

Groundswell News Journal

A project of the 501(c)(3) Grassroots Coalition for Environmental and Economic Justice
We are a Global Family. News by and about Climate and Social Justice Activists.

Our Motto: Use it up, wear it out, make it do, or do without.

Our Slogan: The way forward: cycle back to basics.

A Celebration of Youth. www.groundswellnews.org. Issue No. 64: August 4, 2020



Photo: Alzenir Ferreira de Souza via Wikimedia Commons

Slash-and-burn agriculture spreads havoc through Brazil's forests.

New Brazilian Map Unmasks Illegal Foresters

By Tim Radford

Climate News Network: July 22, 2020

LONDON, UK – Europe's shoppers should have a bone to pick with Brazil: at a conservative estimate, one fifth of its beef and animal feed exports to the European Union are tainted by the illegal destruction of the nation's rainforest and savannah woodland, a new Brazilian map reveals.

Researchers report in the journal *Science* that they painstakingly compiled a map of the boundaries of 815,000 farms, plantations, ranches, and other rural properties to identify those that did not comply with the nation's Forest Code, designed to pro-

tect native biodiversity, and those that had cleared forest illegally.

Just 2% of these properties were responsible, they found, for 62% of illegal forest destruction in the Amazon and the Cerrado regions, and much of this destruction was linked to agricultural exports.

They think that 22% of the soy harvest and more than 60% of the beef exported to the European Union each year could be contaminated by illegal destruction of natural wilderness the Forest Code law was designed to help protect.

"Until now, agribusiness and the Brazilian government have claimed they

cannot monitor the entire supply chain, nor distinguish legal from illegal deforestation," said Raoni Rajão, of the Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais in Belo Horizonte, Brazil. "Not any more. We used freely available maps and data to reveal the specific farmers and ranchers clearing forests to produce soy and beef ultimately destined for Europe.

Now Brazil has the information it needs to take swift and decisive action against these rule-breakers to ensure that its exports are deforestation-free. Calling the situation hopeless is no longer an excuse."

Brazil *continued on page 3*

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What is the Grassroots Coalition for Environmental and Economic Justice?

Coalition Founders: John and Iona Conner

Editor/Publisher: Iona Conner

Wire Editor: Allen Hengst

Established: September 2013

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Our Slogan

**THE WAY FORWARD:
CYCLE BACK TO BASICS.**

Mission of Our Journal

The mission of *Groundswell News* is to be a beautiful, inspiring, uplifting journal which educates and enlightens people about climate change through scientific articles and stories by and about activists who are working to protect life on Earth and preserve natural resources. We are a global family.

What is the Grassroots Coalition?

John and Iona Conner started this non-profit 501(c)(3) organization in 1990. The mission was and remains “dedicated to creating the critical mass of active participants needed to being ecological justice to this Earth by providing information and resources to individuals which encourage and assist them to make lifestyle changes beneficial to the environment and to effectively grapple with local and global environmental concerns.”

Who are we trying to attract?

We hope to reach people who are concerned about global warming and realize that they are part of the problem but don't know what to do. We invite them to sign up for our newspaper. Please tell your family and friends about us.

What are we trying to achieve?

We want to rapidly increase the number of serious climate activists in the world and inspire them through stories from other activists. Our goal is to keep their spirits up, their energy strong, their hearts open, and their eyes bright and alive.

Our Values

This journal is based on love for Earth, all people, all forms of life – plus air, clouds, rain, snow, weather, oceans, forests, etc. We love Nature. We respect everyone and are willing to share our experiences, both good and bad, with others who may profit from them.

Guidelines for Submissions

I do not get directly involved in fundraising. To submit a story, you need to write a regular article about your work and submit it in a Word document with 2 or 3 photos, including captions and photo credits and then email it to me at groundswellnews@pa.net. If you need funding, mention that in your last paragraph and be sure to give your contact information.

Please email Iona at groundswellnews@pa.net for the full Guidelines. I'll be eager to see what you submit. Thanks so much.

Fair Use Law: <https://copyright.gov/fair-use/more-info.html>

Fair use is a legal doctrine that promotes freedom of expression by permitting the unlicensed use of copyright-protected works in certain circumstances. Section 107 of the Copyright Act provides the statutory framework for determining whether something is a fair use and identifies certain types of uses – such as criticism, comment, news reporting, teaching, scholarship, and research – as examples of activities that may qualify as fair use. Section 107 calls for consideration of the following four factors in evaluating a question of fair use:

(1) Purpose and character of the use, including whether the use is of a commercial nature or is for nonprofit educational purposes.

(2) Nature of the copyrighted work.

(3) Amount and substantiality of the portion used in relation to the copyrighted work as a whole.

(4) Effect of the use upon the potential market for or value of the copyrighted work.



Fair Use Logo

Iona's Column:

Feedback Requested About Charity



Dearest Amazing Global Family,

I'm not sure if my hopes of helping people in Africa to raise money from more affluent readers is working. I have no way of knowing unless you reply. It's been part of my dream ever since I started meeting so many wonderful Africans and folks in other places working hard in their communities with life-saving projects and inadequate funding.

So, what I'm considering is changing those pages to “Human Interest” stories, which of course will still include the potential for raising money. I don't want to mislead anyone with false hopes of funding.

If I have published your story, asking you to state your needs and contact information so that donors could reach you, and you have indeed received money because of my work, please let me know. In the case of Ssengendo in Uganda with 45 orphans, that success has been attributed to the fact that I've devoted a lot of time and energy to his cause and my immediate friends and family have responded. That is not what I wanted to see happen. Thank you for your honest feedback.

In the meantime I will remain your friendly cheerleader in America, wishing you great success and hoping that *Groundswell News Journal* inspires you in some way.

With Love and Gratitude,

Iona



Brazil *continued from page 1*

Right now Brazil is losing its native wilderness at the rate of a million hectares (nearly 2.5 million acres) a year. This is the highest in a decade. A million hectares is 10,000 square kilometers, an area bigger than the Mediterranean island of Cyprus. Brazil's Forest Code has been around for more than 50 years but revised and updated much more recently.

Brazil is one of the world's great agricultural nations, and the biggest producer of soy – often as fodder for pigs and chickens in Europe and Asia – in the world.

Worsened Under Bolsonaro

Of the 4.1 million head of cattle sent to slaughterhouses, at least 500,000 come from properties that may have illegally destroyed forest. Altogether 60% of all slaughtered animals could carry with them the taint of illegal deforestation. The EU imports 189,000 tons of Brazilian beef a year.

Although much of the Amazon and the Cerrado wilderness enjoys formal protection, levels of destruction have increased under the government led by Jair Bolsonaro and some of the protections have since been weakened.

Earlier this year, the scale of damage linked to drought, forest fire, climate change, and illegal destruction led scientists to wonder aloud if the devastation was irretrievable.

Meanwhile, sustainable agriculture has become a key tenet in the EU's so-called Green New Deal and an instance of concern that greenhouse gas emissions from forest clearing and forest fires in Brazil could cancel EU efforts to mitigate climate change.

Breaking Point

European consumers and their suppliers have separately begun to worry about the global costs of agriculture at home and abroad.

The *Science* study, provocatively headlined "The rotten apples of Brazil's agri-

business", is likely to increase Europe-wide awareness of the neglect of legislation still nominally enforceable, and of the latest disregard of environmental protection intended to stop illegal forest destruction.

"Brazil's forests are at breaking point," said Britaldo Soares-Filho, another of the authors, of the Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais. "It's critical for Europe to use its trade might and purchasing power to help roll back this tragic dismantling of Brazil's environmental protection, which has implications for the global climate, local people and the country's valued ecosystem services."

Tim Radford, a founding editor of Climate News Network, worked for The Guardian for 32 years, for most of that time as science editor. He has been covering climate change since 1988.

Source: <https://climatenewsnetwork.net/new-brazilian-map-unmasks-its-illegal-foresters/>

Climate Emergency



A developed country is not a place where the poor have cars. It's where the rich use public transportation.



70 People in Bus Vs Car

(above left) By Subhajit Mukherjee, India with this saying: "The true meaning of life is to plant trees, under whose shade you do not expect to sit." Posted by Akbter Hussain, ENVIRONMENTALISTS on Facebook with these words: "Planting trees means establishment of Oxygen Factory."

(below right) "It is not the deer who is crossing the road, rather it is the road crossing the forest which is a home to the deer. So when next we see animals crossing the road, we should slow down or stop for them to cross safely. It is the respect we can all give, while driving through their homes. It is the same respect Nature deserves from us all to save our climate. It all begins with that simple caring act or decision you and I decide to make today for Nature."

*#CleanClimate #GreenEarth
Muguel Peters #WeDontHaveTime
Posted by Akbter Hussain, ENVIRONMENTALISTS*



Climate Emergency

News Briefs



Greta Thunberg Facebook Profile Photo

Greta Thunberg Donates More Than \$1M in Prize Money to People Affected by COVID-19, Climate Change

Greta Thunberg began with large donations to the Stop Ecocide Foundation and SOS Amazonia.

By Rachel DeSantis, *excerpt*
People: July 22, 2020

Greta Thunberg will donate more than a million dollars she received in prize money to organizations helping make change amid the global climate crisis and pandemic.

The Swedish climate activist, 17, recently won the Gulbenkian Prize for Humanity, which awarded her the equivalent of \$1.15 million – money Thunberg said she'll put toward creating "an impact" and "difference."

"This means a lot to me and I hope that it will help me do more good in the world," she said in a statement. "And the prize money... that is more money than I can even begin to imagine, but all the prize money will be donated through my Foundation to different organizations and projects who are working to help people on the frontlines affected by the climate crisis and ecological crisis, especially in the Global South. . . ."

Source: <https://people.com/human-interest/greta-thunberg-donates-1m-prize-money-people-affected-covid-19-climate/>

Court Rejects Cancellation of Methane Pollution Rule

By Erik Schlenker-Goodrich, *excerpt*
Western Environmental Law Center
July 16, 2020

Submitted by Allen Hengst, Wire Editor

A federal judge late yesterday reinstated the Bureau of Land Management's 2016 methane waste rule, aimed at protecting people and the climate from methane waste and pollution from oil and gas extraction on public lands. The ruling is the third defeat for the Trump administration's efforts to suspend, delay, or repeal the rule. The rule requires oil and gas companies operating on public lands to take reasonable measures to prevent the waste of publicly-owned fossil gas. It will go back into effect in 90 days.

