leaders.
- National and international literature on SD learning outcomes include teaching students how to create systemic change.
- Higher education is a powerful sector representing experts, community leaders, and billions of dollars in economic capital. Higher education is a thought leader, influencer and role model.

### Resources

- Citizens' Climate Lobby www.citizensclimatelobby.org
- Our Climate
   www.ourclimate.org
- Congressional Management Foundation http://www.congressfoundation.org
- "Stop Dooming and Glooming" http://www.aashe.org/climate-solutions/ and

www.aashe.org/partners/heasc/initiatives/beyond-doom-and-gloom

### Mission

To create the political will for climate solutions by enabling individual breakthroughs in personal and political power.



Citizens' Climate Lobby

# Resources for Higher Education

- Higher Education Action Team https://goo.gl/forms/ME11lfrqOAeCwOEB2
- 2 Internships Clara.fang@citizensclimatelobby.org
- 3 Online learning community.citizensclimatelobby.org
- 4 Local chapters citizensclimatelobby.org/about-ccl/chapters

### Higher Education Action Team



Aurora Winslade Swarthmore College



Neil Leary Dickinson College



Jason Zeikowitz Arizona State University



David Folland, Salt Lake City

Sign up at https://goo.gl/forms/ME11IfrqOAeCwOEB2

### Internships

- Start a student group
- Lead a Put a Price on It campaign
- Support a local CCL chapter



Contact Clara for more information Clara.fang@citizensclimatelobby.org

### Online Learning



TAKE ACTION RESOURCES LEARN MY PROFILE CONNECT EVENTS

NEW VOLUNTEERS

Q

Home / Take Action

#### **Lobbying Actions**

Schedule a Meeting

**Lobby Congress** 

**Write or Email Congress** 

Call Congress

Support the Climate Solutions
Caucus

Support the Republican Climate Resolution

Attend a Town Hall

#### Welcome to the Action Center

Choose an action option below to learn, plan, do and share the actions we know will help solve climate change.

#### **Lobbying Actions**

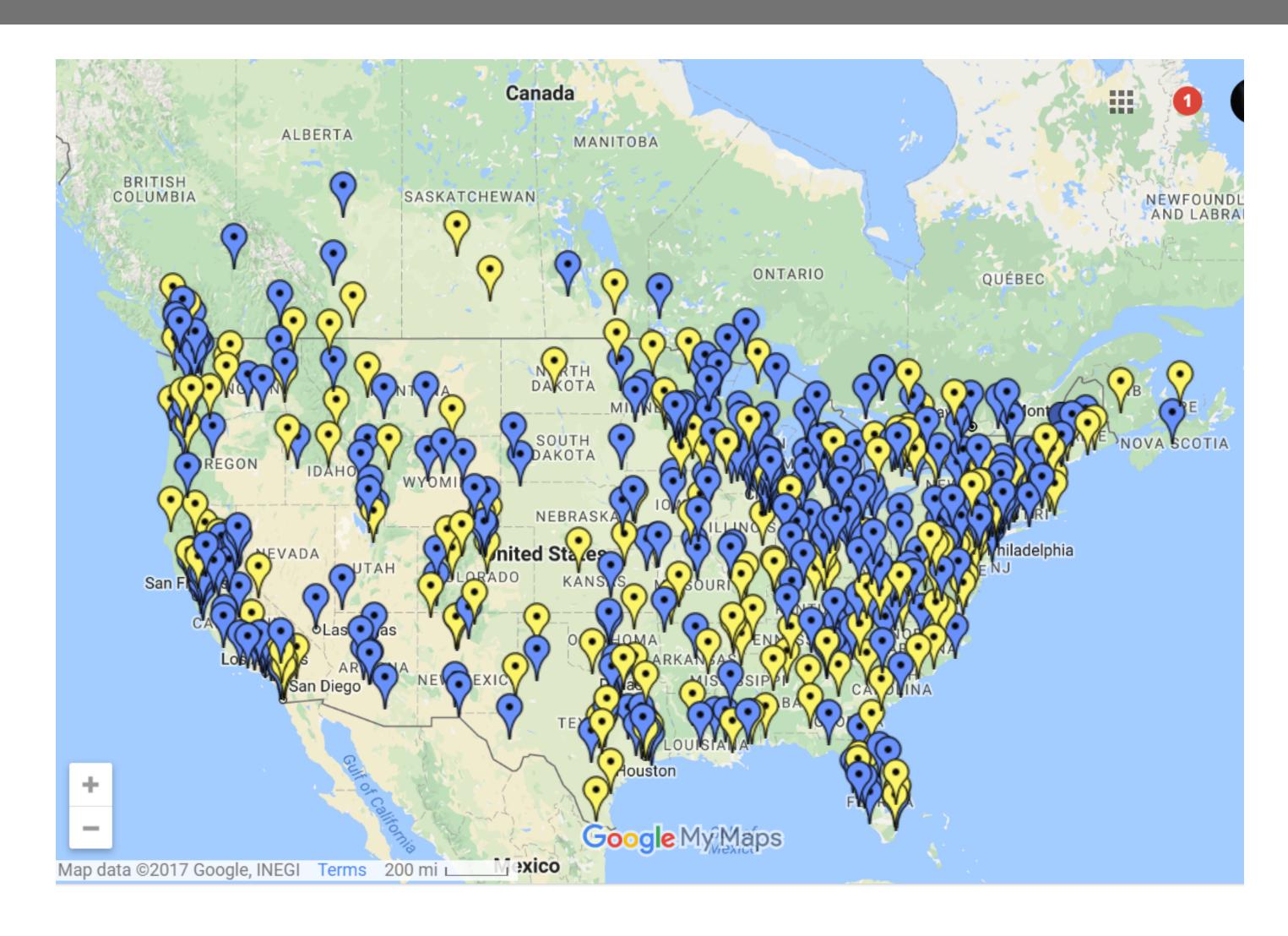
#### Schedule a lobby meeting

This section covers it all, from the basics to advanced tips for scheduling meetings with members of



