



CLIMATE CHANGE IN AN AGING SOCIETY

Jan.20, 2023

Editor: H.R. Moody

-----QUOTE OF THE DAY-----

“The primary reason people look away [from climate change] is that they don’t see a way out and are afraid that the solutions to climate change involve giving things up.”

–Naomi Klein, author of *This Changes*

Everything

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THE GREAT SELF

“The universe must be experienced as the Great Self. Each is fulfilled in the other: the Great Self is fulfilled in the individual self, the individual self is fulfilled in the Great Self. Alienation is overcome as soon as we experience this surge of energy from the source that has brought the universe through the centuries. New fields of energy become available to support the human venture. These new energies find expression and support in celebration. For in the end the universe can only be explained in terms of celebration. It is all an exuberant expression of existence itself...

The natural world is the larger sacred community to which we belong. To be alienated from this community is to become destitute in all that makes us human. To damage this community is to diminish our own existence.”

-Thomas Berry

For more on Thomas Berry and the Great Work, visit:
<https://thomasberry.org/>

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ELDERS ARE RESPONSIBLE

Abraham Joshua Heschel said: “In a free society, some are guilty, but all are responsible.” That means those of us who are older, who lived through the time when global warming accelerated to what it is today: we are responsible. We can’t say we didn’t know or that we weren’t warned.

Older climate protesters, who spoke last year with The Washington Post, said they felt a sense of collective

responsibility, saying, “It was our generation that drove gas guzzlers, thought nothing of flying abroad for a beach vacation in Spain, paid scant attention to deforestation in the Amazon, and, it was on our governments’ watch that carbon emissions climbed.”



Charmian Kenner

Third Act founder Bill McKibben put it this way: “Our generations have done their share of damage; we’re on the verge of leaving the world a worse place than we found it.” A protester at an event organized by Extinction Rebellion said this: “I’d do anything to protect my grandchildren,” said Charmian Kenner, 67, a retired academic. “I won’t live long enough to know whether it worked or not for them, but I’m here, doing this.”

In response to the question, Who’s responsible for global warming? Kenner said that older generations “should have acted earlier, so we need to be here, because in some way, whether we meant it or not, we are responsible for what happened.” As another protester, John Lynes, aged 93, a great-grandfather and retired engineer, put it: “Full stop, we are responsible — no doubt about it.”

What about younger people, those who will bear the brunt of climate change? Lissa Roy, a 58-year old grandmother became a member of Extinction Rebellion and joined a public protest where she said “It saddens me to see young people here, having to do this, risk arrest, knowing the

impact that could have on their lives, because we didn't do a good-enough job early on."

For more on this, see " 'Gray greens': Grandparents are being arrested in London climate protests" (Sept. 4, 2021) at:

https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/europe/climate-protests-london-arrests/2021/09/04/8e6cf6be-0bf1-11ec-a7c8-61bb7b3bf628_story.html

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YOUR FUTURE (AND MINE)

"Heat waves are occurring more than they used to in major cities across the United States. Extreme weather events such as heat waves and large storms are likely to become more frequent or more intense with human-induced climate change."

<https://www.epa.gov/climate-indicators/weather-climate>

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THE BLOSSOMING DESERT

35:1) "The desert shall rejoice and blossom..." (Isaiah



“Golf course in Palm Springs being converted to Prescott Preserve, another good thing for the natural world.” (from Jerry Snow, Fielding Graduate University)

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ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Change the Story. “ ‘If you win the popular imagination, you change the game’: why we need new stories on climate” by Rebecca Solnit, at:
<https://www.theguardian.com/news/2023/jan/12/rebecca-solnit-climate-crisis-popular-imagination-why-we-need-new-stories>

What Are They Thinking? Old vaudeville joke: “Denial ain’t just a river in Egypt.” But climate denial is actually not a joke at all: “The Dangerous Cognitive Disorder That Is Sweeping America--And Threatening Democracy” by Bernard Starr, at:

https://www.opednews.com/articles/The-Dangerous-Cognitive-Di-Alternative-Facts_Climate-Change-Deniers_Conspiracy_Democracy-Decay-230116-578.html

Disinformation, Dark Money, False Consciousness. Yeah, they're all connected. That's the world we're living in now, and rational argument is not the tool to combat it. I speak as a philosopher, schooled for years in rationality, now "awakened" from that dream. The struggle for climate begins with what Confucius called "the rectification of names:" "With stroke of his pen, Gov. Mike DeWine defines natural gas as green energy" at:

https://www.cleveland.com/open/2023/01/with-stroke-of-his-pen-gov-mike-dewine-defines-natural-gas-as-green-energy.html?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=wp_climate202&wpisrc=nl_climate202

Follow the Money. "Fed directs big banks to disclose how they are preparing for climate change risks" at:

<https://www.cnbc.com/2023/01/17/fed-directs-big-banks-to-disclose-how-they-are-preparing-for-climate-change-risks.html>

