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interimplus@theinterim.com

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http://www.vitatrentina.it/var/vitatrentina

Happy New Year and best wishes on the new semester for those in semestered schools. This edition of *The Interim Plus* curriculum resource features the dissenting and questioning reaction to the recent Copenhagen Climate Conference held before Christmas. Much was expected and dire warnings were pronounced at the conference that attracted some 45,000 adherents of all sorts.

The controversy over global warming and climate change continues, but many of the principles/beliefs/assumptions/ associated with it are coming under greater scrutiny than ever before. There are implications for the economies of nations, taxation policies, concerns for employment, democratic processes, and social and development policies across the planet. Several articles have been selected and questions framed to stimulate ref ection and discussion of some of the main issues and concerns.

Also in this edition is a new service, whereby specific lesson plans are shared with our email list of educators. Please provide some feedback on this service, by contacting dirocco401@yahoo.ca. Submissions of more lessons for sharing would be greatly appreciated.

Anti-human life environmentalism

Green activists promote one-child policy, contraception keys to save planet

Paul Tuns,
The Interim January 2010

The *National Post*'s Diane Francis promoted the idea of a global one-child policy in her Dec. 8, column. The article ran at the beginning of the 2009 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen, and in it Francis, the editor-at-large of the *Post*'s *Financial Post* section, said the real environmental issue is not global warming but overpopulation. Her solution to this perceived problem is a "a planetary law, such as China's one-child policy" which "is the only way to reverse the disastrous global birthrate currently of one million births every four days."

She claimed that any policy to address hypothetical climate change problems will not "work unless a China one-child policy is imposed" on the planet:

"The only fix is if all countries drastically reduce their populations, clean up their messes and impose mandatory conservation measures."

Francis said that following health advances that have increased longevity and decreased child mortality, "humankind has not yet recalibrated its behavior to account for the fact that the world can only accommodate so many human beings." She said that without restrictions on the number of children born, world population will be about 9 billion by 2050, but if every female was limited to only one child, global population will fall one billion to 5.5 billion by 2050 and 3.75 billion by 2075.

She wrote: "China has proven that birth restriction is smart policy. Its middle class grows, all its citizens have housing, health care, education and food and one out of five human beings that live there are not overpopulating the planet."

Later when Francis appeared on Fox News, host Laura Ingraham [**http://eclipptv.com/viewVideo.php?video_id=8872**] challenged the self-described feminist how she could support government dictating family size and enforcing it with coercive abortion and sterilization, as Red China does. Francis said she was unaware of such elements of the country's brutal one-child policy.

Francis is not alone in her support for depopulation as a solution to recent concerns regarding the environment. During the Copenhagen conference, the United Kingdom's Optimum Population Trust launched Pop Offsets.

The Optimum Population Trust says today (August 17, 2009) that the climate change talks which will culminate at Copenhagen in December must ensure that all countries adopt non-coercive policies to limit and stabilise population growth. Family planning programmes in poorer countries should be treated as "legitimate candidates for climate change funding". Empowering women to control their own fertility would also have major humanitarian benefits for the poorest women and children in the world.

http://dad2059.files.wordpress.com/2009/08/popcontrol-81909.jpg

http://hamerly.net/jim/images/carbonFootprint.jpg

Carbon offsets are a way for people who feel guilty about their carbon footprint to make amends for the supposed damage they cause to the environment. Most offset schemes go to tree planting and energy effeciency programs, but Pop Offsets allow people to voluntarily donate to "family planning" programs in the developing world. While claiming to not fund abortion and focusing on contraception and family planning education, some of the groups Pop Offsets work with are involved with abortion.

Jim Hughes, vice president of International Right to Life Federation, (photo on right) told *The Interim*, that he found the idea "offensive" and said wealthy North Americans and Europeans "really wanted to reduce their carbon footprint they could do so by using fewer natural resources rather than ameliorate their guilt by offing people in Africa, Asia and Latin America."

The theme of reducing global population runs deep in the climate change agenda. In November, the United Nations Population Fund released its 2009 State of World Population report. In it, the UNFPA called for a reduction in world population in order to protect the natural environment.

The Fund's executive director Thoraya Obaid (photo to the left) said, "Rapid population growth and industrialization have led to a rapid rise in greenhouse gas emissions." To avert further disaster, the report, entitled "Facing a Changing World: Women, Population, and Climate," claims "universal access to reproductive rights" would "reduce greenhouse-gas emissions in the long run."

Piero Tozzi of the Catholic Family and Human Rights Institute said that the UNFPA report was "a thinly veiled attempt to harness popular environmental concerns in service of population control."

The issues of population and the environment have increasingly been linked. At Copenhagen, Zhao Baige, the vice minister of Red China's National Population and Family Planning Commission, told delegates in Denmark that "Population and climate change are intertwined, but the population issue has remained a blind spot when countries discuss ways to mitigate climate change." Hughes said such talk is "deeply disturbing, treating human beings like a cancer on the planet rather than a tremendous gift." He said the Earth exists to support human life, not vice versa, and that environmentalists have their priorities "seriously mixed up."

