

Third Saturday Seminar 2009-2010

Humanity at a Crossroads

Session 09

15 May 2010

We Don't Know What Else to Be

Curt Gibby

**ALL Program, Lone Star College - Montgomery, Conroe,
Texas**

**“...we are the leaders we've
been looking for.”**

Grace Lee Boggs

Program for TSS Meeting 15 May 2010

- 9:30 am Introduction & Current Events (30 Minutes +/-) – *Curt Gibby*
- 10:15 am – **“We Don’t Know What Else to Be.”**
- 10:40 10 minute break
- 10:50 am Continue **“We Don’t Know What Else to Be”**
- 11:55 am- Closure – Feedback
- 11:00 am Session ends
- **Next Session 18 September 2010**

Disclaimer

The following presentation consists of material from many sources in addition to my own work and experience. I usually try give appropriate attribution for this material, but may have overlooked some. In many cases an Internet link to the source material is provided in order to allow you to better put these excerpts in context.

The inclusion of materials and the facts, opinions and ideas contained within them, does not in any way mean that I personally endorse or disavow any of them in whole or in part; but, that it is of importance to the discussion.

If you have any questions please contact me.

Curt Gibby <gcgconsult@n-star.com>

Before We Get Started

1. As tempting as it might be to think so, this is not a political rally for one side or another. It is a discussion of some very important real issues and questions which many, if not most of us share. Please, don't let political differences if you know about them, affect your friendships. History will tell who was right (maybe). In the meantime we need good friends, especially those who can be candid and friends at the same time.
2. By participating, we will help ourselves as well as the other seminarians deal with these important issues. Nobody has the "right answer" except for themselves. We all owe it to each other to respect and support each other. We are all Americans or guests. We will all benefit from or have to live with the outcome.
3. Please keep your remarks brief and to the point.
4. Have faith -- in each other and yourselves. **Our republic has lasted over 200 years.** We are the oldest living Constitutional democracy. Our **Constitution** limits the power of the leaders and **guarantees the rights of its citizens.** That 200 years has not all been smooth sailing. From time to time, generally in "times of war", **leaders have** usurped the authority of the Congress, **violated the Constitution and the rights of the people** who rightly or wrongly have acquiesced, being promised security. Something has always brought us back from the brink, but I don't think we ever make a full recovery. Best, we keep our rights and respect for each other intact in the first place. Let's not let anything we say or do be harmful to each other.
5. Have fun - We always do. (Sept 22, 2005)

To Any Members of Law Enforcement

If there are any members of law enforcement here in any sort of official capacity and not in a uniform recognizable as one of law enforcement we ask that you identify yourself or selves, your agency, department or organization and your official reason for being here.

Rest assured that we are engaged in no illegal activity, but we are aware of, value and have faith in our Constitutional rights.

In any case you are welcome to stay and participate as a member or guest of the Third Saturday Seminar. But, if at any time you consider anything you see or hear happening or about to happen is or will be putting any one or all of us in jeopardy of breaking the law as you understand it, we request that you advise us of that situation .

This is consistent with your obligation as a peace officer or agent to protect and serve the people. Anything else will be a betrayal and you will be derelict in your duty. It will result in harm to those you are obligated to protect.

The donuts are free to law enforcement.

“Cartoons of the Week”

We make extensive use of political cartoons in this presentation.

The Source of these Cartoons is TIME in cooperation with CNN. You can find the ones I've included and more at:

<http://www.time.com/time/cartoonsoftheweek>

Curt Gibby

PSA

Science Saturday will be held on May 22nd from 10 am to 11:30 am in B-102. Terry Leyenburger will speak about Global Warming.