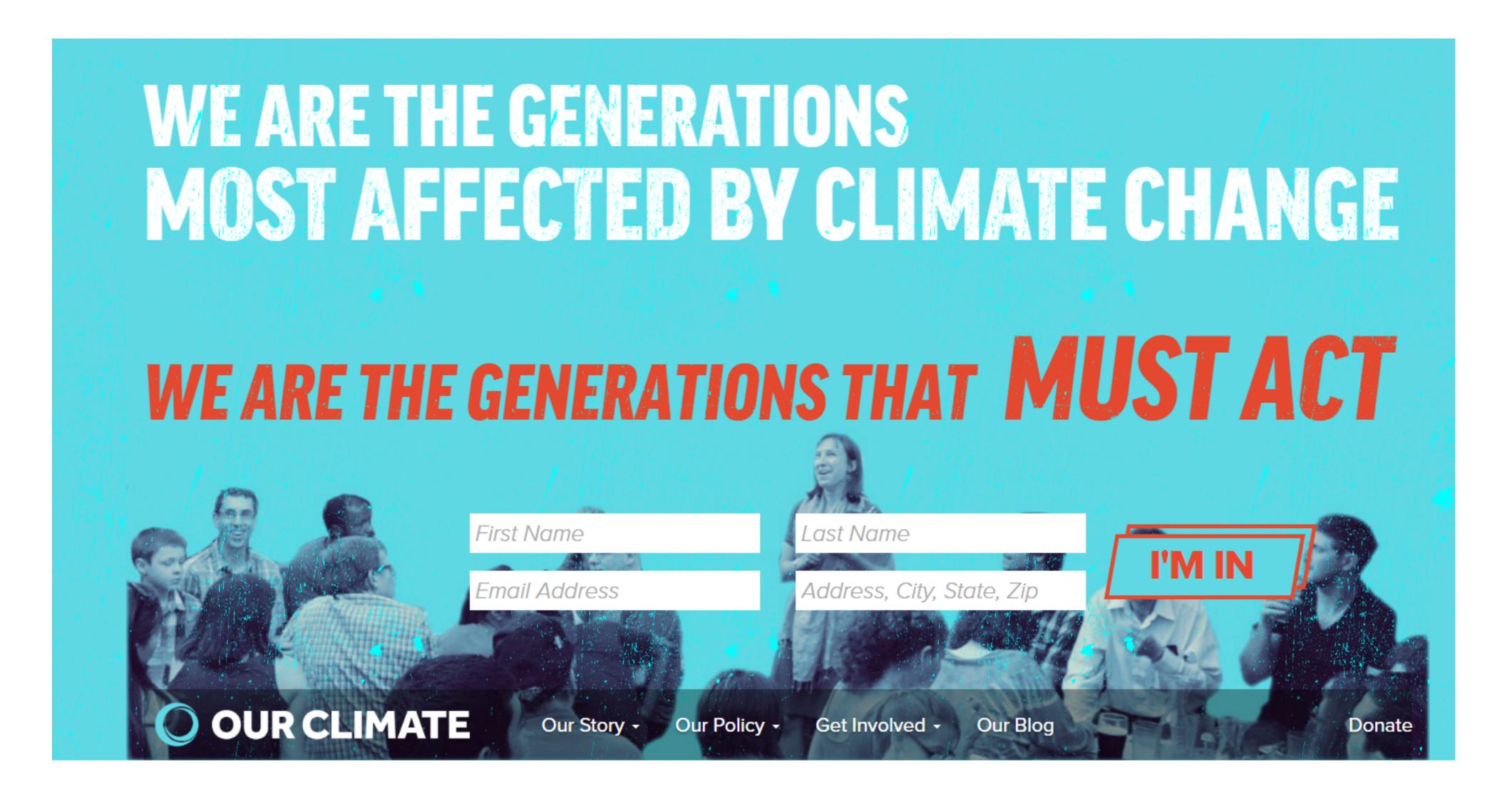
community.citizensclimatelobby.org

### CCL Chapters in the United States - 418





#### www.ourclimate.us www.climatesolution.com



# Resources for Higher Education

- 1 Put a Price on It www.ourclimate.us/opportunities\_for\_students
- **2** Years of Living Dangerously Collaboration
- 3 Higher Edderations Carbon Pricing Endorsement Initiative www.ourclimate.us/
- 4 | higher\_ed\_initiative | State campaigns | www.ourclimate.us/state\_campaigns

#### Higher Education Carbon Pricing Endorsement Initiative

- 1. Student-led effort to gain president endorsements of carbon pricing.
- 2. 35 college and university presidents endorsed Our Climate's carbon pricing letter to Congress.
- 3. Students use endorsements in lobbying for carbon pricing at the state and national level.

www.ourclimate.us/higher\_ed\_initiative

#### State Campaigns

Our Climate is advocating for state carbon pricing in several key states, working closely with coalition partners on engaging students and youth. If you're interested in getting involved with state efforts, please get in touch with Cassidy at cassidy@ourclimate.us, and check out the links below if you see your state!

**Massachusetts** 

**Vermont** 

Washington, D.C.

**Oregon** 

**New York** 

www.ourclimate.us/state\_campaigns

# #PUTAPRICEONIT

#### www.ourclimate.us www.climatesolution.com



Fellowships

Field Reps

Action Team

Social Media

### Mission

Build trust and effectiveness in Congress. Strengthening the bridge between Congress and the people it serves.



## Resources for Higher Education

- 1 The Partnership for a More Perfect Union
- 2 Research
- 3 Training

4 Resources

http://www.congressfoundation.org/citizen-engagement

# **Beyond Doom and Gloom: Climate Solutions**



# Act now to help remove barriers to clean energy growth!

The Higher Education Associations Sustainability Consortium (HEASC) and the Disciplinary Associations Network for Sustainability (DANS) have created this initiative to empower students, educators, and the public to advocate for climate solutions.

#### Beyond Doom and Gloom (continued)





#### **Top Policy Resources**

These organizations provide tools and resources to help you communicate your support for climate solutions to policy makers.

#### Solar

<u>Vote Solar</u> <u>Solar Energy Industries Association: State Solar Policy</u> <u>Alliance for Solar Choice</u>

#### Wind

American Wind Energy Association

#### **Natural Gas**

#### Clean Energy (General)

Citizen's Climate Lobby
Union of Concerned Scientists: Action Center

ACEEE: National Energy Efficiency Policy

Sierra Club

Power Shift Network

350.org

NextGen America

**Environment America** 

#### www.aashe.org/climate-solutions

#### How You Can Get Involved

You don't have to be an energy expert to make a difference. Contact elected representatives today! Get their emails and phone numbers. Here are some tips for making effective calls:

- Emails and phone calls are best
- Be brief. Stick to one issue per email/call
- Introduce yourself/include your contact info
- Be polite! Anger and rudeness will not leave a favorable impression
- You can call policy makers even if you do not live in their districts!

You can use either or both of the scripts below. Call one day using the first script, and another day using the second!

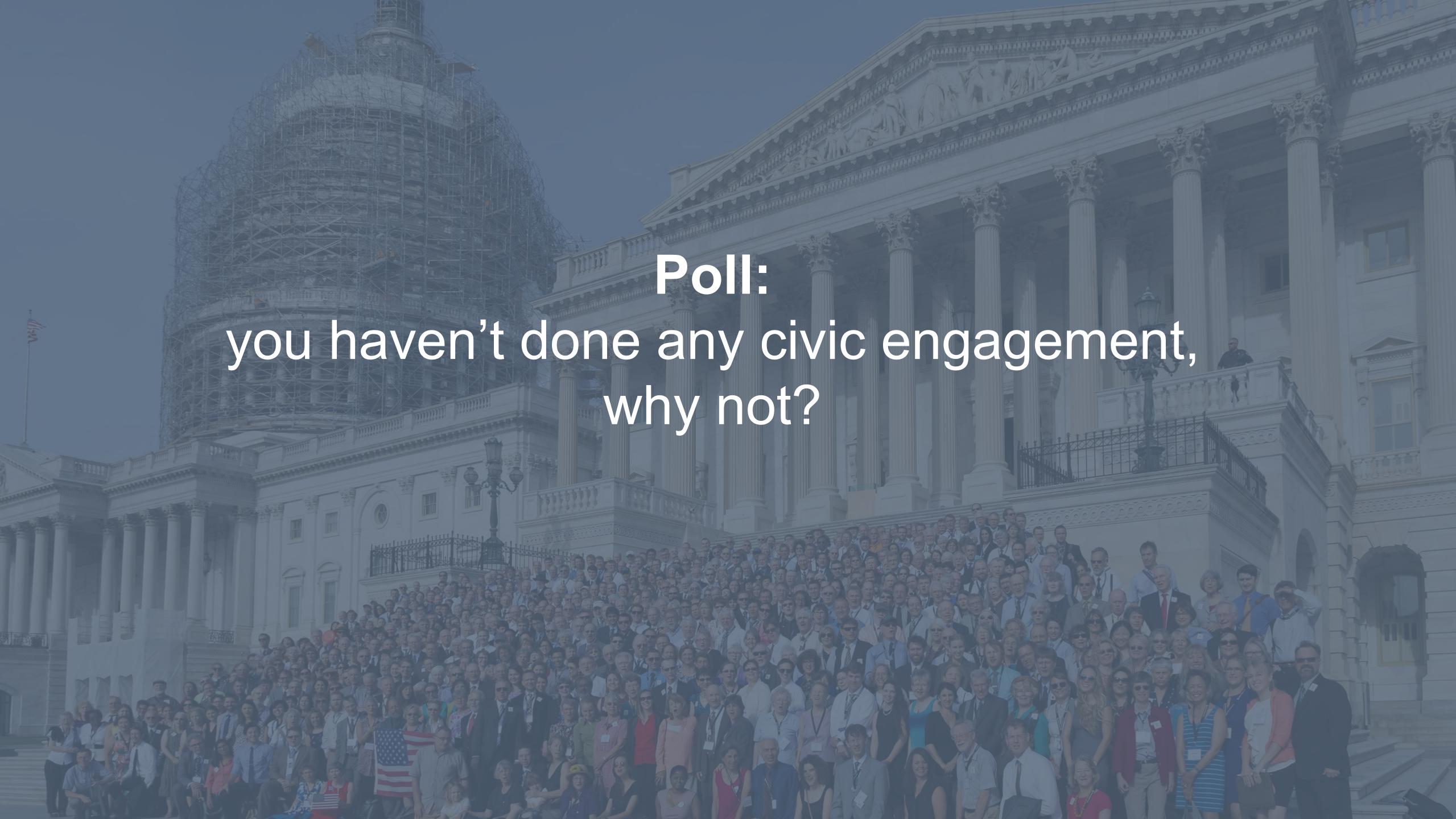
"Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_. My email is \_\_\_\_. I care about renewable energies and want a rapid ramp up in the implementation of solar and wind projects. Please work on energy policies to make this happen. It will produce jobs, help the economy, increase health, and protect the environment. Please let me know what you do."

"Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_. My email is \_\_\_\_. I care about energy efficiency standards and want to see an increase in policies supporting high efficiency buildings and transportation. Please work on energy policies to make that happen. What is holding you back from supporting clean energy policies? (and how can I help\*optional) Please let me know what you do."

You can also help businesses take action on climate. Use <u>these suggestions</u> from the We Mean Business coalition to find examples of what you can suggest to businesses.

### Beyond Doom and Gloom Educators' Page:

- All optional
- Assignment
- PowerPoint Slides
- Multiple choice questions
- Essential energy facts
- Link to webinar describing this initiative in more detail





### Methods

- 1 Building consensus, overcoming cynicism, sharing success stories
- 2 Seeking common ground
- Climate Solutions Caucus:
  Moving towards trans-partisan solutions

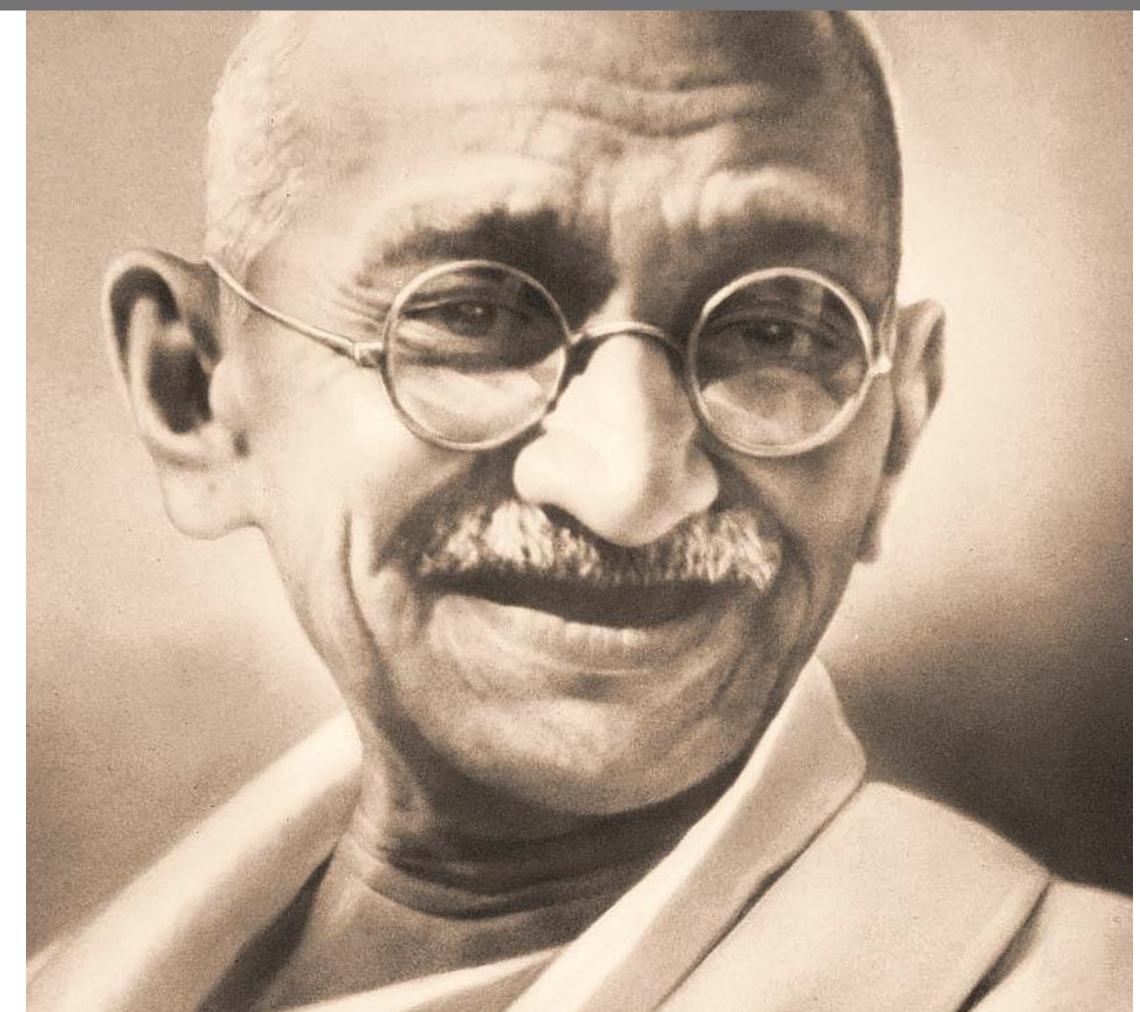


# It's about relationships

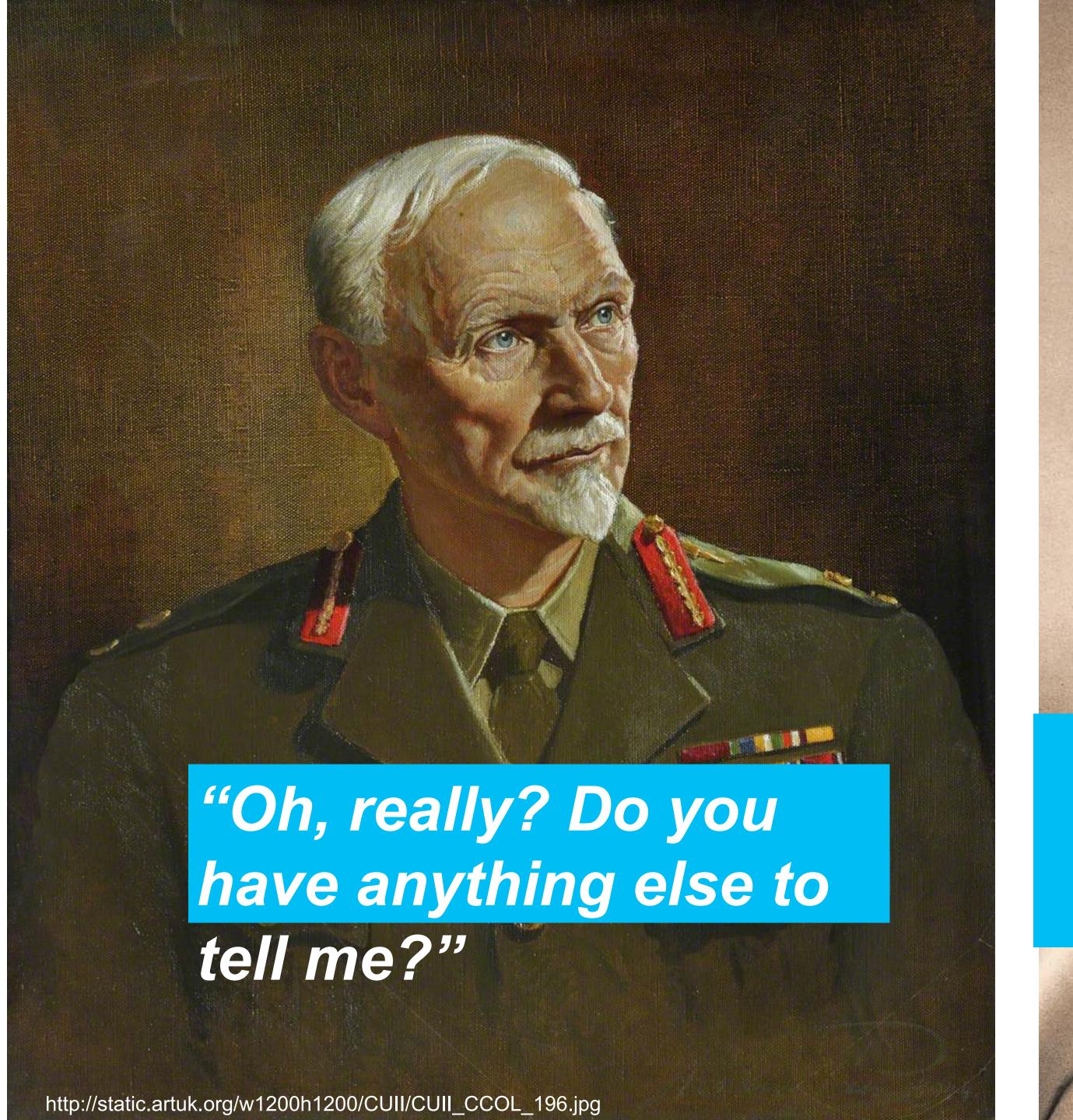


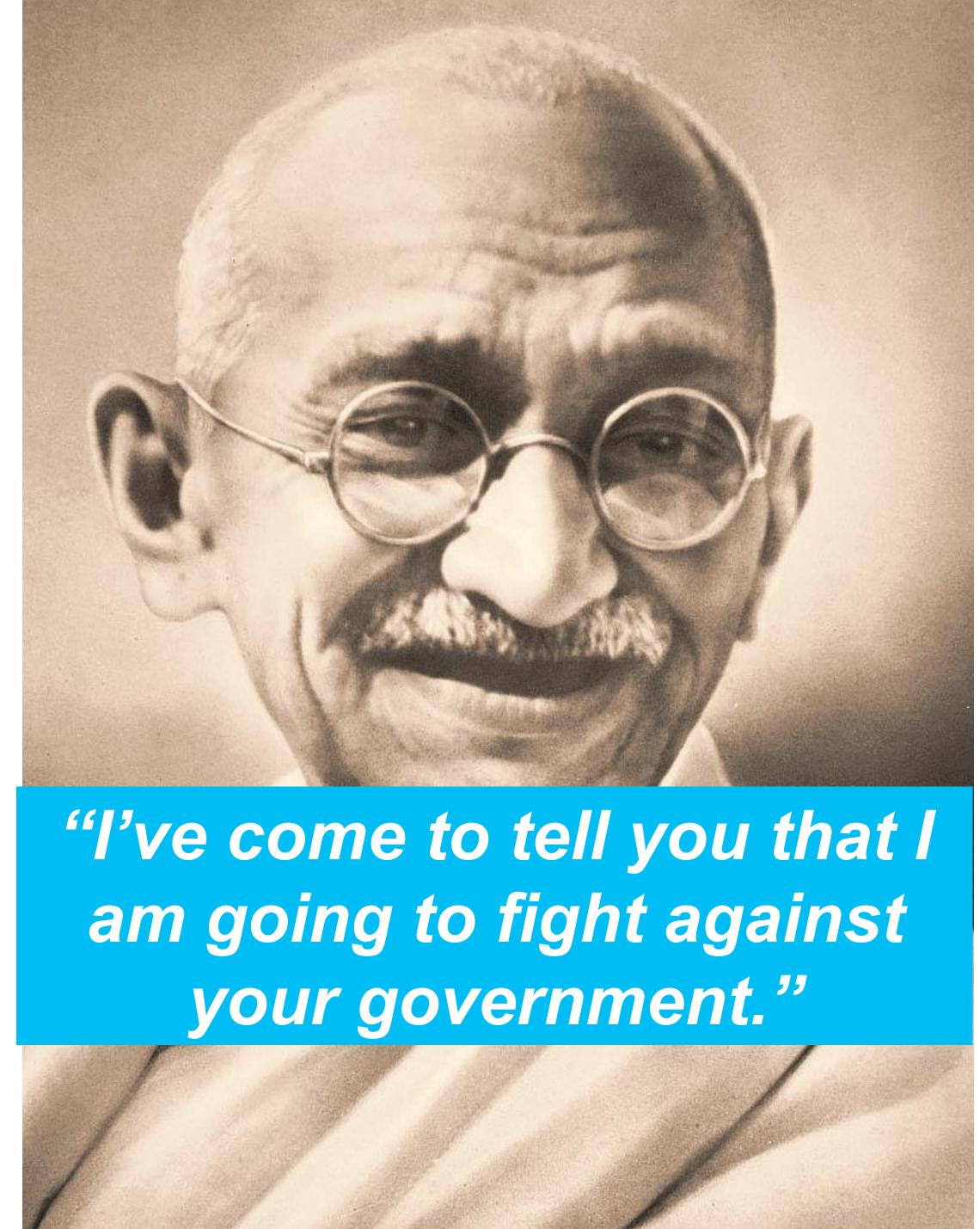
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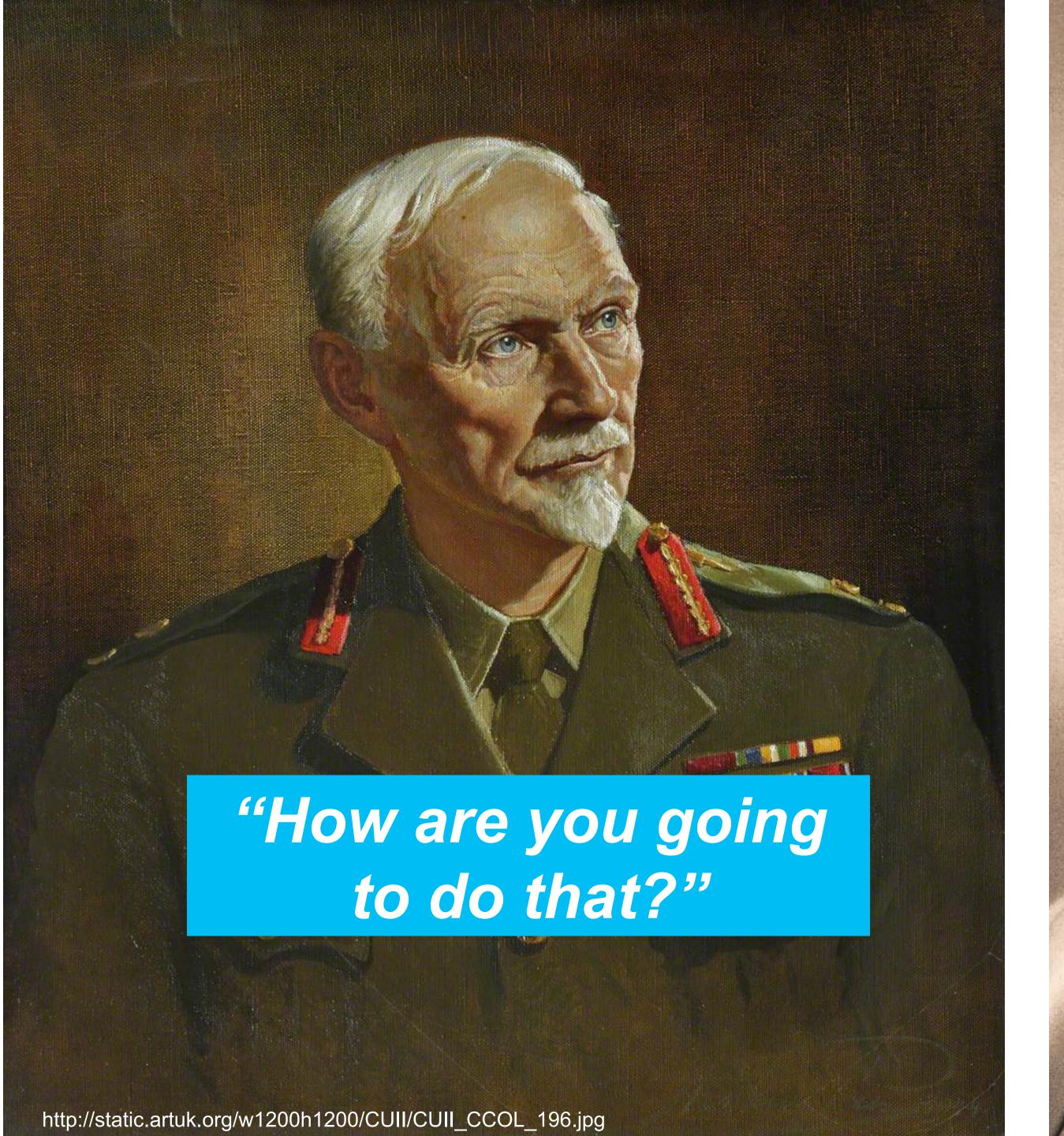