Reaction to the Copenhagen Conference in cartoon form

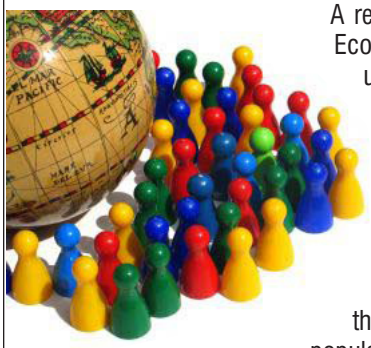
Questions

1. How do environmentalists connect population and the problems of the environment?
2. What is meant by a carbon footprint?
3. What are carbon offsets? What is cap and trade?
4. Are they correct in their conclusion as to causes of the problems?
5. Why would Diane Francis make such a radical proposal for a solution?
6. Is she correct in her analysis or way off-base?
7. In Jim Hughes' view what is wrong and disturbing about the family planning advocates' recommendations?
8. What are the cartoonists saying about the success of Copenhagen?
9. Are they happy about the outcome or disappointed? What other points can be made about the cartoons themselves? Useful? Clear? Credible?

Contraception is not the way to fight global warming

Posted by: William West 11 Sep 2009

http://www.mercatornet.com/demography/view/5763/



A report from the London School of Economics think tank Optimum Population Trust (OPT), arguing that population control would be the cheapest way of fighting global warming, has been rejected by population researchers.

The President of the Population Research Institute, Stephen W. Mosher, criticised the claim by the OPT that limiting population would be five times cheaper than investing in "green technologies".

"The idea that people equal pollution dates back to the very beginning of the population control movement in the Sixties," he said. "It wasn't true then, and it isn't true now. Free people equal prosperity, which in turn provides the resources that you need to conserve and protect the natural environment. So these anti-people fanatics have it exactly backwards."

The OPT report claims that the world should be reducing carbon emissions by encouraging contraception and family planning. The chairperson of the OPT, Mr Roger Martin, told the *San Francisco Chronicle* that the main problem behind global warming is that there are too many polluters coming into the world.

"It's always been obvious that total emissions depend on the number of emitters as well as their individual emissions – the carbon tonnage can't shoot down, as we want, while the population keeps shooting up," he said.

"The taboo on mentioning this fact has made the whole climate change debate so far somewhat unreal. Stabilizing population levels has always been essential ecologically, and this study shows it's economically sensible too."

In an even more extreme report, the London *Sun* said that the OPT research indicated that "condoms are the cheapest way to fight climate change".

The *Sun* said it had been estimated that world population in 2050 would be 8.64billion, but that the Trust says contraception could reduce this to just over 8.1billion – with a potential saving of 34 gigatonnes of CO2.

But in a response published by the Catholic News Agency, Mr Mosher said that human-generated global warming was "still an open question."

He also speculated that the OPT's recommendations could result in forcible contraception to prevent what he called a "make-believe problem."

A deadly climate

Editorial from *The Interim*, January, 2010

In our day and age, the reality of climate change cannot be doubted: it is experts' grave concern, the popular politicians' top priority, the famous film stars' fashionable cause.

Last month, the leaders of the world gathered in Copenhagen to avert an impending ecological disaster – an effort (so we are told) that may already be too little, too late. Indeed, it is impossible to question the reality of global warming, when concerns about it have reached a fever-pitch: climate change can be seen in our hybrid cars, and contorted lightbulbs, but most of all, it can be seen in the somber expression written on the worried faces of so many.

It would be a terrible mistake, however, to assume that climate change has anything to do with science, human action, or objective reality: it is quite obvious that there is no truth in such claims, and to uncritically accept this narrative would be, literally, to catch a fever. Global warming is an internal phenomenon that is occurring in our culture, not our climate. Thus, the prophets of ecological doom – who one witty critic calls the "Warm mongers" – are totally wrong to claim that man-made climate change is a real phenomenon, observable in nature.

However, climate change "deniers" are equally wrong to think that pointing out this fact will solve the problem. Nietzsche once wrote, "There are no facts, only interpretations," and his words were never truer than in this context: there are no objective, scientific facts about climate change, but the interpretation is real enough.

What we call "climate change" is only the most recent outbreak of a perennial phenomenon which affects all human cultures from time to time. In Sophocles' tragedy, *Oedipus Rex*, Thebes is suffering from "pollution"; in the Middle Ages, there would be intermittent outbreaks of real and imagined plagues. Oddly enough, the cure for both of these problems was the same: Thebes is cured by the expulsion of Oedipus, and the numerous Medieval texts claim that the "plague" often abated after a pogrom of local Jews. If modern medicine has made these actions seem outrageous and unacceptable, modern climate science has stepped into the breach, convincing us that "carbon" is the poisonous element – everywhere and nowhere – that chokes our air, and stagnates our water.