Current Events

15 May 2010

Don't*be***Panic***ked!*

Kagan Nominated (No paper trail)

Special English | U.S. History

U.S. History

President Obama Nominates Elena Kagan to Supreme Court

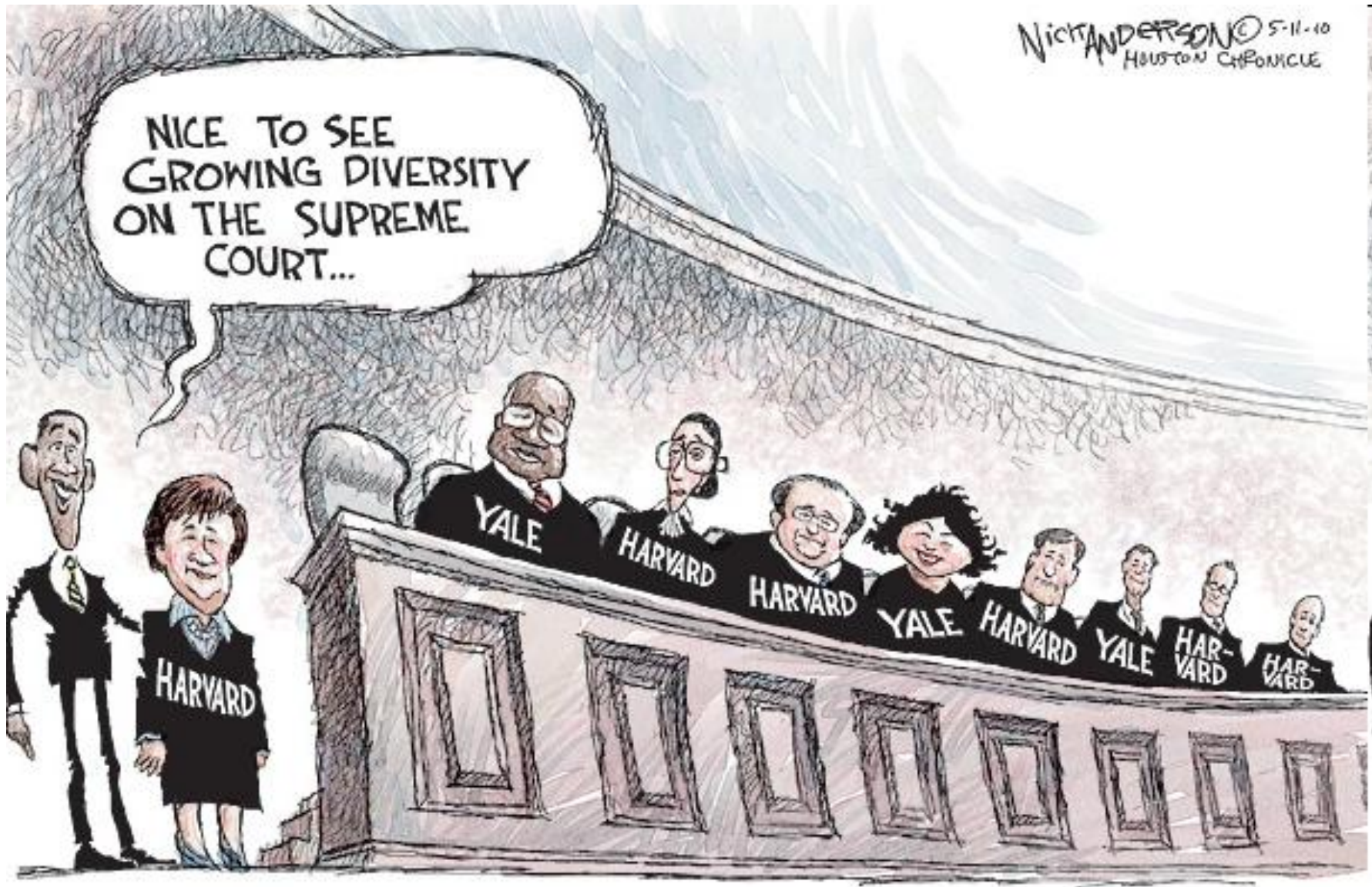
14 May 2010



Photo: AP

President Obama announces Elena Kagan as his choice for Supreme Court Justice at the White House