But see also: "World's largest asset managers block climate action amid anti-ESG backlash" at:

<https://www.energymonitor.ai/finance/investment-management/worlds-largest-asset-managers-block-climate-action-amid-anti-esg-backlash/>

We're Already Home. "There's no planet B" The scientific evidence is clear: the only celestial body that can support us is the one we evolved with. Here's why, at:

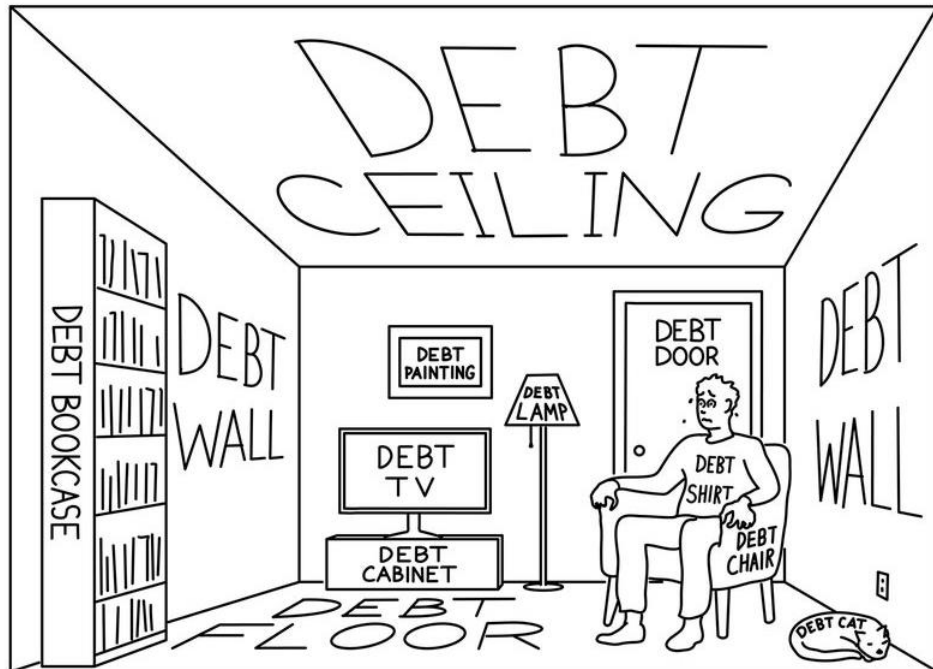
https://aeon.co/essays/we-will-never-be-able-to-live-on-another-planet-heres-why?utm_source=Aeon+Newsletter&utm_campaign=974bf7efe0-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2023_01_16_06_08&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_-974bf7efe0-%5BLIST_EMAIL_ID%5D

Dialogue across Generations. "Two Climate Activists, 40 Years Apart in Age, on the Movement's Future" at:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2023/01/18/climate/climate-activists-bill-mckibben-xiye-bastida.html?smid=nytcore-ios-share&referringSource=articleShare>

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Public Policy in Washington: Debt Ceiling



From The New Yorker

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QUESTION AND ANSWER

Question: "Are American voters ignorant or apathetic?"

Answer: "I don't know and I don't care."

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COMING EVENTS

HOPE: (Jan. 30, 2023, 6 to 7:30 pm, Pacific). A dialogue with climate activists on solving solving climate change, with keynote speaker Kim Stanley Robinson, author of *The Ministry for the Future*, at:

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/hope-tickets-418310506987?utm_source=NorCal+Chapter%3A+Elders+C

climate+Action&utm_campaign=fe86263426-
EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_04_04_05_33_COPY_04&utm
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<https://www.cccearth.org>

Climate Action Now

<https://climateactionnow.com/>

Center for Ecozoic Studies

<https://www.ecozoicstudies.org/>

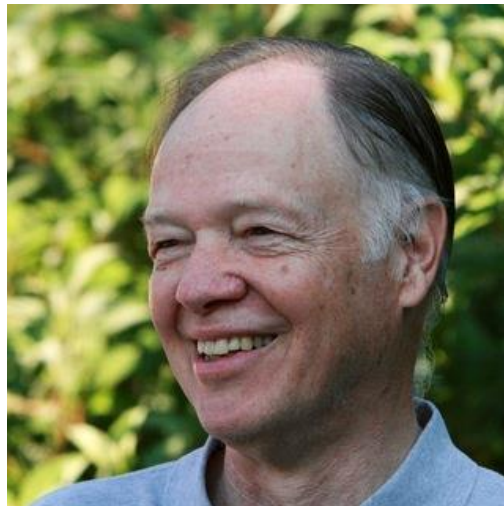
Third Act Educators

<https://thirdact.org/educators>

Gray Is Green, the National Senior Conservation Corp

<http://grayisgreen.org/>

From Harry (Rick) Moody



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<http://www.climateandaging.org>

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From Dilbert (Scott Adams)