Distressingly, the diagnosis of climate scientists is not very different from Sophocles' oracle or the witch doctor of the Dark Ages: all of the causes of climate change are euphemisms for man. The problem is not the carbon footprint, but the person who leaves it; the problem is not carbon consumption, but the carbon consumer; the problem is not even pollution, but the hidden polluter. The real pollution is always the same thing, and it is always a person. In a recent *National Post* column, Diane Francis, argued that the solution to climate change was simple – indeed, it always is: that the West adopt China's infamous and brutal one-child policy. Of course, implementing the barbaric restrictions of Red China won't make the first world green. But it will provide the demonic escape valve, required by a culture which has been convinced that the human being does not produce waste, but is itself detritus to be disposed of. Although Francis' position sounds extreme, she has merely followed the logic of climate change to its ineluctable end: the realization that people are the problem.

But just the opposite is true. Indeed, the human person is the only truly renewable resource in the world because it is the only one that is truly renewed. Man is perpetually pro-created by God Himself; every life begins the story of Creation

again. Indeed, the child is the new-born crown of Creation, the recipient of the gift of the world. But, to assume that the child is a drain on a dwindling amount of resources is not only a historically parochial extrapolation: much more seriously, it doubts prudent judgment and the generous providence of the omnipotent God. Thus, while environmentalists clothe themselves in the mantle of "stewardship," their concern is inherently impious: the real crisis of global warming is that so many people have been convinced that the greatest gift which God gives to the world is really a curse.

Mother Teresa once said that, "Saying there are too many children is like saying there are too many f owers."

So many, however, have forgotten this inspired insight and, like the mendacious mother before King Solomon's throne, are willing to see our most precious resource sacrificed, and call it wisdom. This, of course, is the real crisis of climate change: that so many in our world see their fellow man as a problem to be minimized if not eliminated, diminished if not destroyed. The real ecological disaster of our age is not material, but moral, for population is always a blessing, never a bomb.

Questions

1. Can one doubt the "reality of climate change"?
2. Now that the Copenhagen Conference is a few months old, has the warming climate frenzy abated? If so why, and if not why not?
3. In what way is the climate warming debate a phony one?
4. Is "political correctness" inf uencing this public issue? In what areas of culture, politics and learning?
5. What evidence is there that climate change has been taken seriously in society?
6. What point is Tuns drivng at with his warning that to "uncritically accept this narrative would be, literally, to catch a fever"?
7. What is the dilemma when facts and interpretations don't support one another?
8. What or who is the real problem according to the fashionable observers?
9. What radical but logical idea did Diane Francis promote?
10. What hopeful view does the editorial writer close with? Is it a view that you would share? Why or why not?

For further study

1. Research the background of Diane Francis, her newspaper position, views on the economy, social issues, and politics.
2. Has Francis' recommendation actually worked in China? What is the ratio of young men to young women in China? Is this a demographic danger to social stability? Is the Chinese government changing its tune with respect to this policy?
3. The inconvenient truth? Overpopulation, Diane Francis, December 8, The *National Post* **http://network.nationalpost.com/np/blogs/francis/archive/2009/12/07/the-inconvenient-truth-overpopulation.aspx**.

Some Like It Warm

William Anderson

These days, in the matter of climate change, simple epistemology has become a matter of dispute. Competing visions prefer appeals to emotion. After a plausible beginning some three decades ago, testable hypotheses concerning climate have faded into the background – eclipsed by an ever-ramifying and near-impenetrable tangle of acrimonious accusations, ad hominem arguments, well-poisoning, and appeals to authority.

The beginning of wisdom in such circumstances must be to sort the various assertions into two clusters: those that can now be settled to the point of *moral certainty* and those that remain within the realm of honest dispute. It is not necessary to immerse oneself in arcane scientific detail to do this. Observation and logic will suffice. The efforts will be aided by recently revealed facts, including the texts of internal communications of some of the principal actors.

Some of the frequently heard assertions may now be fairly judged as false to a moral certainty:

"*The science is in, settled, or enjoys overwhelming consensus*." One needs to know nothing of the physics, chemistry, or biology of climate science to judge this frequently heard assertion as plainly false. Catastrophic change has believers and skeptics of equal eminence and probity. To claim consensus by excommunication from the lists of fair debate is despicable as well as logically untenable. More than that, science is never finally settled, and consensus is the stuff of politics.

"*Those who disagree cannot be trusted because they have a vested interest in the outcome*." It cannot be clearer that there exists a moral hazard – a view shared by believers and skeptics. Contemporary scientific research is accompanied by massive sums of money, academic tenure, and, occasionally, access to fame and glory. Granting authorities, both private and public, have preferred outcomes in mind, and these are well understood by the grant applicants. The statement does not discriminate between believers and skeptics and is an empty assertion.