NICK ANDERSON © 5-11-10
HOUSTON CHRONICLE



Earlier this year the Supreme Court handed down a far-reaching decision allowing corporations and unions to spend unlimited advertising funds in candidate elections. Making matters worse, *Citizens United v. FEC* allows this unlimited spending to be done in secret! (LVW)

Here are 5 reasons you should add your voice to this debate:

1. Secret money has no place in American democracy.

Corporations and unions should not be allowed to spend money in elections without full disclosure to the American public. The role of the voter -- not the corporation or organization -- in determining elections must be protected.

2. Corporations and unions should have to stand by their ads.

When huge sums are spent to urge voters to take a certain action through advertisements, it should be clear who footed the bill. The "stand by your ad" system in elections works for candidates -- we need it in place for corporate America too.

3. Federal bailout money should stay out of electioneering.

Companies that receive federal bailouts should not be able to spend money in elections. This is a clear conflict of interest that is even more damaging without full disclosure.

Disclosure Act

4. Coordinated spending should be open spending.

When a candidate, corporation or union get together to encourage voters to support or oppose a candidate, it should be clear who paid for any advertising or media.

5. Foreign corporations should never have a hand in American elections.

As it currently stands, *Citizens United* allows foreign corporations to spend unlimited amounts of money, secretly, on campaign advertising to influence the outcome of elections. A company controlled from outside the United States should not spend huge sums to support or oppose candidates.

Legislation to require disclosure of corporate and union electioneering, known as [the DISCLOSE Act](#), has been introduced in the House and Senate, and the League of Women Voters is strongly supporting this bill. Our elected officials must protect the rights of voters. Congress must pass a fair and balanced bill before the 2010 elections to ensure these rights.

Change

**We went from a president who
made up words**

**to one that uses words we have to
look up.**

Loni Love, America's Sister on Comedy Central

Finally! Will it Stick?

SEC accuses Goldman Sachs of defrauding investors

AP Associated Press

 Buzz up! 188 votes |  Send |  Share |  Print



CNBC – SEC's Khuzami on Goldman



Slideshow: **Goldman Sachs**



Video: **Sen. Sanders On Goldman** CNBC

RELATED QUOTES

GS	160.70	-23.57
^GSPC	1,192.13	-19.54
^IXIC	2,481.26	-34.43

 **TRADE EDGE**

By MARCY GORDON, AP Business Writer – 4 mins ago

WASHINGTON – The government on Friday accused Wall Street's most powerful firm of fraud, saying Goldman Sachs & Co. sold mortgage investments without telling the buyers that the securities were crafted with input from a client who was betting on them to fail.

And fail they did. The securities cost investors close to \$1 billion while helping Goldman client Paulson & Co. capitalize on the housing bust. The Goldman executive accused of shepherding the deal allegedly boasted about the "exotic trades" he created "without necessarily understanding all of the implications of those monstrosities!!!"

The civil charges filed by the Securities and Exchange Commission are the government's most significant legal action related to the mortgage meltdown that ignited the financial crisis and helped plunge the country into recession.

The news sent Goldman Sachs shares and the stock market reeling as the SEC said other financial deals related to the meltdown continue to be investigated. It was a blow to the reputation of a financial giant that had emerged relatively unscathed from the economic crisis.

Goldman Sachs denied the allegations. In a statement, it called the SEC's charges "completely unfounded in law and fact" and said it will contest them.

More Unquiet Earth

Volcanic ash causes Europe flight disruptions to worsen

Updated 5h 21m ago | Comments [306](#) | Recommend [40](#)



[+ Enlarge](#)

By Alex Grimm, Getty Images

Passengers wait at the departure hall of Frankfurt International Airport on Friday.

From staff and wire reports

Ash from an erupting volcano blanketed the ground in [Iceland](#) on Friday and left a widening trail of grounded aircraft across Europe, as thousands of planes stayed on the tarmac to avoid the hazardous cloud.