Such measures significantly reduce pollution from methane, a dangerous greenhouse gas 86 times more potent than carbon dioxide, and are an important step to address the climate crisis. "The Trump administration has abused every opportunity - legal or otherwise - to maximize the oil and gas industry's profits at the expense of taxpayers, public health, and the climate," said Erik Schlenker-Goodrich, executive director of the Western Environmental Law Center. "We welcome the court's forceful repudiation of the Trump administration's reckless and unlawful conduct. . . ."

Source: <https://westernlaw.org/federal-court-rejects-trump-administration-cancellation-methane-pollution-rule/>

Al Gore: Pandemic Drives Us Towards More Sustainable World

Submitted by Allen Hengst, Wire Editor

By Lauren Goode & Adam Rogers, *excerpt*
WIRED: July 8, 2020

Before he was the guy with the climate change PowerPoint presentation, before he lost the U.S. presidency [sic] by a nose (and a Supreme Court decision), Al Gore had a reputation for pitching ambitious policy solutions to the knottiest societal problems. From the Senate to the vice presidency, while most politicians were

yelling about oil prices, Gore was talking about connecting information superhighways to public schools and taxing British Thermal Units to fight global warming.

For the past decade and a half, Gore, a self-described "recovering politician," has been a capitalist. He's chair of Generation Investment Management, a \$20 billion equity firm focusing on environmentally sustainable companies.

It might seem like a tough time to put on that specific happy face – a pandemic and resurgent fights over racial and economic inequality might take cuts in the queue ahead of a global economic meltdown and planetary ecosystem collapse. Even Generation's annual sustainability report shows that public attention toward climate change has taken a backseat to concerns about the novel coronavirus.

Yet somehow now, as the firm releases this fourth annual Sustainability Trends Report, Gore seems almost ... optimistic. Which – well, how could that be? It turns out that the trend lines Gore has spent a lifetime either warning people about (carbon!) or trying to goose upward (green energy! Access to health care!) are finally headed in the directions he was hoping for.

The Covid-19 pandemic, he says, has accelerated the kinds of systemic changes he pushed for, first with legislation and then with investments ... He seems supremely confident that pressure from the private sector will steer governments in the right direction.

He also believes the world will be "pleasantly surprised" by sooner-than-expected, safe vaccines, and that the public will somehow overcome the misinformation atrocities on that thing called the Internet.

As a presidential candidate in what turns out to have been a far simpler time, Gore had a reputation for prickliness – for not being the kind of person you'd want to have a beer with, as if that were a valid criterion for choosing a president. But nothing softens a person's attitude than a book's worth of evidence that maybe he was right all along ...

[to read entire interview see *WIRED* article via link below].

Source: <https://www.wired.com/story/global-warming-inequality-covid-19-and-al-gore-is-optimistic/>

Climate Emergency



Photo: Becker0804 via Wikimedia Commons

Frozen Verkhoyansk in Russia, with its aptly-named Pole of Cold.

Human Climate Change Causes Arctic's Record Heat

The coldest place in the Arctic has experienced record heat. Climate change has made this 600 times more probable.

By Tim Radford
Climate News Network: July 23, 2020

LONDON, UK – An international team of scientists has pinned the strange weather and record heat in the Siberian Arctic firmly on human-induced climate change.

On average, from January to June, temperatures in the region have been 5°C hotter because the world's cities have continued to consume ever-increasing levels of fossil fuels.

The researchers report that, without human help, such freak conditions could happen only once every 80,000 years or so. But a steady increase in greenhouse gas levels in the atmosphere for the last century or more has increased the chances of record temperatures – one Arctic Circle settlement, Verkhoyansk, normally one of the coldest places on Earth, recorded 38°C (100.4°F) on 20 June – by a factor of 600.

“The findings of this rapid research – that climate change increased the chances of prolonged heat in Siberia by at least 600 times – are truly staggering,” said Andrew Ciavarella, of the UK Met Office, who led the study.

“This research is further evidence of the extreme temperatures we can expect to see more frequently around the world in a warming global climate. Importantly,

an increasing frequency of these extreme heat events can be moderated by reducing greenhouse gas emissions.”

Confidence Grows

That climate change has come to the Arctic is not news: what is significant about the research by British, French, Swiss, Dutch, German, and Russian meteorologists is the readiness to put the blame fairly on climate change, even for a freak event.

It has always been a given in the science that the mix of air pressure and temperatures around the world delivers a random pattern of change marked by extremes, and for decades scientists backed away from blaming any single flood, windstorm, or heat wave as evidence of climate change.

Arctic continued on next page

Climate Emergency

Deutsche Bank: Won't Back Tar Sands, Coal, or Fracking Projects

Submitted by Allen Hengst, Wire Editor

By Dan Healing, *excerpt*
National Observer: July 28, 2020

Frankfurt-based Deutsche Bank is joining a lengthening list of European lenders and insurance companies that say they won't back new oilsands projects.

The German bank said Monday its new fossil fuels policy will also prohibit investing in projects that use hydraulic fracturing or fracking in countries with scarce water supplies, and all new oil and gas projects in the Arctic region.

It says its ban on oilsands financing, effective immediately, will include exploration, production, transport, or processing, seemingly including oilsands pipelines and upgraders or refineries ...

[Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers vice-president Ben Brunnen] said in an emailed statement: "Attempts to stifle Canadian production by restricting financing can have only one effect; countries with lower environmental standards – and in many cases lower social, human rights, and governance standards – will fill

the void." He said an investment in Canadian energy is "a sustainable choice."

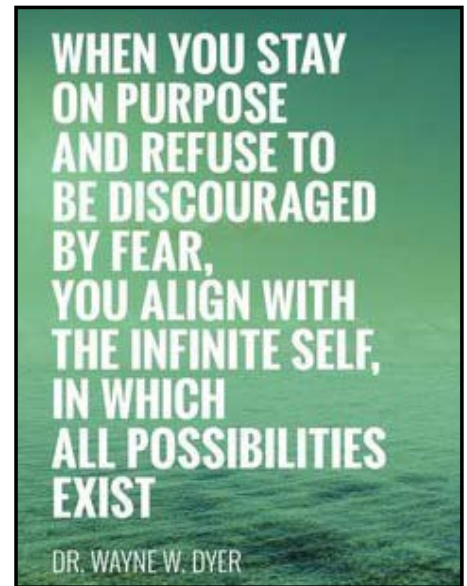
Two years ago, Europe's largest bank, HSBC Holdings plc, announced it would no longer offer financial services for new oilsands projects or pipelines, a move that led to producer Suncor Energy Inc. vowing to end all business with HSBC, including in its conventional oil operations in Europe.

"Deutsche Bank's updated fossil fuel policy is the latest warning shot telling us that doubling down on coal, oil, and gas will sink our economy while destabilizing the climate," said Greenpeace Canada campaigner Keith Stewart on Monday. "We still have time to protect the workers, communities, and regions currently dependent on oil as we navigate this shift and ensure that all Canadians prosper in the new low-carbon economy."

Deutsche Bank also said it will stop financing and capital markets transactions involving coal mining by 2025 after achieving a goal last year to reduce its loan exposure to coal-fired power plants by 20 per cent. It said it won't finance any new coal power plants. The moves are part of a commitment to align its credit portfolios

with the greenhouse gas reduction goals of the Paris Agreement, the bank said.

Source: <https://www.nationalobserver.com/2020/07/28/news/deutsche-bank-wont-back-any-new-oilsands-or-coal-projects>



Source of Quote: <https://www.pinterest.com/pin/47217496072605837/>

Arctic *continued from previous page*

That has, in the last few years, changed.

Research teams have successively warned that climate change driven by human action had contributed to California's most recent disastrous drought; that both calamitous floods and catastrophic bushfires in Australia were made more probable and more intense by rising greenhouse gas emissions; and that the signature of climate change driven by fossil fuel combustion was now detectable in daily weather changes almost anywhere around the globe.

But the signature of climate change in the Siberian Arctic has been pronounced, and the latest attribution study is confirmation of a new confidence in the data.

In June, forest fires in Siberia consumed 1.15 million hectares (3.7 million acres) and released about 56 million tons of carbon dioxide: this is more than the annual emissions from Switzerland or Norway.

The rising temperatures in the region have been grounds for extra alarm: permafrost in the Arctic Circle is a store of carbon that is increasingly being released as the ground

thaws, to make Arctic warming even worse.

But the hazards of permafrost thaw are also direct: soils become more vulnerable to slip and slump, and there is already measurable damage to the infrastructure once supported by sediments and topsoils that used to be frozen solid all year round.

The region recorded one of the world's worst oil spills in May, when an oil tank collapsed. The unseasonal and improbable heat has been coupled to an explosion of silk moths, bringing further caterpillar damage to conifer forests.

Even now such temperatures remain unlikely: the human component of climate change has simply reduced the frequency of such sustained temperatures to perhaps once every 135 years.

Little Time Left

But without rapid and drastic cuts worldwide in greenhouse gas emissions, towns like Verkhoyansk – which also shares the record for the coldest temperature in the northern hemisphere – could

become a lot warmer, a lot more often before the century's end.

"These results show that we are starting to experience extreme events which have almost no chance of happening without a human footprint on the climate system," said Sonia Seneviratne, of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, known as ETH Zurich. "We have little time left to stabilize global warming at levels at which climate change would lie within the bounds of the Paris Agreement. For a stabilization at 1.5°C of global warming, which would still imply risks of such extreme heat events, we need to reduce our CO2 emissions by at least half until 2030."

Tim Radford, a founding editor of Climate News Network, worked for The Guardian for 32 years, for most of that time as science editor. He has been covering climate change since 1988.

Source: <https://climatenetwork.net/human-climate-change-causes-arctics-record-heat/>

Climate Emergency



Photo: Levent Demirörs via Wikimedia Commons

Antarctica's Amundsen-Scott research station, perched at Alpine altitude.