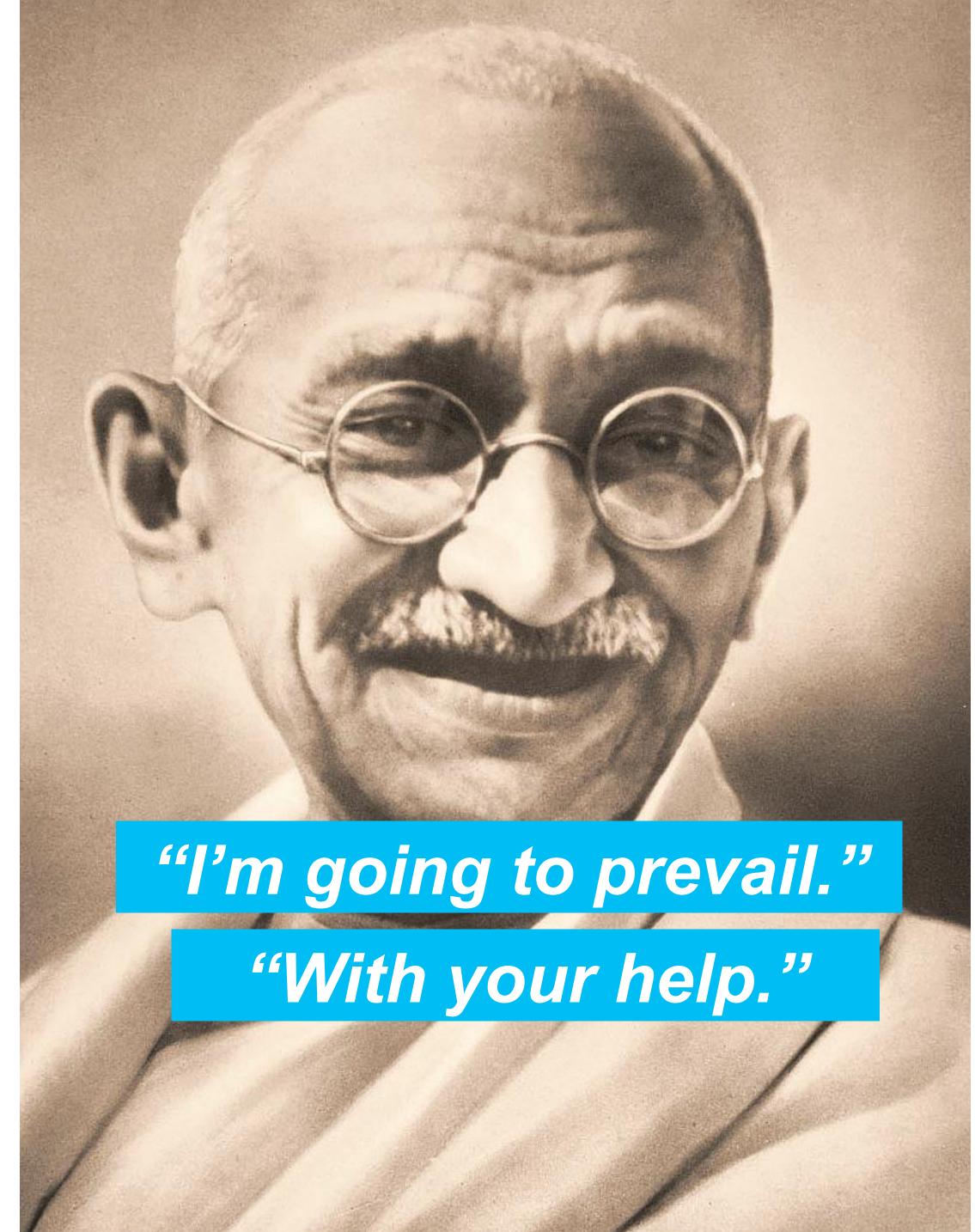


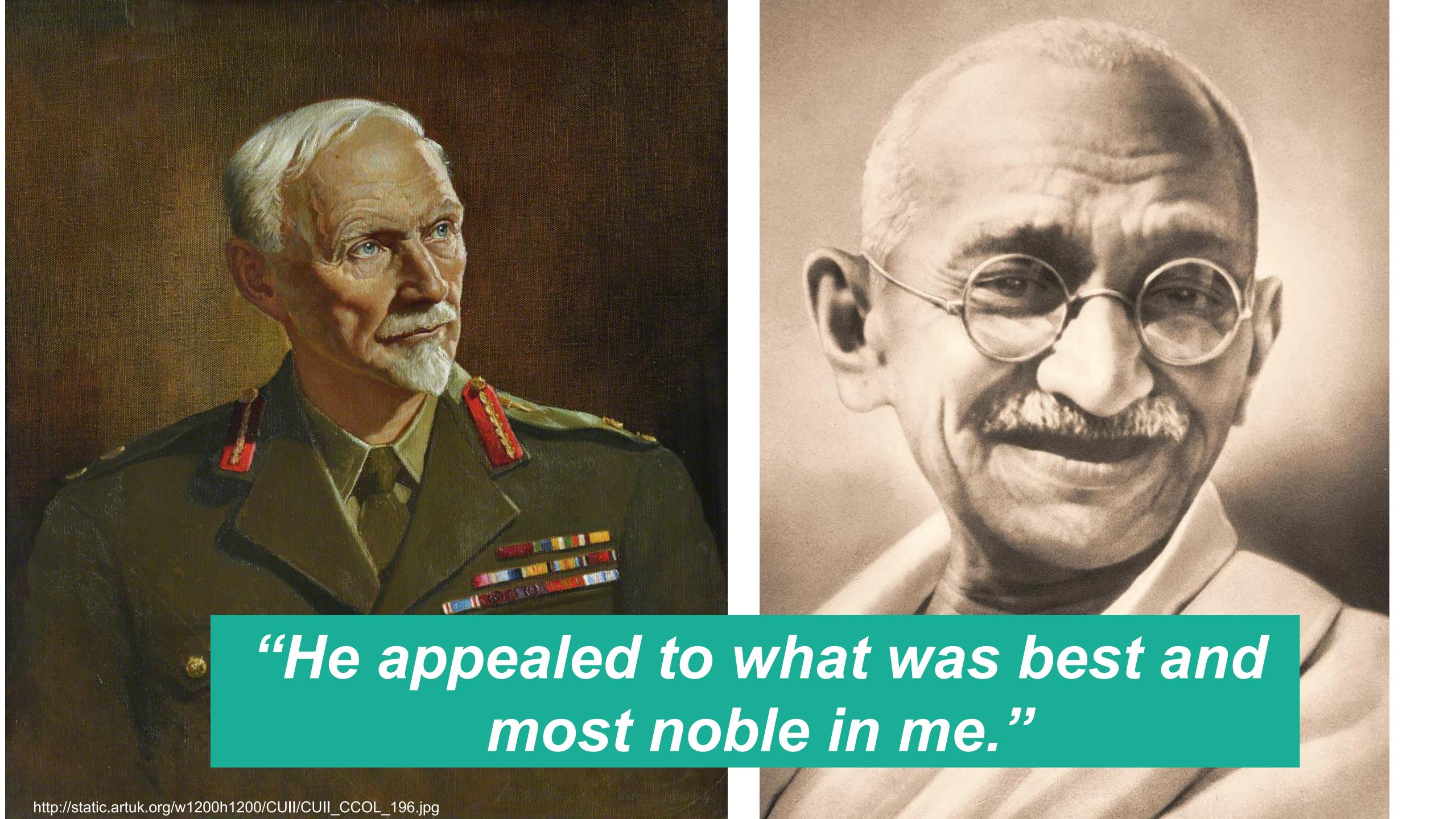
The Story of Gandhi & General Jan Smuts











### The Key to Relationships

### Finding Common Ground

- 1. Shared values