"Even if the current findings are uncertain, the application of a 'precautionary principle' requires that we act to avert catastrophe, just in case." Again, the assertion is logically untenable, since it assumes what it purports to prove. Of course we need to be prudent, but we can't know how to do that until we know the relative risks, benefits, and costs of alternative actions. This is precisely what the whole controversy over global warming is about. It might be that the expenditure of trillions of dollars in an attempt to alleviate a possibly trivial climate change would produce far greater woe.

These three propositions, still frequently proclaimed, serve only to distract and mislead. Reasonable debate should not involve their use.

As for those controversies that cannot be settled by the use of logic alone, they are of two types: questions of process and of content. The problems with the process of climate science begin with the corruption of the peer-review process.

Peer review of scientists' work is necessary to the scientific enterprise. It requires open sharing of original data and recognition that colleagues, including hostile ones, may detect errors that confound our fondest hopes. Peer review is no guarantee of sound science, but it is one indispensable safeguard against avoidable error. The essential condition of peer review is that the peers not be deliberately selected by journal editors to be predisposed to agree with or condemn the work of others. This is a serious hazard, especially in disciplines that have only a few real experts all known to one another. It depends entirely on the integrity of the editors and the peer referees. In addition, the reviewers may sometimes be tempted to intimidate journal editors, threatening to withhold their future work. Thus the process is never entirely free of bias, human nature being what it is.

In the case of climate science, corruption of the peer-review process appears to have taken place. Communications among some of the principal investigators suggest a conspiracy to prevent the publication of work at variance to their own. In addition, they attempted to take action against editors and journals that published the work of their rivals.

Worse, these same investigators refused to disclose their original data and their methods of analysis, threatening to destroy data rather than comply with freedom-of-information demands, as required by law. This action constitutes scientific malfeasance of the gravest type. Alone it is sufficient to discredit their entire enterprise.

A second problem with the process is the corruption of the original data. At first it might seem that measuring temperatures around the world over many years would not be conceptually difficult, even if highly tedious. Alas, this is not so. In order to develop a comprehensive climate history, one would need to have solid data stretching for at least a thousand years. Since reliable thermometers have been available for little more than two centuries, it is necessary to make inferences from so-called proxy data.

Proxies may include measuring of tree rings, drilling of ice cores, measuring of mud sediments, or even use of historical anecdote, such as the freezing of rivers and the geographical distribution of crops. The accuracy of such proxies is always problematic. Even in recent times the collection of data is no trivial exercise. Where should sampling stations be located? How many? How often should temperatures be recorded? On land or ocean? In cities or countryside? No consensus on data-collection methods exists, and each investigator has his preferences, leading to data that are not always compatible.

Nevertheless, an estimate, however f awed, of the secular trend of temperatures for the past thousand years was necessary for any plausible projection of future trends, and for any estimate of the effects, if any, of human contribution to the variations thus agreed upon. Thence began a creative exercise in the "adjustment" or "correction" of raw temperature data. It is inevitable that such estimates contain a measure of subjective interpretation.

These interpretations must not have been made with complete confidence, since the methods of calculation have not been disclosed. Indeed, at some uncertain time, custodians of the original data appear to have deleted them, retaining only the . . . er . . . adjusted estimates.

So we will never know, with adequate confidence, what the temperature trends were thought to be by those who have been charged with custody of the many years of data on which, they insist, the future of humanity depends.

Although there are four main foci of such data (the Climate Research Unit of the University of East Anglia, NASA, NOAA, and Darwin, Australia), they share some sources, remain unavailable to independent assessment, and show the same casual approach to integrity of the data. Requests for disclosure have been refused. This is a curious posture for publicly funded organizations.

As to the problems of the content of climate science, in spite of strident claims, none of the following questions appears to have been settled: Is present climate change, if any, outside historical parameters? Is there an ideal average global temperature? If so, what is it? Are changes on a positive feedback trend, and thus dangerous, or a negative feedback course, and thus self-correcting? What is the relative contribution of atmospheric gases, solar variance, ocean currents, and other as yet unknown factors? Is there an ideal level of atmospheric carbon dioxide? If so, what is it? To what extent does human activity affect the atmosphere?

The work done by climate scientists has not begun to answer these vital questions. The sources and methods are insufficient for the task. Data compromise, bickering, tribal loyalties, moral hazards, and perverse incentives all combine to form a cascade of error from which the truth cannot be rescued.

The course of this controversy begins to suggest the possibility that errors of method have not been entirely innocent. Questions of deliberate fraud and hoax remain unsettled. If they remain unaddressed, the popular impression of the integrity of science may be fatally compromised.

Nevertheless, these are important questions. It is plausible that human activity could be having some negative effects. We need to try to find this out. But it now seems likely that we'll have to start over, returning the scientific enterprise to at least an adequate measure of objectivity. Perfection is never achieved, but we simply must do better than the current efforts. If there are serious dangers, let us study the costs, risks, and benefits of proposed interventions, a task that so far appears to have eluded us. Let us restructure the methods of investigation so as to minimize the distortions of groupthink. Let us start with the best data we can find and work toward a conclusion, rather than the reverse, as we appear to have been doing so far.