South Pole Warms Faster Than Anywhere – But Why?

By Tim Radford
Climate News Network: July 16, 2020

The coldest place on Earth, the South Pole, is mysteriously heating a lot faster than the rest of the planet.

LONDON, UK – The South Pole is warming, and warming fast. In the last 30 years, the place furthest from the summer sun, the place where one winter's night lasts for 179 days, has been warming at 0.6°C per decade. This is three times the speed of average warming for the whole planet.

The finding is unexpected. The geographic South Pole is not only the most extreme location in the southern hemisphere, it is also at Alpine altitude. The Amundsen-Scott research station at the pole is at 2,835 metres (9,301 feet), perched on a sheet of glacier ice 2,700 metres (8,858 feet) above the bedrock, and moving towards the sea at 10 metres (33 feet) a year.

Winter temperatures have fallen to minus 82.8°C (-117°F). The warmest summer day ever recorded was minus 13.6°C (7.5°F).

And yet this unforgiving spot, with an annual average temperature of minus 49°C (-56.2°F), still registers a measure of global warming. Whether this warming is fuelled by a natural climate cycle or by the profligate human use of fossil fuels, or by both, is not certain.

Systematic record-keeping began only in 1957 and for most of the late 20th century, while the rest of the planet started to warm, the South Pole continued to cool. West Antarctica is getting warmer, and melting at an accelerating rate, thanks in part to human-fuelled climate change.

But scientists from New Zealand and the U.S. report in the journal *Nature* that between 1989 and 2018, the South Pole had warmed by 1.8°C, partly because warm waters in the western Pacific had affected the South Atlantic winds and stepped up the delivery of warm air to the heart of the continent.

And this most extreme of environments goes on presenting puzzles. In April researchers announced the discovery of the

remains of a 90-million-year-old swampy temperate forest within 900 kilometers (559 miles) of the South Pole: it was once so warm that even in a winter night that lasted for months, foliage could flourish.

The latest research from the South Pole data suggests that researchers would like to know a lot more before they can say if the warming trend will continue, and why.

“Antarctica experiences some of the most extreme weather and variability on the planet,” said Kyle Clem, of Victoria University in Wellington, New Zealand, who led the research, “and due to its remote location we actually know very little about the continent, so there are constant surprises and new things to learn about Antarctica every year.”

Tim Radford, a founding editor of Climate News Network, worked for The Guardian for 32 years, for most of that time as science editor. He has been covering climate change since 1988.

Source: <https://climatenewsnetwork.net/south-pole-warms-faster-than-anywhere-%e2%88%92-but-why/>

Climate Emergency

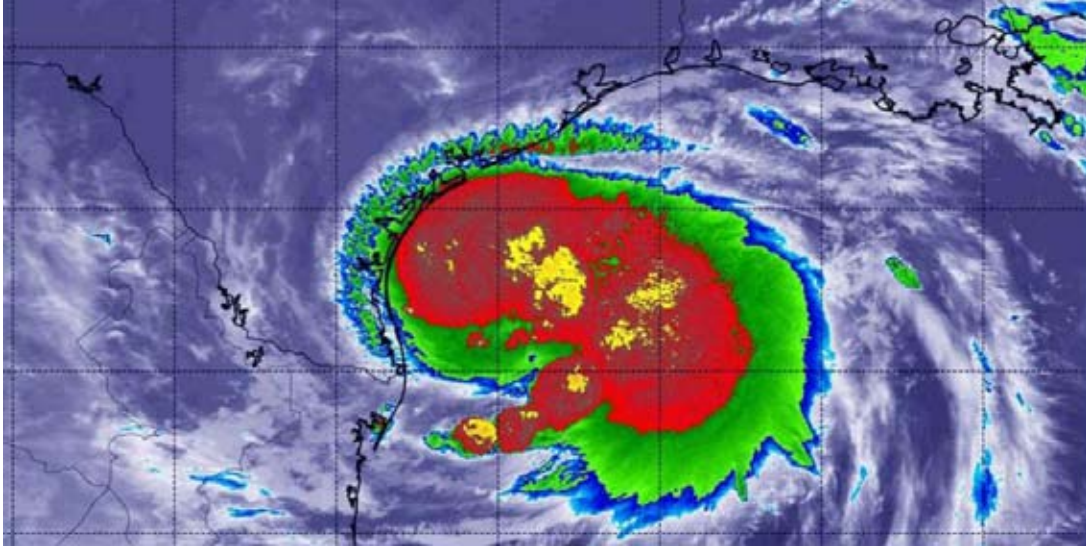


Photo: NASA/NRL

Citing his pre-season forecast of up to 20 named storms, the expert now warns that "if anything, that might be too low..."

Climatologist Michael Mann on 2020 Atlantic Hurricane Season: "Hate to Say, 'We Told You So.'"

By Jessica Corbett
Common Dreams: July 28, 2020

On July 25 at 3:50 a.m. EDT, the MODIS instrument that flies aboard NASA's Aqua satellite revealed very powerful thunderstorms (yellow) around Hanna's center.

"Hate to say, 'We told you so.'"

That comment came in a Monday tweet from climatologist Michael E. Mann, responding to a pair of meteorologists who noted the warm waters along the East Coast of the United States, which "means trouble for any tropical cyclones coming up the coast" for the next several weeks of the Atlantic hurricane season.

Mann, an atmospheric science professor at Penn State who directs the university's Earth System Science Center (ESSC), and other experts have warned that human-driven global heating that's warming the world's oceans is already causing and will continue to cause more intense and devastating tropical storms and hurricanes.

In April, Mann, ESSC scientist Daniel J. Brouillette, and alumnus Michael Kozar released their pre-season forecast for the 2020 North Atlantic hurricane season, which runs from the beginning of June to the end of November. They predicted a range of 15 to 24 named storms, with a "best estimate" of 20, for this year's season.

On Monday, Mann pointed out this was the first season in a decade for which they forecast up to 20 storms, then warned that "if anything, that might be too low..."

The fresh concerns from Mann and meteorologists Dan Satterfield and Eric Fisher came after the Category 1 Hurricane Hanna – the first hurricane and eighth named storm of this season – made landfall twice Saturday evening in southeast Texas, a region "already battered by the coronavirus pandemic," as *The New York Times* noted.

According to a weekend report from *The Times*:

The cities and counties in the path of Hanna are some of the same communities that have seen a sudden spike in Covid-19 cases and hospitalizations as Texas has become one of the largest hot spots in the country. In a state that is no stranger to bad weather, the typical hurricane-prep ritual was altered by social distancing and face coverings, with fever checks required to enter officials' news briefings, and sandbag distribution provided by workers who covered their faces in masks and bandannas.

The *Texas Tribune* reported Monday that thousands in the state remained without power as a result of Hanna. The National Hurricane Center (NHC) downgraded Hanna to a tropical storm early Sunday but also warned that "heavy rainfall, strong winds, storm surge, dangerous surf, and isolated tornadoes remain a threat from this system."

Late Tuesday morning, the NHC issued a potential tropical cyclone advisory for what could soon become the season's ninth named storm. Meteorologist Philip Klotzbach

pointed out that the storm would be named Isaias and could set the record for the earliest ninth tropical cyclone in the Atlantic.

Meteorologist and science writer Eric Holthaus also responded to the news in a series of tweets. "Heads up Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands," he wrote of the ninth storm before noting that thousands of families in Puerto Rico, a U.S. territory, are still dealing with inadequate living conditions nearly three years after Hurricane Maria.

"Tens of thousands of homes in Puerto Rico remain uninhabitable by modern standards, with damage ranging from total destruction to missing roofs," according to the Associated Press report from last week that Holthaus highlighted. "In the central mountain town of Villalba alone, 43 families still live under blue tarps as roofs."

NHC warned Tuesday that Isaias could hit Puerto Rico and various eastern Caribbean islands as early as Wednesday, bringing dangerous heavy rains, flash flooding, and mudslides. Although uncertainty remains over the storm's path, forecasters say it could reach the Bahamas on Saturday and Florida by Sunday.

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Source: <https://www.commondreams.org/news/2020/07/28/climatologist-michael-mann-2020-atlantic-hurricane-season-hate-say-we-told-you-so>

Regenerative Farming



Photos: Lillian Kabahuma

“Those are trees to give out for planting, I was supposed to give them out to the community on Tuesday, but no rain yet. After a period without rain, I was afraid of losing all the trees but Mother Earth came though with rain so the project continued.” Pictured from left to right are “the owner of the land, Mr. Mujuni Amos, two women who came to visit the garden bed, Mrs. Komugisha Rose and Hope Florence, and then the men who helped me in the tree bed garden, John and Simon.”

Photo Essay About Major Tree Planting Organized by Woman in Uganda: The Rains Came but Not the Money



Regenerative Farming



By Lillian Kabahuma, Uganda

I'm helped by very few people. The owner of the land where I have a bed tree, Mr. Mujuni Amos, helped me with land, and two men who work in the garden are not paid, they just help me, John and Simon.

Then it's me myself who does the rest, today I didn't do the delivery because I failed to get facilitation for paying those who will carry and transportation.

I used to sell my goats to pay for all those things but now I have nothing to sell and I have no help. You can imagine I need very little facilitation but I tried my best and failed.

I see what I'm doing is helping the community. I really feel so bad and I'm feeling headache now. I failed to get \$160, I feel my project is failing. I'm feeling so sad.

I got so disappointed, our district people

are too selfish, they even have tractors but refused to help me with one to carry my trees to town.

[Note from the Editor: We featured Lillian in our July 2020 edition with pictures of her distributing some baby trees and a beautiful picture of her herd of goats BUT there was a huge flood and 28 of her goats were killed. That's why she couldn't finish this project without additional resources.]

Regenerative Farming

An Example of Networking for Regenerative Agriculture via Emails



Dmitry



Image submitted by Mukesh Nand, India
<https://twitter.com/cerridwensheart/status/1234224795971211269>



Ali

On 29/03/2020 11:42 am, Tebandeke Ali wrote:

Hullo friends, hope this email finds you well....

Here is my Newsletter and feel free to follow my website @ peacedecemberuganda.blogspot.com for more educative and interesting topics in the world of sustainable and Regenerative agriculture using Permaculture approach. Please reply if you are interested and let me know exactly which kind of topics you would like to learn about?