- 2. Social connection
- 3. Places we care for



### Methodology...so far

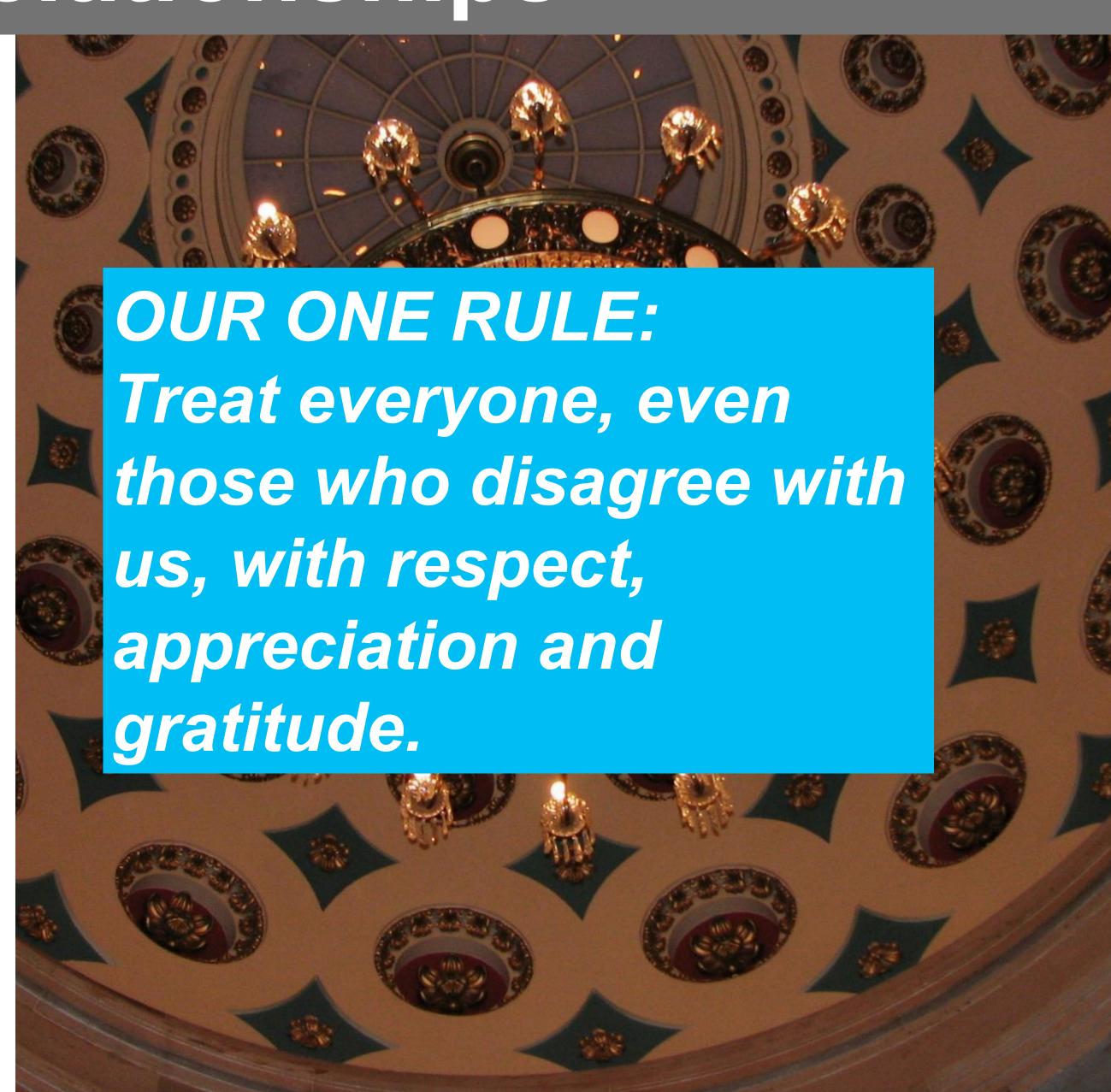
- 1. Respect and appreciation
- 2. Appeal to the BEST in others
- 3. Being for something