The burden of proof for destructive climate change firmly rests with those whose remedy requires an overturning of economic and political assumptions without precedent. We need to apply the best thinking of which we are capable. We haven't done that so far.

In the postmodern dispensation that now beguiles us, this will be an uphill trudge. It is always more fun to damn the facts and embrace wishes. The great game of climate-change baseball is in the late innings, but Reality bats last.

William Anderson teaches at Harvard University.

http://www.firstthings.com/article/2010/01/some-like-it-warm

Questions

1. How do the "three propositions, still frequently proclaimed, serve only to distract and mislead"?
2. What does Anderson claim about the f aws regarding the process of climate science?
3. What problems arise with "proxy data" according to Anderson?
4. What might be the f aws as to estimates and as to interpretations?
5. What factors undermine the integrity of the data presented by the pro-global warming experts?
6. What vital questions have the climate scientists not begun to address according to Anderson?
7. What course of action is recommended by Anderson as a way to proceed forward given the current impasse on the issue?
8. Overall, does the article persuade to take a sober second look at all the assumptions associated with climate change, both as to its ostensible causes and solutions?

So just who does climate science?

Posted on 31 August 2008 by Barry Brook

http://bravenewclimate.com/2008/08/31/so-just-who-does-climate-science/

Once someone begins to comment on climate change in the media (television, radio, newspapers, etc.) and establishes a public profile, it is only a matter of time before questions are asked about whether they are qualified to express an informed opinion.

So, who is? A very readable and detailed exposition on the nature of scientific investigation as it relates to climate science has been written by John Mashey and posted over at Deltoid and should be read as part of this post.(**http://scienceblogs.com/deltoid/2008/08/john_mashey_on_how_to_learn_ab.php**) It explains what/who is credible, and on what basis this judgement can be made. Read it!

Generally, people who are working for an organisation which conducts primary research on climate science and publishes this work in peer-reviewed scientific journals should be listened to. There will be diverse opinions among this group – that is the nature of science – but provided their arguments are bound up in evidence and have survived rigorous pre-publication scrutiny and review, then they have to be considered a valid viewpoint

So, here is an incomplete list of what I consider to be the core scientific disciplines which have been primarily responsible for developing our current understanding of climate change and its implications.

Atmospheric and Physical Sciences: Climatology, Meteorology, Atmospheric dynamics, Atmospheric physics, Atmospheric chemistry, Solar physics, Historical climatology **Earth Sciences**: Geophysics, Geochemistry, Geology, Soil Science, Oceanography, Glaciology, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoenvironmental reconstruction Biological Sciences: Ecology, Synthetic biology, Biochemistry, Global change biology, Biogeography, Ecophysiology, Ecological genetics

Mathematics, Statistics and Computational analysis: Applied mathematics, Mathematical modelling, Computer science, Numerical modelling, Bayesian inference, Mathematical statistics, Time series analysis

Quite a diverse field and I've not listed many sub-disciplines. I've also not considered the humanities and social sciences, nor economics, nor engineering – all of which contribute greatly to our understanding of the broader issues – especially with respect to the impacts of climate change and our ability (or not) to manage and mitigate it.

But this list is sufficient to underscore an important point. Our current scientific understanding of global warming and climate change impacts are not the domain of one, quirky field called 'climate science'. In fact, it doesn't even exist as a discrete field of science. Indeed the leading peer-reviewed journal *Climatic Change* is explicitly multi-disciplinary in its mandate – after all, that is the nature of the problem.

So to end this piece, what is my qualification to comment on this amorphous endeavour known as climate science? (I raise this because this issue has been used by some to argue that I shouldn't be speaking on these matters, or that I shouldn't hold the *Sir Hubert Wilkins Chair of Climate Change*).

Well, my undergraduate degree focused on biology, geology and computer science. I also did multiple units in chemistry, physics and statistics. My honours research degree was in palaeoenvironmental reconstruction (using palynology and micropalaeontology to infer changes in environmental conditions over the 10,000 year period of the Holocene). My Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) was on the validation of stochastic numerical models using real-world environmental data.

Since my PhD I have published regularly in top peer-reviewed journals and publishing houses, with first author papers in *Nature*, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, *Quaternary Science Reviews*, *PLoS, Global Change Biology, Trends in Ecology and Evolution*, and books by Cambridge University Press and Wiley-Blackwell Science.