Cheers
Ali

On 3/29/2020 5:39 PM, Dmitry Sokolov wrote:

Hi Ali,
Thank you for your initiative.
I am developing a collective memory for organisations.

Here is what we've got on the topics:

- **Regenerative agriculture**
<http://confocal-manawatu.pbworks.com/w/page/124455855/Regenerative%20Agriculture>

- **Permaculture**
<http://confocal-manawatu.pbworks.com/w/page/124455919/PermaCulture>
- **How To Navigate LikeInMind (LiM)**
<http://confocal-manawatu.pbworks.com/w/page/105618894/LikeInMind%20Navigation>

LikeInMind may include Wikipedia articles but its main purpose is serving

communities and people on the ground. Any information from any location can be captured, organised and shared on LiM:
<http://confocal-manawatu.pbworks.com/w/page/103221889/LikeInMind%20vs%20Wikipedia>

Training Networks is one of the projects on LiM:

<http://confocal-manawatu.pbworks.com/w/page/126010901/Training%20Networks>

Looking forward to your thoughts,
Dmitry

R&D Manager
LikeInMind
Dmitry Sokolov
PhD Phys, MEng, MPA
We Connect People by Connecting Their Knowledge
Mob: +64 27 44 809 41 / FB Messenger / Patreon page

On 12/07/2020 8:20 pm, Iona Conner wrote:

Dear Dmitry,
I got lost in emails and decided today to start reviewing ones I had not dealt with properly.

It doesn't look like you're on my email list so I attached my last newspaper.

Long ago I decided after many years of environmental activism and professional work that organic farming is the most noble career of all, so now one of my foci is regenerative agriculture. I have to say that even though I happened to pass the test to

be certified for Nutrient Management it was only because I studied so hard; I know nothing about farming but was given the classes for free so I took them.

Anyhow, when I saw M Ichael Josefowicz's name in your LikeInMind page, I realized that we are connected. I have worked with him, too.

How is your work coming along?
Would you like me to publish this email or does it need to be updated?

For the Earth Always,
Iona Conner

On 12/07/2020 5:16 am, Dmitry Sokolov wrote:

Hello Iona,
Thank you for your reply.
I am working on organisational memory, collective agency, value flows, mutual credits. My work still doesn't pay off but I keep looking for a mechanisms allowing people self-organise in teams and realise projects related to local and regional development, ecological activism, and social relations.

The content of my email below is relevant and can be published as is if you find it relevant to the newspaper purposes.

I hope to organise myself better with value flows and be of more help in future.

Will be happy to keep in touch.

Many thanks for your work.

With kind regards,
Dmitry

Regenerative Farming

Legal Petition Urges U.S. Forest Service to Protect Native Bees, Stop Rubber-Stamping Commercial Beehives on Federal Lands

More than 900 apiaries housing millions of honeybees have been approved on Colorado Plateau since 2009.

Center for Biological Diversity: July 29, 2020

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Conservation groups filed a formal legal petition today urging the U.S. Forest Service to stop allowing the placement of hundreds of commercial honeybee hives on national forest lands without proper environmental review.

Honeybees, which are not native to the United States, are important agricultural crop pollinators but have been shown to transmit diseases to native bees. They can also outcompete native bees for pollen and nectar, their only source of food.

Yet, over the past decade, the Forest Service has approved permits for at least 900 hives, which could house up to 56 million honeybees on Forest Service lands on the Colorado Plateau alone. A request is pending for an additional 4,900 hives on just one national forest in Utah.

Today's administrative petition urges the Forest Service to end the practice of labeling the apiaries as minor special uses, which the agency can invoke to bypass the mandatory environmental review needed to properly consider the impacts of apiary permits.

"Stress on native bees is inevitable when an apiary with dozens of hives, each hive housing 10,000 to 60,000 honeybees, is parked on a national forest," said Mary O'Brien, Utah forest programs director and botanist with the Grand Canyon Trust. "Scientists have documented adverse outcomes for native bees over and over, but it's 'out of sight, out of mind' to the Forest Service. This is how we lose species."

A single honeybee apiary of 40 hives consumes enough pollen in one month to feed more than 1.3 million native bees. Many beekeepers aim to have 80 or more hives in an apiary.

Just last month scientists revealed that the western bumblebee has experienced a 93% decline in the past 20 years. Many of the approximately 3,600 species of native bees in the United States are in decline.

Native bees are also important pollinators in agricultural areas and are essential in natural areas. With many native bee

species already in decline, competition from commercial honeybees presents a significant threat. Native bees are also imperiled by climate change, pesticides, habitat loss, and disease.

"The Forest Service must stop recklessly commercializing public lands that provide essential habitat to thousands of rare native bee species, many of which live nowhere else on Earth," said Lori Ann Burd, director of the Center for Biological Diversity's environmental health program. "While I'm deeply sympathetic to the plight of honeybee keepers whose bees and livelihoods are imperiled by pesticides, we can't let commercial honeybees threaten the continued existence of rare and imperiled native bees."

Honeybees were introduced to the United States from Europe centuries ago and are now ubiquitous in crop pollination and for honey production. However, due to heavy pesticide use and a lack of suitable food resources, beekeepers are increasingly seeking pesticide-free forage areas to place apiaries, including Forest Service lands.

In addition to directly jeopardizing native pollinators, the presence of honeybees on national forests may also harm rare and threatened plants that depend on specialized native pollinators.

"We have an incredible diversity of native plants that have evolved alongside their native pollinators and need their native pollinators to thrive and survive," said Tony Frates, conservation co-chair of the Utah Native Plant Society. "Introducing vast numbers of honeybees on to our public lands can pose a grave threat to these plants, and their pollinators, and we hope the Forest Service will take this petition seriously so that these threats can be properly addressed."

Utah is a major biodiversity hotspot for native bees, hosting about a quarter of all species found in the United States. National forests on the Colorado Plateau

serve as important refuges for them. As Forest Service lands in this region, and across the country, experience increased pressure to allow honeybees to pasture, concerns over impacts to native flora and fauna have increased.

"This petition is asking for simple, common-sense protections for essential pollinators," said Rich Hatfield, senior conservation biologist for the Xerces Society. "Allowing nonnative animals to forage broadly across the landscape without considering potential impacts to our native plants and animals is not sound land management given the existing evidence that shows the effects that honeybees can have on our native bees. Solutions that help beekeepers must not further endanger the already struggling native bees on which our national forests depend."

Native bee declines are part of a larger crisis faced by insect populations. Studies from all continents show declines in the diversity, abundance, and biomass of insects.

Contacts:

Mary O'Brien, Grand Canyon Trust, mobrien@grandcanyontrust.org

Lori Ann Burd, Center for Biological Diversity, laburd@biologicaldiversity.org

Tony Frates, Utah Native Plant Society, (801) 277-9240

Rich Hatfield, Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation, rich.hatfield@xerces.org

Source: <https://www.commondreams.org/newswire/2020/07/29/legal-petition-urges-us-forest-service-protect-native-bees-stop-rubber-stamping>



Photo Courtesy Center for Biological Diversity

Endangered Earth: The Quiet Crisis of Our Native Bees

Ending Racism



Photos Courtesy Cleveland Park Congregational UCC

Every Friday evening church members hold a peaceful protest in solidarity with the Black Lives Matter movement.

Does Your Church Look Like This One?

By Allen Hengst, Wire Editor

Our sanctuary is located on THE major Washington DC commuter route home (34th Street/Reno Road), so we're already getting a lot of attention here. With thousands of similar protests taking place around the world, I doubt whether our little church merits such attention. You're

welcome to use any of the photos; I do love Holly Hancock's sign (below left).

There are more photos posted on CP-CUCC's Fakebook page here ...

<https://www.facebook.com/Cleveland-ParkUCC/posts/10158492305033279>

Apropos racism, have you seen either of these articles?

• <https://www.huffpost.com/entry/>

[asheville-reparations-black-north-carolina_n_5f0f09f7c5b6df6cc0b4166a](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2020/07/10/slavery-reparations-bill-spurs-new-debate-other-nations-model/5396340002/)

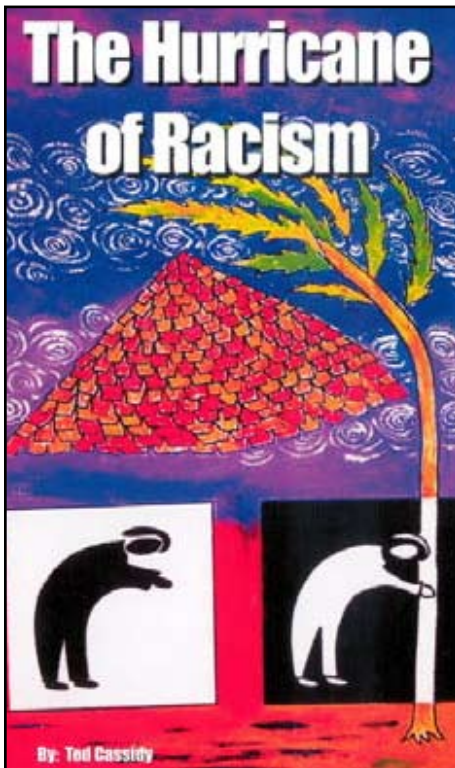
• <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2020/07/10/slavery-reparations-bill-spurs-new-debate-other-nations-model/5396340002/>

More photos of protesters on page 16.



Ending Racism

The Nature of Racism and How We Conquer It



By Fr. Ted Cassidy, SM, Ohio USA
Written in 2006

Chapter 6 Opposition is Part of the Game

Note: We published the Introduction to this book in our January 2020 issue; Chapter 1 in our February issue; Chapter 2 in our March issue, Chapter 3 in July 2020, Chapter 4 in July 13, 202, and Chapter 5 in July 22, 202.

Let's look at the opposition that both an individual and a community experience when seeking to change the racist system. I have heard many times from Caucasian people that they don't like it when Black people get together to form their own organizations. Many whites saw Black Power as a threat some years ago. Now we see a proliferation of Black caucuses in politics and a growth of associations of Blacks for business, publication, and other purposes.