British aviation authorities extended a ban on flights over England and [Wales](#) for six more hours into Saturday morning but say restrictions over Scotland and Northern Ireland are being lifted.

The National Air Traffic Service said in a statement that the British flight ban now stretches to 7 a.m. local time, 2 a.m. ET. The ban affects all of London's five airports, including Heathrow, Europe's busiest.

DISASTER IN THE GULF

DRILLERS FEAR LOSS OF JOBS

■ A federal moratorium on permits for Gulf oil rigs will leave thousands out of work, industry group warns

is



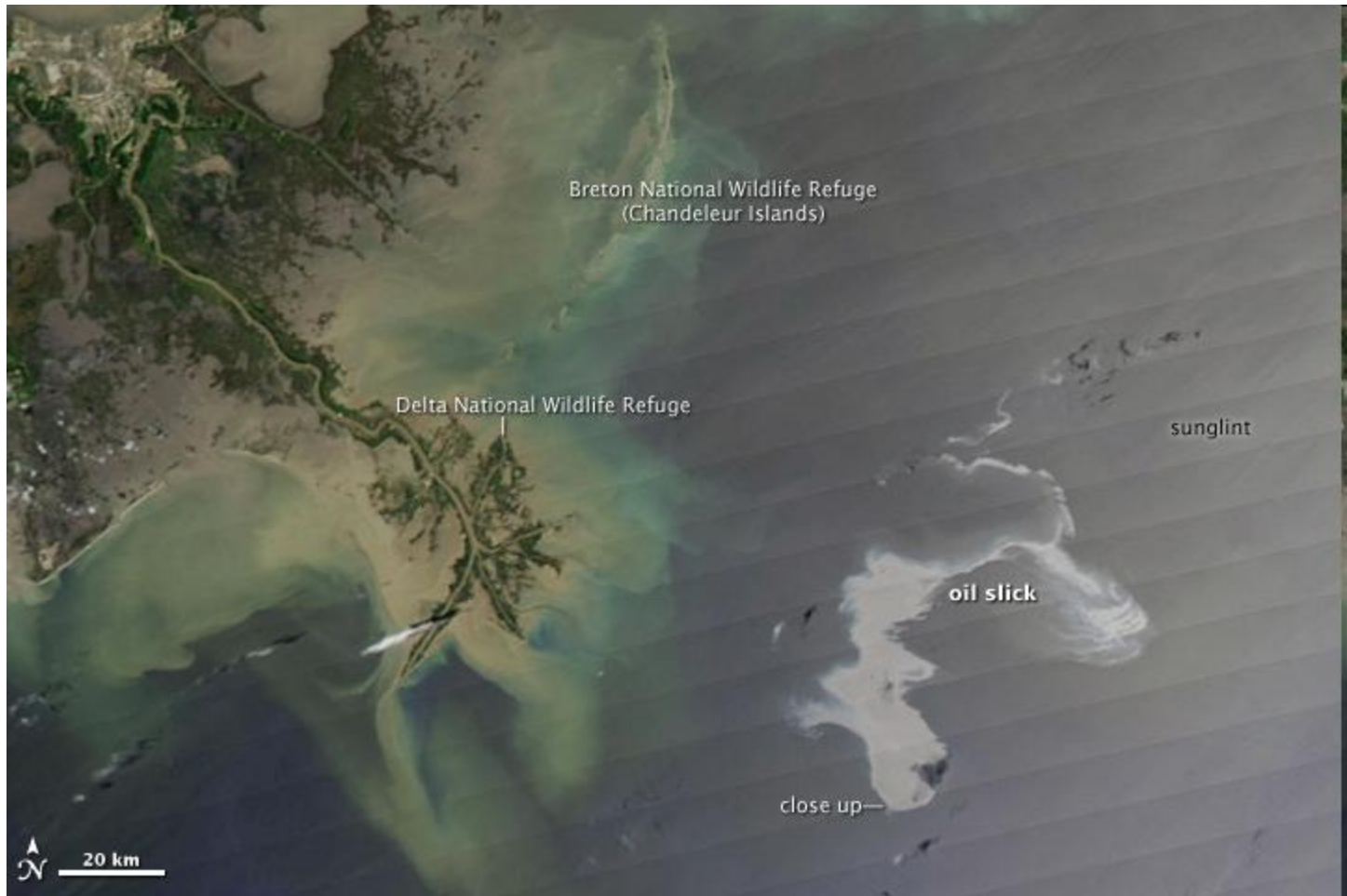
By **MONICA HATCHER**
HOUSTON CHRONICLE