My scientific papers have covered a diverse array of fields, including stochastic numerical modelling, Earth systems science, palaeoclimatic reconstruction, information theory, Bayesian statistics and meta-analysis, time series analysis, ensemble model averaging, extinction models, ecological genetics, population dynamics and the synergies among drivers of global change. See here for a selection of my papers, and here for a complete listing of my 130+ peer-reviewed publications. I hold a Professorship in the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences at the University of Adelaide and am Director of the multidisciplinary Research Institute for Climate Change and Sustainability. I have also won a number of prestigious scientific awards from leading scientific and academic authorities.

Question

1. Does the author of the blog qualify as a credible expert/witness/scholar/commentator on climate science?

Another aspect

For an interesting commentary on the globalization of problems associated with climate change, see the article by Janet Daley of the ***Telegraph*** newspaper *There'll be nowhere to run from the new world government 'Global' thinking won't necessarily solve the world's problems*,

http://www.telegraph.co.uk/comment/columnists/janetdaley/6845967/Therell-be-nowhere-to-run-from-the-new-world-government.html#postComment#postComment

She has doubts about 'global thinking" and "global solutions" to human problems. Global government is not the way to go in addressing real problems. There must still be a way for human beings to inf uence and direct changes via their own national governments and not through an unelected world bureaucracy.

For a spoof of the totalitarian aspects of the "green supporters" and the "green mentality" taken to extremes please see Lorne Gunter's *Here come the green shirts* in The *National Post*, February 10, 2010 on the AUDI ad aired during the Super Bowl game.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ml54UuAoLSo and http://www.nationalpost.com/opinion/story.html?id=2543472

New Lessons

This month we are introducing a variation to our service which we hope grows into a popular and effective feature of *The Interim Plus*. The novelty is a pro-life lesson plan contributed by classroom teachers. We thank Dan Pigeau of the Durham CDSB for contributing the following lesson outline that could be used in a Grade 9 or 10 English course.

All subjects lend themselves to the integration of faith and principled life values, some more easily than others. Religion and philosophy offer the most direct integration, but such pro-life principles can be introduced in other subjects effectively as well.

The lesson plans address Ontario school curriculum learning aims and outcomes, but they can be easily adapted for other educational jurisdictions.

Gr.9 & 10 English Lesson - Lesson #1

The Curriculum Connections include the following:

2.1 communicate orally for several different purposes, using language suitable for the intended audience

Interpersonal Speaking Strategies

2.2 demonstrate an understanding of several different interpersonal speaking strategies and adapt them to suit the purpose, situation, and audience,
Non-Verbal Cues
Purpose and Audience
Interpreting Messages
1.2 interpret simple and complex media texts, identifying and explaining the overt and implied messages they convey (e.g., explain what the words, symbols, and images on a cereal box communicate about the cereal)
Teacher prompts: "What messages about family life are communicated by character relationships and plot outcomes in your favourite TV sitcom?"

Critical Literacy

1.5 identify the perspectives and/or biases evident in both simple and complex media texts and comment on any questions they may raise about beliefs, values, and identity

Identifying Topic, Purpose, and Audience

1.1 identify the topic, purpose, and audience for a few different types of writing tasks (e.g., a promotional f yer advertising your school for Grade 8 students in an elementary school)

Interpreting Messages
1.1 interpret simple media texts and some teacher- selected complex media texts, identifying some of the overt and implied messages they convey

Audience Responses
1.4 identify how different audiences might respond to selected media texts (e.g., predict how young, single males might respond to a car ad for a family van; predict how different peer groups might respond to a new rap CD)

Introduction

Review the concept of bias, what it is, what it means, where it is found

Body of Lesson

Teacher will give students the following texts/material:

1) a Campaign Life Coalition pamphlet (obtainable from that organization **http://www.campaignlifecoalition.com/**
2) a Me To We pamphlet or adopt a child pamphlet **http://www.metowe.com/speakers/**
3) a magazine cover regarding glamour, weight loss, or fashions (see below)
4) a magazine cover illustrating, some dominantly male interest UFC combat, sports, hunting, etc. see below (avoid the obvious pornographic or even semi-pornographic covers, but the topic of pornography and its harm to individuals and society would be a proper topic on its own)
5) a poster/image displaying some action, value, principle

Students will read/study the material and answer the following questions.

1) Is there a bias or hidden agenda or is the intent quite clear? Is there a specific audience for the pamphlet or magazine?
2) What are the values that are being expressed?
3) Are those values consistent with your own values? Why or why not?
4) Are those values consistent with what is being shown in society? Why/Why not? Are those values in synch with those of your school?
5) Would the values depicted make society a better place?
6) How might different people respond to the themes discussed?
7) Are these materials suitable to show to young children? Why or why not?
8) How would you change the texts/images if you were writing for a) elementary school kids b) teenagers c) university students d) adults f) females g) males?