James Cone, a Black theologian, presents a strong argument for Black Power. He says, "Black Power is an attitude, an inward

affirmation of the essential worth of blackness. It means that the Black man will not be poisoned by the stereotypes that others have of him, and he will affirm from the depth of his soul, 'Get used to me, I am not getting used to anyone.'²³ And 'if the white man challenges my humanity, I will impose my whole weight as a man on his life and show him that I'm not that 'sho good eatin' that he persists in imagining.'²⁴ This is Black Power: the power of the Black man to say Yes! to his own Black being, and to make the other accept him or be prepared for a struggle.'²⁵ Cone is stating strongly the need for people of color to be who they are.

On the other hand, subtle forces are at play by Caucasians who have the benefit of an atmosphere of superiority, as was mentioned in Chapter 4, as well as an infrastructure of financial and other power resources. Blacks must fight to change the status quo. Whites can often passively resist. Recall that the racist system is a social system that is as powerful as a *hurricane*, and it tends to stay in place. Anyone trying to change the system is going to have opposition. The task of the healer is not to get emotionally drawn into a conflict but let all parties grow into their human integrity.

In order to do something about the racist system, both whites and Blacks need to maintain a calm and reasoned relationship with those who are in the system. If that is done, they can become leaders in helping the whole system correct itself.

Edwin Friedman²⁶ said that the non-anxious presence of the leader is the primary way to lead a social group out of emotional conflict situations.

The basic concept of leadership through self-differentiation is this: If a leader will take primary responsibility for his or her own position as "head" and work to define his or her own goals and self, while staying in touch with the rest of the organization, there is a more than reasonable chance that the body will follow. There may be initial resistance but, if the leader can stay in touch with the resisters, the body will usually go along.

He explains further that the leader must maintain nonreactive, clearly conceived, and defined positions while staying in

touch. The leader seeks to define himself or herself and not the followers. Thus triangulating is avoided. The group's need for a leader will move them to follow. The leader has to deal with sabotage, as the more defined members of the group will seek to take their own nonreactive positions. Friedman says it is crucial for the leader to distinguish process from content and to maintain an ability to be playful.

When any member of an emotional system can control his own emotional reactivity and accurately observe the functioning of the system and his part in it, and he can avoid counter attacking when he is provoked, and when he can maintain an active relationship with each of the other key members without withdrawing or becoming silent, the entire system will change in a series of predictable steps.²⁷

When a member in a social system like racism starts to lead correctly, he or she will be threatened by accusations like the following: 1) "You are wrong!" or 2) "Change back and we will accept you again" or 3) "If you don't, these are the consequences."²⁸

Our country has a long and tortured history of opposition to those who wanted to change slavery and racism. Here I want to show that the opposition is part of the dysfunctional system. Anyone trying to make a change will be beaten down in all kinds of ways. However, the path of final victory is by maintaining one's self-identity. Martin Luther King, Jr., tells the story of feeling deep depression after receiving an ugly call from someone condemning him while he was on a civil rights march in the South. He finally realized how he had to stand firm in his purpose in the face of such opposition.

Resistance is a natural part of growth. Whites in the racist system are likely to go into a denial that they are doing anything to force Blacks into an uncomfortable situation. Blacks are inclined to deny they have any power and think of themselves as inferior.

If society treats people in such a way that their egos are not properly developed, they become patients resisting change. Methods of caring for people of other races, or for the poor, that do not permit the proper

Racism continued on next page

Ending Racism

Racism continued from previous page

development of goal-oriented ego differentiation perpetuate controlling social systems. Methods and lifestyles that leave whites in a cocoon and don't change their perspective prevent them from becoming strong leaders. Raising children in atmospheres where they have models of strong differentiated egos is the best way to combat racism. I have come to know a number of people who have little concern for the color of skin and who are able to deal with people of another race not because of skin color but because of ability, friendship, and basically good human relationship.

Look how we have forced Blacks to take jobs they are not prepared for or forced children to change schools by busing. I know of a white woman who was a supervisor of a Black woman for years. The Black woman was in a position for which she was not trained, and the supervisor suffered trying to help her. Games were played on the part of both parties for years. Some progress and harmony were achieved when the real problems and abilities – time on the job and work tasks – were finally talked out honestly and adjusted.

A significant range of racial patterns is very predictable. Knowing what is happening in social systems we can predict what will happen in the future.

To be able to predict patterns in families and social systems it is important to know the parents' levels of differentiation. The second important factor concerns the emotional functioning of the families of origins

of each spouse. Lastly, one needs to know the overall functioning patterns within each spouse.

Although it is difficult to get accurate estimates, if one has relatively good information in these three areas, one is able to predict rather well what will happen in a family or any social system to which the child is raised. Bowen says that "the denied emotional attachment to the past replicates itself with one's spouse and one's children . . . The more one denies an attachment to the past, the less choice one has in determining the pattern with his own wife and children."²⁹ What he is saying here is that emotional patterns will continue in families if they continue to be unconscious and denied. The fact is that the more one denies an attachment to the past, the less one is free to overcome it. Patterns, therefore, replicate themselves with the children. Bowen says that these patterns can be predicted before the marriage takes place. The degree of undifferentiation in the spouses will predict how much emotional fusion will take place in marriage.

Understanding the opposition or resistance that has developed in persons, white or Black, by low ego formation is a key to understanding what is happening in a racist system. Anyone trying to overcome racism needs to understand how emotionally fused they are to their own race and how much denial they have that prevents them from understanding the pattern of emotional fusion in a society of which they are a part.

Anyone seeking to bring about a change in an entrenched racial system is going to face persistently the opposition of those who have become emotionally raised in an attachment to racial patterns.

If the people you are working with have a relatively strong ability to separate their emotional attachments from their good judgments there will be a level playing field to change the system. If on the other hand you are dealing with people who are not strongly differentiated you will face strong opposition. Understanding and relating to society in a calm and intelligent manner will enable a leader to function differently from the racist system swirling about them.

Footnotes:

23 Franz Fanon, *Black Skins, White Masks*. Trans. C. L. Markmann (New York: Grove Press, 1967), p. 131.

24 *Ibid.*

25 James Cone, *Black Theology and Black Power*, (San Francisco: Harper, 1989), p. 8.

26 Edwin H. Friedman, *Generation to Generation: Family Process in Church and Synagogue* (New York: The Guilford Press, 1985), p. 229.

27 *Ibid.*, p. 436.

28 *Ibid.*, p. 437.

29 Murray Bowen, *Family Therapy in Clinical Practice* (NY: Jason Aronson, 1983), p. 433.

A pdf of *The Hurricane of Racism* is available for free at <https://www.nacms.org/epubs/special-articles/hurricane-racism>.



Church members in action on a busy street in Washington, DC, USA.

Photos Courtesy Cleveland Park Congregational UCC

Ending Racism



Photo: @MoBetter_B/Twitter

Yeah, yeah, global warming, but what's that compared to profit?

Opinion: We're So Certain of Our Colonialist Selves That We're Destroying Our Own Planet

The global movement to end racism must turn its attention to the world's most vulnerable cultures – the indigenous people of Planet Earth – who are still enduring the forces of colonial genocide.

By Robert C. Koehler
Common Dreams: July 16, 2020

“There are so many . . . primitive tribes – they don't understand anything.”

The global movement to end racism must turn its attention to the world's most vulnerable cultures – the indigenous people of Planet Earth – who are still enduring the forces of colonial genocide.

They are, after all, still obstacles to the planet's moneyed interests.

I say these words not simply because protecting tribal cultures is humane, but also because it could well be crucial to everyone's survival, including yours and mine. The dismissive arrogance evident in

the above quote remains all too common. Those people are . . . savages, whatever, choose your judgmental noun.

The speaker above – the founder of India's Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences, a.k.a., KISS, what is the world's largest “boarding school” for indigenous children – called them monkeys. Some 30,000 indigenous, also known as Adivasi, children attend KISS, where, according to Survival International, they are shamed and forced to give up their languages and their cultures and become, you know, regular people.

Indeed, KISS, which describes itself as an “anthropological laboratory,” puts its mission thus in an explanatory video: “KISS has been fulfilling the millennium development goals of the United Nations Organization and transforming social liabilities into social assets, converting tax consumers into tax payers.”

The “social liabilities,” of course, are the Adivasi. They don't pay their way in today's world. They're moochers: “tax consumers.” So the obvious solution is to take their children from them – i.e., shut down local village schools – and force them to attend boarding

schools. There's a bit of history behind this plan. It's been part of the colonial subjugation of the “new world” for several centuries.

Survival International, which fights for the rights of indigenous people globally, calls these places “factory schools,” which currently house approximately 2 million indigenous children around the world. Survival International is deeply critical of KISS in particular, because the organization recently partnered with Adani, an international coal-mining company, to open a new factory school.

According to Dr. Jo Woodman of Survival International, “The agenda behind this school is clear: Adani wants tribal lands, and tribal resistance is a major thorn in their sides. This school is a brazen and shameless attempt to ‘reprogram’ a generation of tribal children to see mining as ‘good’ and their spiritual and cultural connections to their land as ‘bad’ or ‘backwards.’ For KISS to partner so closely with a company so notorious on issues of indigenous rights in both India and Australia shows their true colors.”

Indigenous *continued on next page*

Ending Racism

Poll: Majority of Americans Back Black Lives Matter Protests and Think Demonstrations Will Help Racial Justice

A new Gallup survey shows that 65% of U.S. adults support the protests.

By Andrea Germanos
Common Dreams: July 28, 2020

Nearly two-thirds of Americans support the nationwide protests for Black lives and racial justice that erupted after Minneapolis police killed George Floyd in late May, and over half of Americans believe the demonstrations will help boost public backing for racial justice.

That's according to a Gallup poll released Tuesday and conducted June 23-July 6, 2020. According to the survey, 65% of U.S. adults support the protests, a view felt

most strongly by Black Americans (92%) and adults less than 29 years old (87%).

There was a whopping partisan divide. While 95% of Democrats said they support the actions, just 22% of Republicans said they did. Support was expressed from 69% of Independents.