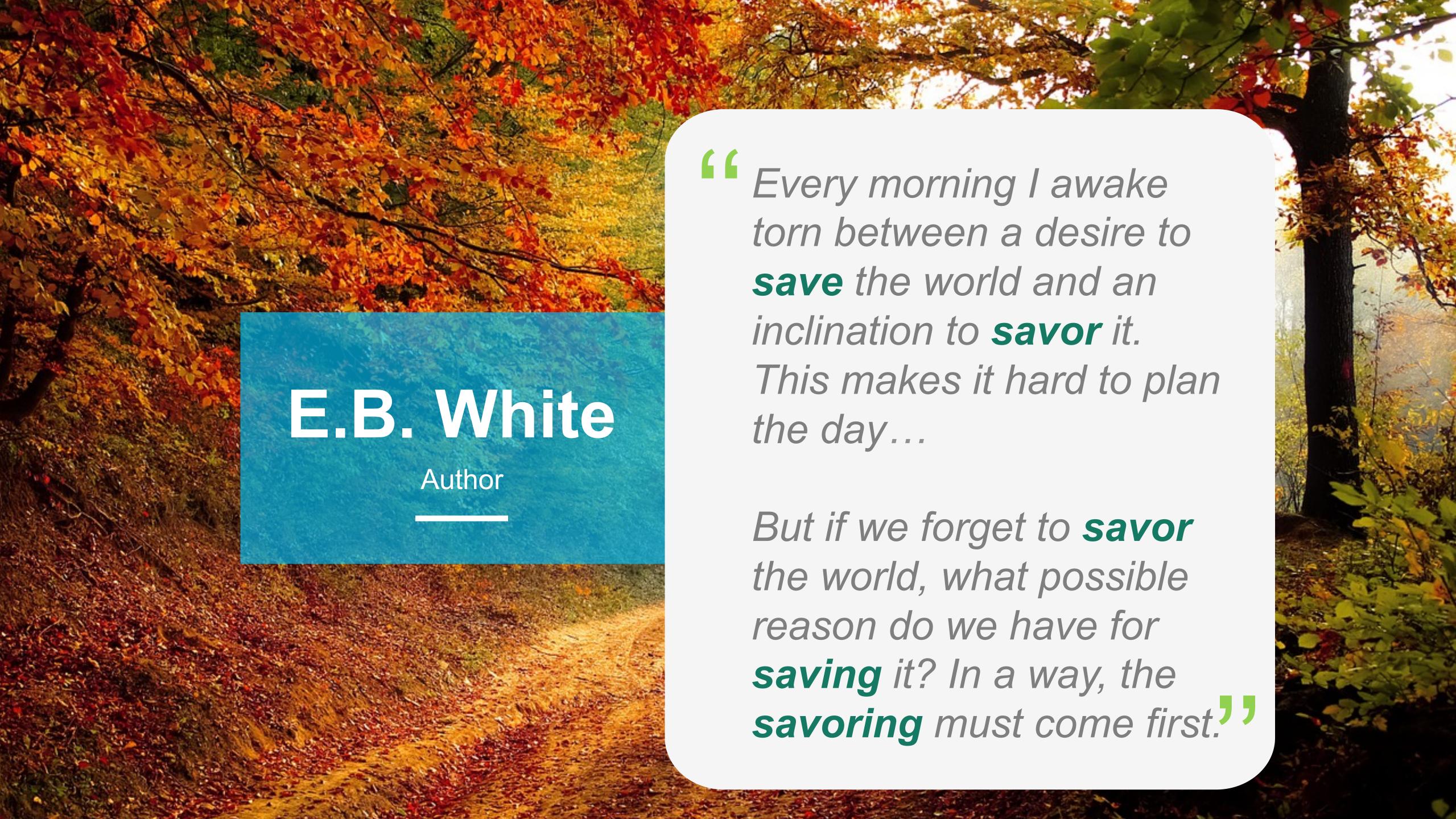


## It's about relationships

### Why Appreciation, Gratitude & Respect Matter

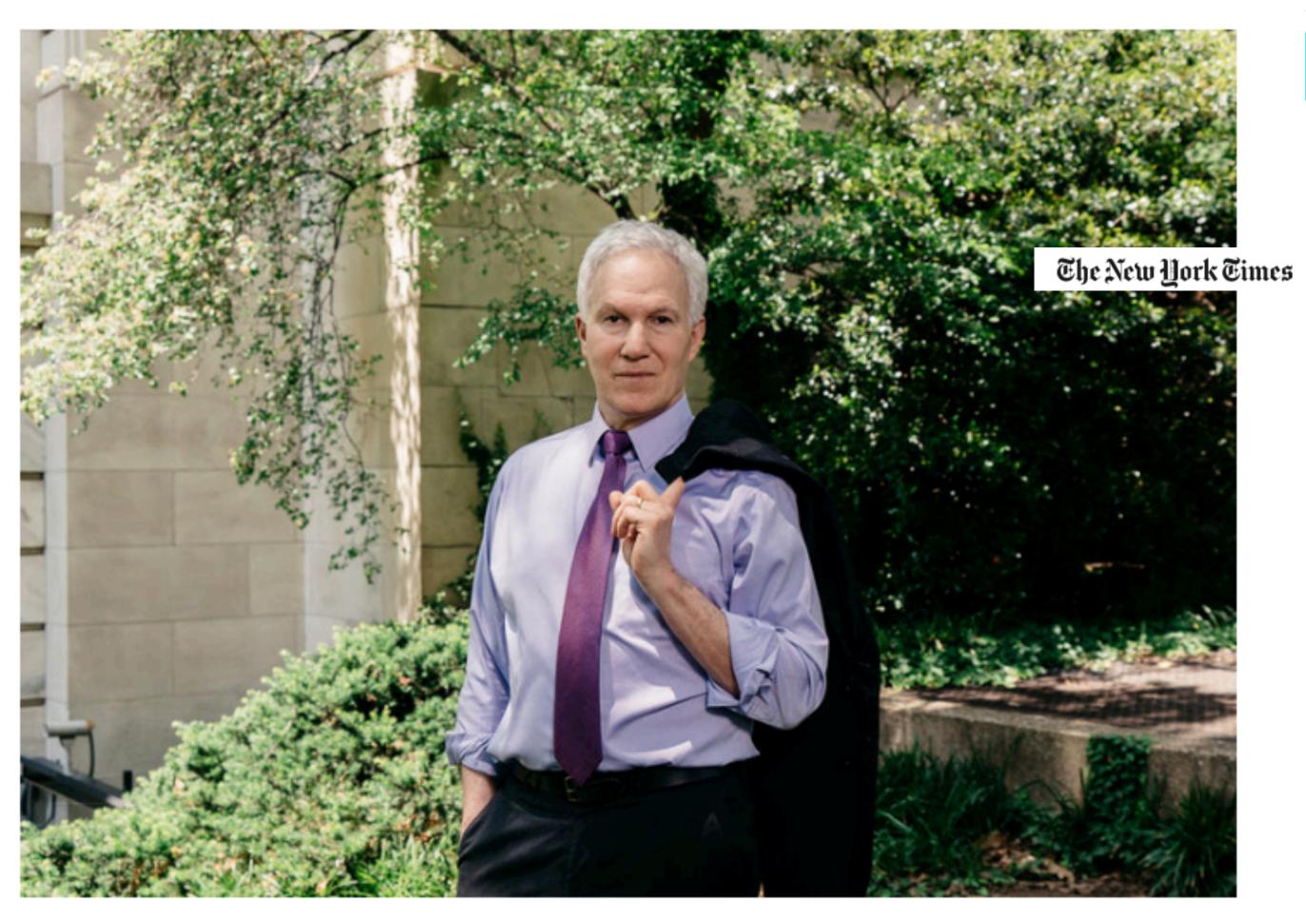
- Planned face to face meeting
- Changed to staff level meeting
- Showed appreciation for a specific piece of legislation- his wetland work
- The Congressman changed his opinion and leaned in for more conversation.