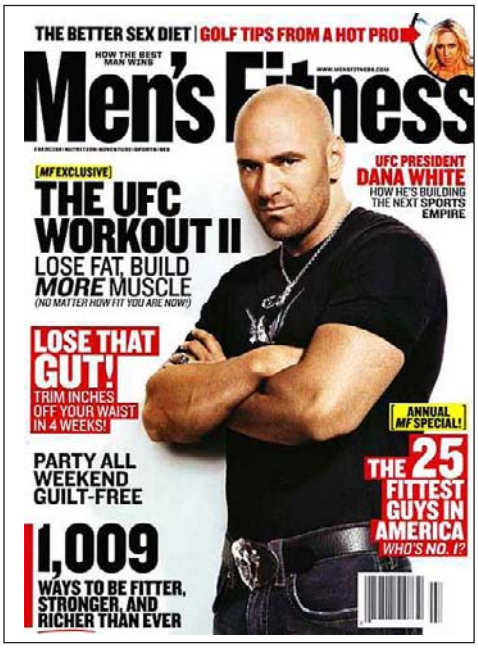
Once students have read the articles and answered the questions, the teacher will lead the class in a discussion on the topics.

Conclusion

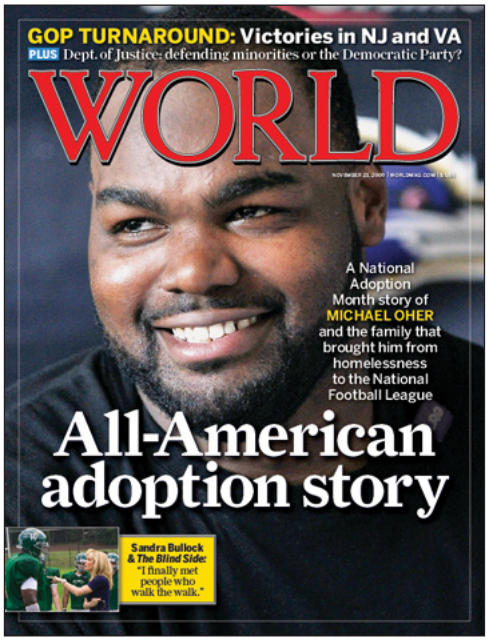
Conclude by having the students create a pamphlet, a magazine cover, magazine/newspaper advertisement, video, or write a magazine article, about a social justice issue that they are passionate about. Via a written component the student will answer the following questions:

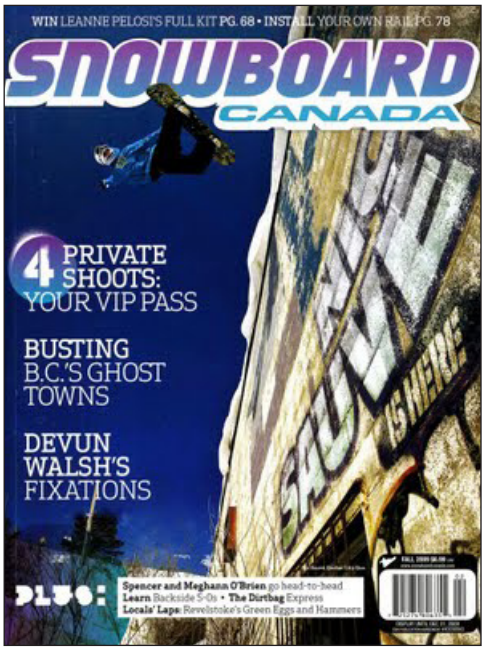
1) Why did you choose this topic and why do you think others should care about it?
2) Why did you choose this method/media, (article, magazine cover, a pamphlet, video)?
3) Who is the intended audience for your creation? What could you do to cater to different audiences, (kids, men, women, teenagers, seniors, ethnic groups) to get them to care about your issue?

Students can present their creation to the rest of the class in a series of presentations devoted to the theme. Following are some magazine covers, etc. that help illustrate the theme under consideration.


THE BETTER SEX DIET | GOLF TIPS FROM A HOT PRO
Men's Fitness
UFC PRESIDENT DANA WHITE
THE UFC WORKOUT II
LOSE FAT, BUILD MORE MUSCLE
LOSE THAT GUT!
PARTY ALL WEEKEND GUILT-FREE
1,009 WAYS TO BE FITTER, STRONGER, AND RICHER THAN EVER
THE 25 FITTEST GUYS IN AMERICA


GLAMOUR
WHAT "GOOD SEX" MEANS TO A GUY
CARRIE UNDERWOOD
365 beauty tips, tricks & freebies
Get to your happy weight!
10 THINGS EVERY WOMAN NEEDS TO GET RID OF RIGHT NOW
SEX PREDATOR EXPOSE


GOP TURNAROUND: Victories in NJ and VA
PLUS Dept. of Justice: defending minorities or the Democratic Party?
WORLD
A National Adoption Month story of MICHAEL OHER and the family that brought him from homelessness to the National Football League
All-American adoption story
Sandra Bullock & The Blind Side: "I finally met people who walk the walk."