The poll also reflected overall optimism from respondents about the protests' ability to effect positive change. A total of 53% of adults said the demonstrations will help public support for racial justice compared to 34% who said the actions would hurt the cause. Adults younger than 29 were most likely (78%) to believe the protests will help, compared to 42% of those 65 and older.

A partisan divide was clear on this questions as well – 84% of Democrats said the protests will help compared to 53% of

Independents and just 13% of Republicans.

Republicans overwhelmingly (74%) said the protests will actually hurt public support for racial justice.

The new polling comes days after a weekend in which nationwide protests against police brutality continued, with some actions spurred by the forceful crackdowns on demonstrators from federal agents deployed by President Donald Trump.

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Source: <https://www.commondreams.org/news/2020/07/28/majority-americans-back-black-lives-matter-protests-and-think-demonstrations-will>

Indigenous *continued from previous page*

And now, there's a new chapter in the KISS controversy. The school has been selected as the site of the 2023 World Congress of Anthropology, a prestigious international gathering sponsored by the International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences. More than 10,000 anthropologists from 150 countries are expected to attend the event, according to India's *National Herald*.

"Many Indian anthropologists and sociologists, however, are not pleased with the experiments at this laboratory," the Herald informs us. "Schools like KISS disinherit Adivasi children from their histories and describe Adivasi ways of life as backward and primitive," a statement released by activists and academics said. Children are not allowed to visit their families often, and this educational model makes kids ashamed of their parents and background."

What makes all this reverberate for me with particular intensity is that indigenous cultures aren't just "part of our history" – living museum pieces – but planetary stew-

ards, spiritually in touch with nature, with life itself, in a way the "dominant culture" is not. To the dominant culture, this is a dead planet and our job is to dig it up, find the oil, find the coal, find the gold, and get rich while we still can. Yeah, yeah, global warming, but what's that compared to profit?

So who are the savages here?
The world's eco-salvation requires that we learn from indigenous cultures, not blot them out. What does it mean to be part of a living planet? Somehow the idea of being its boss – exploiting and dominating it – feels like the wrong answer.

Consider merely language itself. As Rupert Ross writes in his remarkable book, *Returning to the Teachings*, English – and probably all Western languages – is loaded with judgmental certainties. We don't simply describe the world we inhabit, we continually judge it. Thus, as he points us, we are inundated with "pests," "waste," "weeds." On and on and on. The tribal people are "monkeys."

Such *de facto*, awareness-free judgments, Ross writes, "make it harder for us to remember that each thing we name that way is in-

involved in complex relationships with a multitude of other things. And that their unique contributions are essential to maintaining the health of the ecosystem as a whole."

He writes, "In my experience thus far, it seems that traditional people see our reliance on judgmental words as a very limiting way to know the world around us, and to deal with the people in it."

We're so certain of ourselves we're destroying our own planet, along with its indigenous stewards, and we don't know how to stop.

Robert Koehler is an award-winning, Chicago-based journalist and nationally-syndicated writer. His new book, *Courage Grows Strong at the Wound is now available. Contact him at koehlercw@gmail.com or visit his website at commonwonders.com.*

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Source: <https://www.commondreams.org/views/2020/07/16/were-so-certain-our-colonialist-selves-were-destroying-our-own-planet>

THIS MOMENT IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO COME ALIVE.

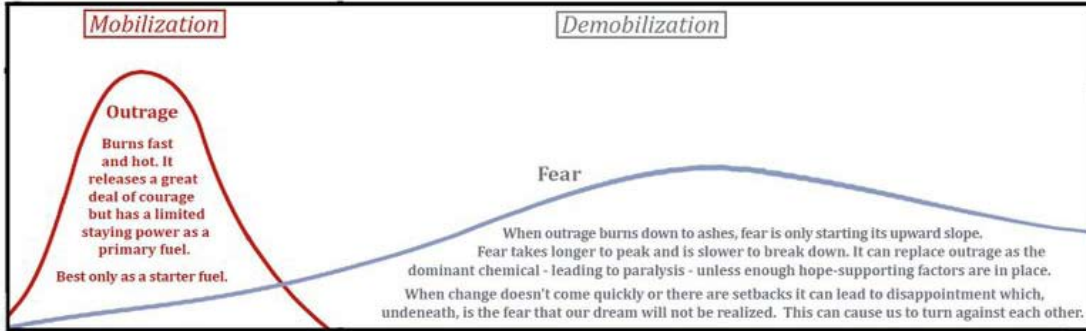
- Br. David Steindl-Rast -

<https://twitter.com/gratefulnessorg/status/1282279048085897219>

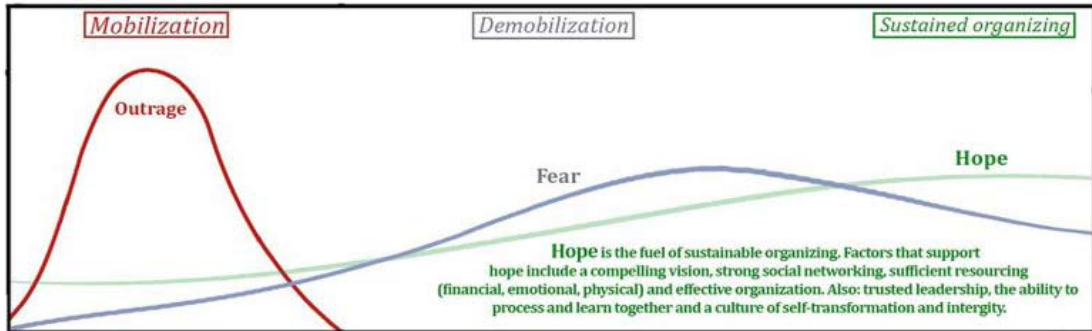
Ending Racism

The emotional chemistry of rebellions

A Unsustainable



B Sustainable



A moment of rebellion can give rise to sustained movement growth and expanding people power (Stonewall 1969; Ferguson); it can peak and quickly fade away (2006 mass marches for immigrant rights); or can create a burst of growth followed by steady decline (1970 protests following gov't killings of students in Ohio and Mississippi; response to police assassinations of Panther leaders, 1969-70).

The specifics of each situation determine its course but wise organizers, activists and supporters will adjust their tactics, strategies and messages to align with the emotional chemistry of the struggle at each stage.

Ricardo Levins Morales Art Studio

By Duncan Green
From Poverty to Power: July 29, 2020

Really liked this diagram that came through my twitter feed recently, and the accompanying text, from Ricardo Levins Morales.

A moment of rebellion can give rise to sustained movement growth & expanding people power (Stonewall, Ferguson); peak & quickly fade away (2006 immigrant rights marches); or create a burst of growth followed by steady decline (response to assassinations of Black Panther Party leaders, 1969-70).

The specifics of each situation determine its course, but wise organizers, activists, and supporters will adjust their tactics, strategies, and messages to align with the emotional chemistry of the struggle at each stage.

Outrage burns fast and hot. It releases a great deal of courage but has limited staying power as a primary fuel. It's best only as a starter fuel. When outrage burns down to ashes, fear is only starting its upward slope. Fear takes longer to peak and is slower to break down...

Fear can replace outrage as the dominant chemical – leading to paralysis – unless enough hope-supporting factors are in place.

When change doesn't come quickly or there are setbacks it can lead to disappointment which, underneath, is the fear that our dream will not be realized.

Hope is the fuel of sustainable organizing.

Factors that support hope: a compelling vision, strong social networking, sufficient resourcing (financial, emotional, physical), effective organization, trusted leadership, the ability to process & learn together, & a culture of self-transformation and integrity.

I'd say another key source of hope is a sense of winnability, preferably backed by some small early wins that keep people going. But wins can also divide and weaken a movement if people disagree whether they are sufficient, or its leaders are co-opted into positions of power. Tricky.

Alliances is another tricky issue. Does a movement last longer with an external enemy – a Millwall style 'no-one likes us; we don't care', or a sense of broad support in wider society?

What else?

Source: <https://oxfamblogs.org/fp2p/the-emotional-chemistry-of-rebellions/>

Choose a Charity

Disclaimer: I have grown to trust the people whose stories I publish from multiple chats and emails, but I suggest you get to know them yourself before sending money. I was scammed badly about two years ago and I don't want that to happen to you. Please be careful and please be generous once you feel comfortable.

A Life Changed: Village of Hope Uganda

By Cindy Cunningham, Founder & Director
July 14, 2020

While most of us go to bed every night and sleep in a warm, comfortable bed with a full belly, there are children 8,000 miles away for whom this is not their reality.

In Northern Uganda, orphans go to bed on a grass mat floor in a mud hut that leaks when the rains come, their bellies are empty from not eating for days, and they live in constant fear that in the middle of the night a rebel army leader might come through the door and abduct them and

force them to be child soldiers and/or sex slaves.

David (not his real name) lived through this very thing, all of his family were killed right in front of him. Thankfully when he was 10 years old he was brought to Village of Hope to live in a safe home where he received all the food he could eat, an education (one of the best in the country), medical care, spiritual and emotional counseling.

Today he is going to university and studying to be in financing. During his school holidays he volunteers to distribute

food to orphans who are in the same place he was and are now on the waiting list to come to Village of Hope.

David is a leader amongst his peers and in his church. He has a job during breaks that teaches vulnerable girls to read, distribute aid, etc. with the income he provides for his grandmother, siblings, and other orphans in his community. He said he wants to give back like what he received from Village of Hope.

David shared, "If it wasn't for Village of Hope, I would be a child soldier or dead."

BUYING JEWELRY AND OTHER PRODUCTS HELPS WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN UGANDA

All of these items are handmade in Uganda by the women of Tabitha Artisans Project. 100% of your purchase goes to support the children of the Village of Hope and the Tabitha Women.

<https://www.tabithaartisans.com/>

As the children orphaned by war had been moved to the Villages, we refocused our micro-economic efforts to the "child mothers" in Gulu in regards to bead making and skill training. The Lord's Resistance Army abducted the child mothers at a very young age, leading them to be tortured, abused, raped, and eventually pregnant. When they were able to escape from the LRA Rebels they came home with their "Rebel babies" (names the community gave them) to then be rejected by their families and community. Left to survive on their own, they had little hope.