# Bringing it all together

# The New York Eimes



The Opinion Pages

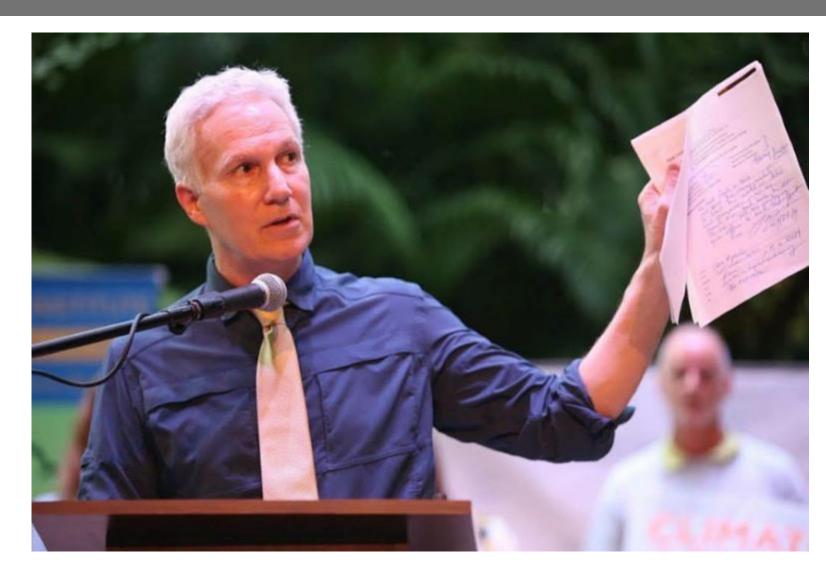
#### Cracking Washington's Gridlock to Save the Planet



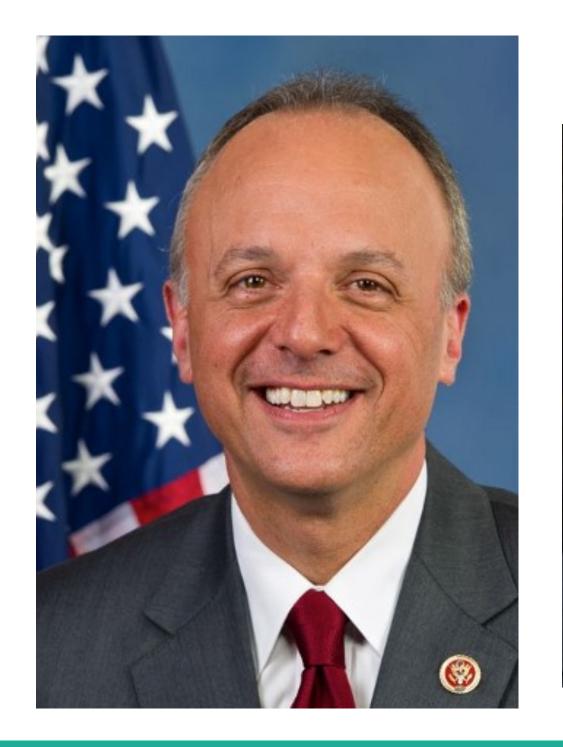
One day, ideally in the not-too-distant future, when Congress finally passes major legislation to curb carbon emissions — to reduce the <u>environmental</u> and <u>economic</u> harm caused by climate change — Americans will owe a big thank you to the perseverance and discipline of the <u>Citizens' Climate Lobby</u>. Special appreciation should go to one volunteer, Jay Butera, a businessman from Pennsylvania who has put intense effort into getting Democrats and Republicans in Congress to begin talking with one another about potential solutions.

The Citizens' Climate Lobby is a network of volunteers who have come together in the last several years to advance climate policy in a bipartisan manner. Its support base has increased fivefold since 2015 to 60,000 supporters; among them, 23,000 are actively working to build political will for a national, revenue-neutral <u>carbon fee-and-dividend system</u>, a <u>market-based approach</u> that aims to reduce carbon emissions while spurring employment.

# Bringing it all together



Jay Butera, CCL Volunteer





Reps. Ted Deutch & Carlos

# Bringing it all together

WHEREAS The costs of climate change — including destabilized weather patterns, rising sea levels, extreme weather events, and other serious impacts — now pose a substantial threat to the health, prosperity and security of Americans. The costs are real, they are growing, and they are already burdening businesses, taxpayers, municipal budgets, and families. Our economy, infrastructure, public safety and health are directly at risk.

Prudent action now will be far less costly than the consequences of delayed response and will create a more stable business environment for our nation.

#### **THEREFORE**

I/we urge Congress to sponsor and/or support measures that will:

- Acknowledge the serious threat posed by climate change.
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions in a clear, transparent and effective way.



# Community Leaders' Letter to Congress: Supporting Climate Action

# Bringing it all together



First Meeting of the Climate Solutions Caucus

# The House Bipartisan

# Climate Solutions Caucus

Educating members of Congress on economically-viable options to reduce climate risk and protect our nation's economy, security, infrastructure, agriculture, water supply and public safety.

#### **Republican Members**



Curbelo (FL-26)



Ros-Lehtinen



Costello (PA-06)

Elise

Stefanik



Patrick Meehan (PA-07)



Zeldin (NY-01)





Bacon



Bonamici

Suzanne



Lowenthal

(CA-47)

Peter Welch (VT-00)



Brendan

Boyle

(PA-13)

**Democratic Members** 



Delaney

(MD-06)

Don Beyer



Moulton

Earl Blumenauer



**Peters** 

(CA-52)

Chartie Crist



Darrell Issa (CA-49)



Brian

Fitzpatrick

Rodney Davis (IL-13)



John Faso (NY-19)



Brian

Mast

(FL-18)

Peter King (NY-02)



Dave

Reichert

Tom Reed (NY-23)



Mike Coffman (CO-06)



Juan Vargas (CA-51)



Jerry McNerney (CA-09)



Anna Eshoo (CA-18)



Daniel Lipinski (IL-03)



Thomas Suozzi (NY-03)



Annie Kuster (NH-02)

# Returning to Civility



REP. MARK SANFORD (R-SC) JOINS MORNING JOE MSNBC

"We've got to find a way to dial this back. I would give an example of people trying to do that in a small way. There's a Climate Solutions Caucus here in the Congress, and what they've said is that for every Democrat that goes on, you can't get on unless there's a Republican that goes with you. And I think people are going to be looking for ways to do just that." - Rep. Mark Sanford

# Political Will

"Committed support among key decision makers and those who influence them for a particular policy solution to a particular problem."

#### What does that mean?

Making strategic actions that will move our elected officials in the direction where we would like them to be.

# Levers for building Positive Momentum

# How citizens build political will

- 1. Informing policymakers
- 2. Media relations
- 3. Community outreach
- 4. Stakeholder engagement
- 5. Campus & student group development



# Informing Policymakers

# Examples of what citizens can do:

- Become a liaison
   (relationships & research)
- 2. Meet with elected officials
- 3. Be a subject matter expert (connect the dots locally)



### Media Relations

## Example actions:

- 1. Be the point person for a media outlet
- 2. Write letters and op-eds
- 3. Meet with an editorial board
- 4. Radio and TV interviews



# Community Outreach

#### Recruitment & Education Actions:

- 1. Tabling
- 2. Public speaking
- 3. Organize events
- 4. Democratic/Civic Engagement



# Stakeholder Engagement

# Partnerships & Support Actions:

- 1. Identify community leaders
- 2. Seek endorsements
- 3. Educate leaders



# Campus & Student Group Development

# Growth & Development actions:

- 1. Organize subcommittee monthly meetings
- 2. Chapter communications
- 3. Mentor new volunteers



# Levers in Review

- Determine where you can contribute.
- Five levers:
  - 1. Informing policymakers
  - 2. Media relations
  - 3. Community outreach
  - 4. Stakeholder engagement
  - 5. Campus & student group development

# Stuck lever? Use another



#### Resources

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- "Stop Dooming and Glooming" http://www.aashe.org/climate-solutions/ and

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