WIN LEANNE PELOSI'S FULL KIT PG. 68 • INSTALL YOUR OWN RAIL PG. 78
SNOWBOARD CANADA
4 PRIVATE SHOOTS: YOUR VIP PASS
BUSTING B.C.'S GHOST TOWNS
DEVUN WALSH'S FIXATIONS
PLUS: Spencer and Meghann O'Brien go head-to-head
Learn Backside 5-Os • The Dirtbag Express
Locals' Lape Revelstoke's Green Eggs and Hammers


Big Bucks Now
FIELD & STREAM
Cutting-Edge Tactics for the First Hunt of the Year
Get Ready
Trout
Grizzlies
Doves
Muskies
Rooster Land: Inside America's Greatest Pheasant Hunt


Parents
Discover Your Toddler's Playdate Personality
5 Guilty Secrets Of New Moms
The Joy Of Adoption
Quick & Simple Tips
Babyproofing Basics
Raise A Healthy Eater
Stress-Free Family Travel
The Discipline Trick That's So Easy We Almost Don't Believe It
Smart Ways To Prevent Cavities
Plus Low-Sugar Drinks

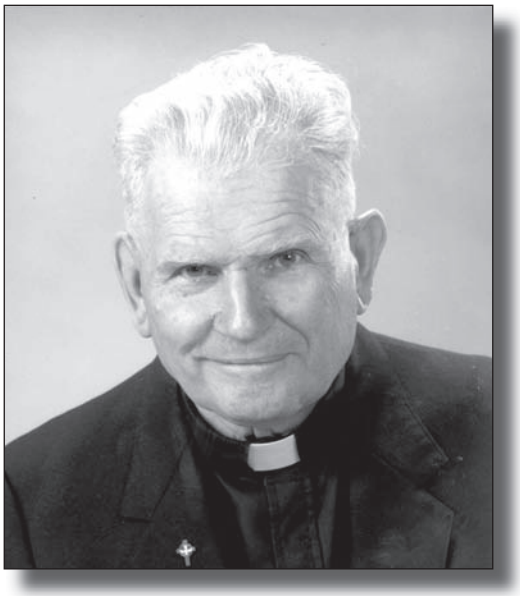

ELLE
FALL FASHION PREVIEW
300+ IDEAS
BE THE FIRST TO TRY THE NEW BAGS, BOOTS, JACKETS, JEANS, AND MORE
MARY-KATE!
GORGEOUS HAIR
THE DIRTY LITTLE SECRET OF BREAST IMPLANTS
DON'T GET HIGH, GET HAPPY!
IS HE LYING TO YOU?
NO SHE DIDN'T!
A FASHION EDITOR'S CHEAP & CHIC FINDS
$150 HEAD TO TOE
EXCLUSIVE!


WEEKLY
ONLY $2.99
ANGELINA
DANGEROUS PREGNANCY
CHARLIE
HIS SIDE OF THE STORY
EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW
SARAH & BRISTOL PALIN
"WE'RE GLAD WE CHOSE LIFE"
How Trig's Down syndrome made Sarah a "more patient" mother
Bristol on her struggles as a teen mom and finding love after Levi
PLUS Heartwarming family photos
RACHEL ZOE'S
SCARY DIET
EXPERTS SAY SHE'S JUST 60 LBS!
AT HOME WITH FAITH HILL & TIM MCGRAW


CANADA'S DECORATING MAGAZINE
STYLE at HOME
all canadian sources
design solutions
fabulous room rescues
25 decorating mistakes and how to avoid them
decor problems? quick & easy fixes
pretty organized
stunning storage
debbie travis's garden facelift
his & hers combining styles

The Father Ted Colleton Scholarship

ANNOUNCEMENT OF SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



On behalf of **Niagara Region RTL** and ***The Interim*** newspaper, sponsors of the Father Ted Colleton Scholarship program, I am happy to announce the three scholarship winners for the 2009-2010 academic year. It was a most difficult decision precisely because the quality of candidates and their essays were of very high quality. In reading the self-profiles of candidates it becomes even more apparent that they are individually and collectively outstanding young people, endowed with sharp minds, sensitive souls, and an ability plus commitment to be involved in leadership, active roles in both their schools and wider communities. Congratulations to all who participated in our scholarship program.

Father Ted Colleton is now approaching 97 years. He is residing in La Salle Manor in Scarborough and prays daily for the success of the pro-life cause. Remember him in your prayers. Candidates or other well-wishers may wish to consider sending a brief note or card simply to let him know that you took part in the program named in his honour. His mailing address is

LA SALLE MANOR 61 Fairfax Cres. Scarborough ON M1L 1Z7

The winning candidates are as follows:

1st Prize and $1500 ***Matthew Hunt***
St. Mary's College School
Sault Ste. Marie Ont.

2nd Prize and $800 ***Maria Navarro***
Fr. Michael McGivney
Catholic Academy,
Markham Ont.

3rd Prize and $500 ***Roman Belli***
St. Theresa of Lisieux CHS,
Richmond Hill Ont.