(below) *Wisdom Necklace, \$25.*

(right) *Plum Purple Earrings, \$10.*

(bottom right) *Kitenge wallets, \$15.*

Many other products for home, gifts, and even clearance items.



Photo Courtesy Village of Hope

Cover of the 29-page book about Village of Hope Uganda. Its mission is to help children who were "stripped of parents and siblings, homes and villages, safety and order, the remaining population lived in a red cloud of burned-out huts, coal-black smoke, poor sanitation, malnutrition, limited access to education, and no visible jobs."

Choose a Charity

Disclaimer: I have grown to trust the people whose stories I publish from multiple chats and emails, but I suggest you get to know them yourself before sending money. I was scammed badly about two years ago and I don't want that to happen to you. Please be careful and please be generous once you feel comfortable. Thank you.



Photos: Tinashe Muzama

These photos show the effects of field fires and cleared trees cut down by local people for firewood. Jussa is in the middle photo. Local people cut and stacked those logs for sale and others cut and carry them to their homes. Jussa wrote, "We visited the area and spoke to them. MAYA is coming to the rescue and save our environment." The billboards will say: THIS AREA IS PROTECTED BY MANICA YOUTH ASSEMBLY IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CITY OF MUTARE DONATED BY ... whoever donates we will include the name. And we will also include the message of stop cultivating, stop deforestation."

25 July 2020

Dear Sir/ Madam,

RE: SEEKING ASSISTANCE FOR BILLBOARDS PRODUCTION

The Mutare Youth Assembly is seeking assistance to produce 12 billboards to be placed around Dangamvura mountain.

MAYA is a registered youth organization whose focus is on environmental protection and climate change. It is registered under Trust deed 0034/19. MAYA has partnered with Mutare Council on a project to increase and preserve the biodiversity and protect the Dangamvura Mountain from further deforestation through various actions that include tree planting, making fire guards, and civic education.

In pursuance of this objective, MAYA would like to produce 12 metal billboards with a simple message urging citizens and stakeholders to protect the environment which will be placed at strategic points along Dangamvura Mountain.

MAYA herewith seeks your assistance towards this worthy cause. This presents more than a good advertising opportunity for your products but most importantly it is a gesture of social responsibility.

We look forward to partner with your esteemed organization.

Help us Protect the environment.

Every dollar counts for environmental protection.

Yours Faithfully, **Jussa M. Kudherezera**
Email: manicayouthassembly@gmail.com
Cell: +263772351138, +263718855012, +263772486483

Website: <https://www.givingway.com/organization/manica-youth-assembly>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/category/Community-Organization/Manica-Youth-Assembly-MAYA-599494193802097/>

Twitter: @manicayouthassembly

Choose a Charity

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Group in Uganda Helps Women and Youth



Photos: Kulaba Ezekiel

(left to right) Woman looking at seeds received from Seeds for Peace. Children delighting in sunflowers grown with Seeds for Peace. Adults enjoying harvest from their hard work. Girls happily holding healthy, fresh food. (below) Community life.

By Ezekiel Kulaba, Uganda

OUR STORY

Conscious: That the marginalized persons in our community face many social economic and environmental barriers to become self reliant.

Aware: That there is biting poverty in our communities which hinders the marginalized persons to participate in the gainful employment.

And noting: That the major cause of poverty among the marginalized persons in the communities is poverty.

We decided to form into an organization known as Iganga Women and Youth Resource Centre and abbreviated as IWAY-OREC.

Our Vision is to empower marginalized women and youth to become self-reliant.

Our Mission is to equip marginalized women and youth with marketable skills for gainful employment in their families and community.

Our objectives are:

- To enhance livelihood, skills training for women and youth in the community.
- To enable the marginalized women and youth to become socially and economically independent.
- To address the country shortage of skilled labour force.
- To reduce poverty among the margin-

alized women and youth.

Our activities include among others:

- Farming
- Tailoring
- Knitting
- Computers training
- Hair dressing
- Catering
- Nursery teaching etc

We have our project proposal and need to have our own permanent home because we are just renting where we operate from.

So whoever is willing to stand with the marginalized can donate to us using our address, email, contact, through Sendwave,

MoneyGram or Western Union but Sendwave is better.

We thank our donours for Seeds for Peace who have changed our lives by donating seeds and scholastic materials to improve the standards of the widows, orphans, and the community.

Email: igangawomenandyouth@gmail.com or kulabaezekiel@gmail.com

Secretary: Kalungi Juliet at +256 (0) 774202600

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Iganga-women-and-youth-resource-centre-106489551124352/>

LinkedIn: <https://ug.linkedin.com/in/>



Choose a Charity

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Groundswell Friends Still Helping Orphans



Photos by Ssendendo Yasin Signalaminat

(top left to right) Hairat Kiyembe, 4, lost her parents in a car accident; Nashira Babirye is 7 and lost her parents in 2002 due to HIV/AIDS; Nakirye Janet, 12, lost her parents in 2006 due to a car accident; Nabanda Joriah, 8, lost her parents in an accident in 2011; Nakaziba Rajiba, is 8 (Ssendendo and his wife's daughter); and Masaabo Sharif is also 8, he lost his parents from HIV/AIDS. All the children have been adopted by Jinja Church Children Home and Orphanage. (below left) The children are reading the Bible, John 6:37-40. (bottom right) Ssendendo's two daughters with two total orphans washing plates and cups. You can see individual children's messages on video at the website: <https://spiritualfamily.net/groups/profile/12714/jinja-church-children-home> under "A Child's Request."



By Ssendendo Yasin Signalaminat, Uganda

What I do with the kids: When mentoring children or teenagers, I begin by building and forging a relationship and connection with them and this includes planning and creating opportunities to get to know each other, to be transparent, open, honest, and vulnerable with each other, to share each others' personal and life stories and personal information with each other, and listen to them, show interest in them, and that I care and earn their trust. I build a partnerships with them and involve them in the mentoring process and relationship and this includes listening to and valuing their unique voice and what they have to express, and contribute.

We pray for a breakthrough this year. If God blesses us with 10

people donating \$200 we can get a simple land and fight starvation through farming and poultry; it's what I pray for! \$2,000 can change life through farming and poultry; let's keep praying!

By Jeannette Bartelt, Maryland USA

Email to Iona: Is there a way we can help at least get him some seeds? I won't have extra money until next month and could help then. Maybe we could send out a request and even get enough so he could rent land for the season. Would be nice if he could rent to own. I will try to send you \$100 beginning of next month to help out.

Email to Ssendendo: Do you have Coronavirus where you are? Are you in need of Masks?



Photos: Herbert Bagyeni Kajoki

These are some of the many beautiful animal species one can see on trips sponsored by One Village Tours & Travel in Uganda.

Tours in Africa: Wildlife, Community

By Herbert Bagyeni Kajoki, Uganda

One Village Tours & Travel is based in Kabale, Uganda. This company is dedicated to serving clients or tourists from the world over by promoting Uganda. We take pride in our expertise to provide the most memorable vacations/trips that answer your interests, timeframe, budget, desire, wonder, and realities of visiting Uganda, the pearl of Africa.

One Village Tours provides tailor-made tours/trips within Uganda. We offer unforgettable experiences combined with the opportunity to interact with the people who call Uganda home (the friendliest people in the whole world). Our knowledgeable guides, custom-designed tours, and commitment to both customer service and giving back to the community will ensure a memorable adventure.

This experience brings you to supporting a community indirectly whereby the profit made out of travel goes to community development through education and agriculture or directly through supporting a family in need.

Voluntourism in relation to agritourism is a unique way through which tourists are subjected to home stay events, seasons, household experience, community project development as well as classical tourism combined. Travel volunteers/tourists will have enough time with the community, families, projects, learn a language, teach a language, feed an animal, participate in the garden, learn how to plant a seed/crop, and experience a culture or country that is different from theirs.

Our Goals/Objectives and Vision

1. To donate profit share to community development projects in areas of education, agriculture, and conservation, to create a sustainable tourism thereby raising income in rural communities.
2. To organize trips/tours which would give our clients the best possible Africa experience.
3. To put into practice the

requests of our clients to arrange some of the best trips in Uganda, Africa.

4. To make sure that our trips/travels are personalized with clients' own interests, budgets, timeframes, and other requirements.

We are specialists in the following:

- Student trips/experiential
- Bird watching
- Agritourism that outweighs ecotourism and community tourism
- Gorilla tracking
- Chimpanzee tracking
- Wildlife and game drive safaris
- Volunteer opportunity trips
- Mountain Hiking
- Photo safaris
- Nature/jungle walks
- Cultural heritages
- Water cruises
- Hotel/accommodation bookings
- Car/vehicle hire or rental

Contact us at:

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Onevillage2013@gmail.com
Whats App: +256701233725
or +256772692569



THIS CAPACITY OF WAKING UP, OF BEING AWARE OF WHAT IS GOING ON IN YOUR FEELINGS, IN YOUR BODY, IN YOUR PERCEPTIONS, IN THE WORLD, IS CALLED BUDDHA NATURE, THE CAPACITY OF UNDERSTANDING AND LOVING. . . . IT IS WITH OUR CAPACITY OF SMILING, BREATHING, AND BEING PEACE THAT WE CAN MAKE PEACE. MANY OF US WORRY ABOUT THE WORLD SITUATION. WE DON'T KNOW WHEN THE BOMBS WILL EXPLODE. WE FEEL THAT WE ARE ON THE EDGE OF TIME. AS INDIVIDUALS, WE FEEL HELPLESS, DESPAIRING. THE SITUATION IS SO DANGEROUS, INJUSTICE IS SO WIDESPREAD, THE DANGER IS SO CLOSE. IN THIS KIND OF SITUATION, IF WE PANIC, THINGS WILL ONLY BECOME WORSE. WE NEED TO REMAIN CALM, TO SEE CLEARLY. MEDITATION IS TO BE AWARE, AND TO TRY TO HELP.

- Thich Nhat Hanh -

<https://cac.org/look-with-the-eyes-of-compassion-2020-07-29/>

Consumer Liberation

Our Motto: Use it up, wear it out, make it do, or do without.

Our Slogan: The way forward: cycle back to basics.

Email Iona at groundswellnews@pa.net and she will put you on our email list to receive monthly issues of our climate activist journal. "Every new one makes us stronger," sings Pete Seeger.



Groundswell News

An activist publication bringing readers struggles and successes as well as climate-change news in the U.S. and around the globe. People everywhere are working to make change. Our beautiful journal will inspire and encourage you. Learn more at www.groundswellnews.org. Email groundswellnews@pa.net to be put on our e-list.. It's free but donations are gladly accepted. A project of the 501(c)(3) Grassroots Coalition for Environmental and Economic Justice. Photo <https://www.google.com/search>

Groundswell News Now Accepting Ads

Please consider placing your ad with us. As we are an alternative source of news, we have an alternative ad policy. Send me your material and pay what you feel is reasonable, depending on how much space your ad needs. If your ad requires some of my time to create it for you, there will be an extra charge. If you can afford \$50 for half a page and \$100 for a full page, that will be wonderful. Our distribution is small now but we hope to grow quickly and our readers are wonderfully supportive people!

Thank you.



Remember your dreams.



Messages from Our Friends

(For many, English is not their native language.)



[**Note:** The following were received after I sent Groundswell News to everyone.]

Thanks Iona,
Your newsletter looks good. Please add us to your mail list & we will help circulate it.

John and Maureen Sheehan, Massachusetts USA

Our greetings to you and thank you for sending us *Groundswell News*. Love it! Thank. We enjoy reading it. When is the next coming? We are here waiting for the next news.

Blessings and thank you, Iona.
Ezekiel Kulaba, Uganda

Awwnnnnn... I'm definitely sharing this one. Thank you so much
Prince Timmy, Nigeria

Very positive energy (shared with 23 people).

Bob Hendren, Michigan USA

Love it!
Francine Nzokira, Burundi

I loved re-reading that story about your third son from Part 7 of the memoir. Since it was written five years ago, inquiring minds want to know whether Andrew was ultimately granted parole?

Allen Hengst, Wire Editor

[**Answer:** As of July 29, he has gotten the vote he needs to be released from the parole board but we still don't have an exact date for his release.]

Hi, Iona. So happy to get your sweet message. In the future I hope to comment on your newsletter & you can of course publish those comments if you like. Your work is inspiring.

Sending you blessings, best wishes, & much love. Be well. God be with you always. It's wonderful to be in touch with you, and I am sure it makes John happy that we are connected.

Hope this finds you well & so glad you participate on Companions.

Love this:

The mission of Groundswell News is to be a beautiful, inspiring, uplifting journal which educates and enlightens people about climate change through scientific articles and stories by and about activists who are working to protect life on Earth and preserve natural resources. We are a global family.

I especially liked your story of Andrew, your "adopted" son & your photo with him.

Take care. What a blessing to connect & I know John is so proud of you & helping us all from heaven.

Take care. Many blessings.

Morgan Zo-Callahan, California USA

Sent to 60 of my contacts.

Please read and subscribe.

For the Earth and its inhabitants.

My friend Vivian read your last addition and loved it.

Our Environment should be our #1 concern. Without it nothing else matters. Mother Earth will spit us All out.

Love to Everyone,

Jeannette Bartelt, Maryland USA

Awesome, thanks for the update! Already shared with all.

Best wishes to you and your team.

Thanks and regards

Moharana Choudhury, India

I wanted to greet you individually as my lovely sister, the newspaper is so wonderful, people are doing amazing things,

Lillian Kabahuma, Uganda

Hello, everyone -

I am interested in starting a multi generational, diverse community without land ownership [the indigenous model] and with long-term goals of conserving and stewarding the land on which we would live, creating a resilient, self sustaining and regenerative community.

I have read and listened to a lot of options and the largest roadblock is the cost of the land. I want to figure out how to

avoid this roadblock and invite people who may not have the financial resources but have talents, expertise, the ability to work, and other resources to bring to the table.

How do we make this possible?

How do we make it replicable?

How do we make it "cool"?

How do we make it sustainable [not in the environmental sense but in the longevity of the program sense]?

Thank you for any ideas and anyone who wants to join the conversation and also in the effort, please, let me know.

If you know of a conservation group who is looking to collaborate on this endeavor, let's talk!

If you know someone who wants to donate land to this experiment, let's talk!

If you want to be a part of this endeavor, let's talk.

I live in Dover, New Hampshire. I would like to create this community in the Seacoast area of NH or southern Maine, depending on how this works out. I have some ideas and connections with many local farming groups and farmers and am on the board of the Seacoast Permaculture group and connected with NOFA and many others, including Bio4climate. I attended a number of their meetups before the world shut down and also the virtual conference.

Let me know if you have any other questions. Right now I am looking for land, co-conspirators, and have a plan to connect with the local conservation group SELT.org to talk about plans they have for developing a small farm hold they just procured as part of my idea of not holding the land.

I am meeting with a small group which may become the start of the new family on Monday.

Land trusts/agrarian trusts/land conservation trusts/donated land which will be conserved in its natural state or improved/land reclamation/urban land reclamation/other ideas?

Thank you for your support!

Yulia Rothenberg, New Hampshire USA
(from Blessed Unrest conference)

Contact: yuliarothko@gmail.com

Messages continued on next page

Messages *continued from previous page*

Good morning Iona:

I don't know if you watch or have access to PBS news, but they often have very good segments on the environment. In case you didn't see it, last night they had a fairly lengthy (10 minutes, maybe) report on logging in the Congo River basin. As you would expect, it was full of not particularly good news about how unfettered logging is quickly stripping some of the most important tropical forests in that region – and the world.

The government makes annual permitting and licensing arrangements with logging companies, but those agreements are rarely observed, and huge illegal logging operations have become the standard rather than the exception. The worst culprit, according to this report, is China. I was very disturbed – but not surprised – to hear that, since it seems that China has – very quietly but also very effectively – become the great new colonialist power of our age.

And they have done this without using military force at all. Not a single soldier. (Compare this with European and American colonialist enterprises.) They simply buy the countries – and/or major elements of the political and economic power elements in those countries. And they take the long-range approach, trying to create as few newsworthy events in the process.

So anyway, just a note that geopolitics still play an extremely important role in the world in general, and the environment in particular.

And, as you probably know, the Congo basin comes only after the Amazon in its impact on worldwide CO2 levels.

If you are interested, you can see the report on [pbs.org/newshour](https://www.pbs.org/newshour) and look up last night's broadcast (i.e. Friday, July 24, 2020.)

It looks as though we have another very nice day on our hands here. I hope the same with you!

Dan Adams, Pennsylvania USA

Hi mother thank you for including our

work on your paper. I must say I admire the outlook.

Bless,

Son Tendong Denis, Cameroon

Almajiri children are among the categories of poor children in Nigeria, who are sent to learn and Quran education. This system has been in existence for more a century, but at present these children who are in the system are suffering from lack of shelter, food, clothes, and they lost their most human basic right and necessity, especially the right to education. I have been addressing these Almajiri phenomenon since 2018, because the system is a life-long learning experience, so we decided to bring a sustainable reformation toward integrating it with both Western education and Islamic education.

Idris Bilyaminu Ndasadu'Lau, Nigeria

Hello Everyone.

As our 'democratic space' continues to shrink and our human rights (including freedom of speech) are violated more readily, one small outcome is that my own articles are being increasingly censored (including by removal once published).

Anyway, if this article is removed from the site below and you are interested, you should still find it elsewhere by searching under the author and title.

'Contemplating Human Extinction Terrifies Most People: A Strategy for Survival'

<https://freepress.org/article/contemplating-human-extinction-terrifies-most-people-strategy-survival>

'Free Press: Speaking Truth to Power Since 1970', USA, 14 July 2020.

Thanks again to those who shared my last article.

For life on Earth,

Anita McKone and Robert J. Burrowes, Australia

Email: flametree@riseup.net

Website (Nonviolence Charter): <https://thepeoplesnonviolencecharter.wordpress.com/>

Thank you so much!

I love the story.

Itz Alphonz Odhiambo, Kenya

I'm ready-handed to follow you madam. You can't imagine how happy I am with your innovations. Please, put me in your email.

Najiib Shako, Ethiopia

(*Subject line: Groundswell News Journal very much educative.*)

We greet you in the name of Jesus Christ and wishing all the *Groundswell News Journal* readers a continuous fight against the Covid-19 pandemic by observing the health rules i.e. social distancing, washing hands, and putting on masks.

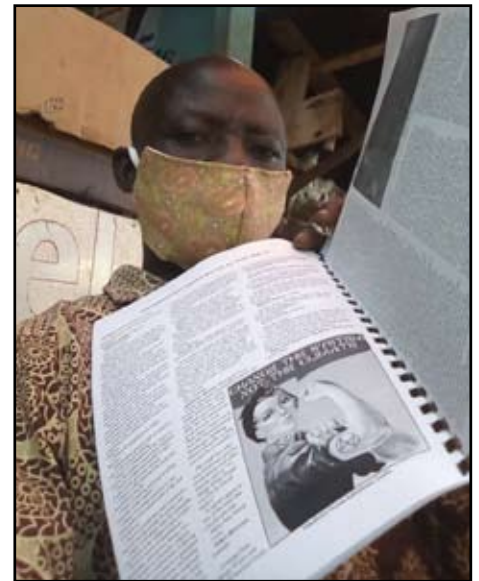
We of Iganga Women and Youth Resource Centre do acknowledge the receipt of *Groundswell News Journal*. We are very happy to appear on page 32 Messages to friends and hoping to see our photos appearing in the next Choose a Charity pages of the *Groundswell News Journal*.

Our greetings to you, Iona. Thank you for the good work you are doing, Iona.

May God bless you so much. May God bless you abundantly.

Ezekiel Kulaba, Uganda

(Ezekiel was so happy to have his message published that he sent me seven pictures showing me how he printed and bound his first copy of *Groundswell News Journal*. See his story on page 22.)



**MY HUMANITY IS BOUND UP IN YOURS,
FOR WE CAN ONLY BE HUMAN TOGETHER.**

- Desmond Tutu -

<https://www.passiton.com/inspirational-quotes/4434-my-humanity-is-bound-up-in-yours-for-we-can>