A suspension of new offshore drilling permits prompted by the Deepwater Horizon disaster soon will cost thousands of jobs and idle more than half of the rigs in the Gulf of Mexico, an industry group seeking at least a partial lifting of the ban said Thursday.

The indefinite ban on new offshore drilling that Interior Secretary Ken Salazar announced in Houston last week could cost 7,500 to 10,000 rig jobs by the end of June and force smaller companies to default on loans and miss payroll, the International Association of Drilling Contractors said.

The Deepwater Horizon





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SOUTH FLORIDA
SUN SENTINEL



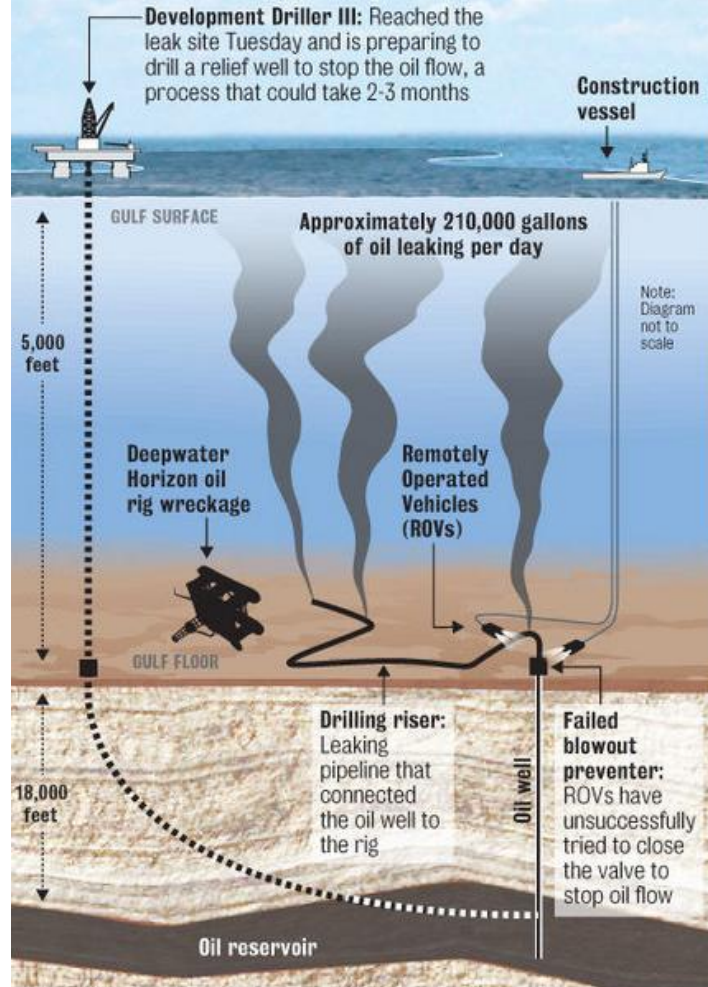
WE'VE JUST
LEARNED THAT
HIGHLY SPECIALIZED
ORGANISMS ARE NOW
DEPLOYED AND HAVE
BEGUN FEEDING ON
THE EDGES OF
THE SPILL...



BlowOut Preventer (BOP)



BENEATH THE OIL SLICK

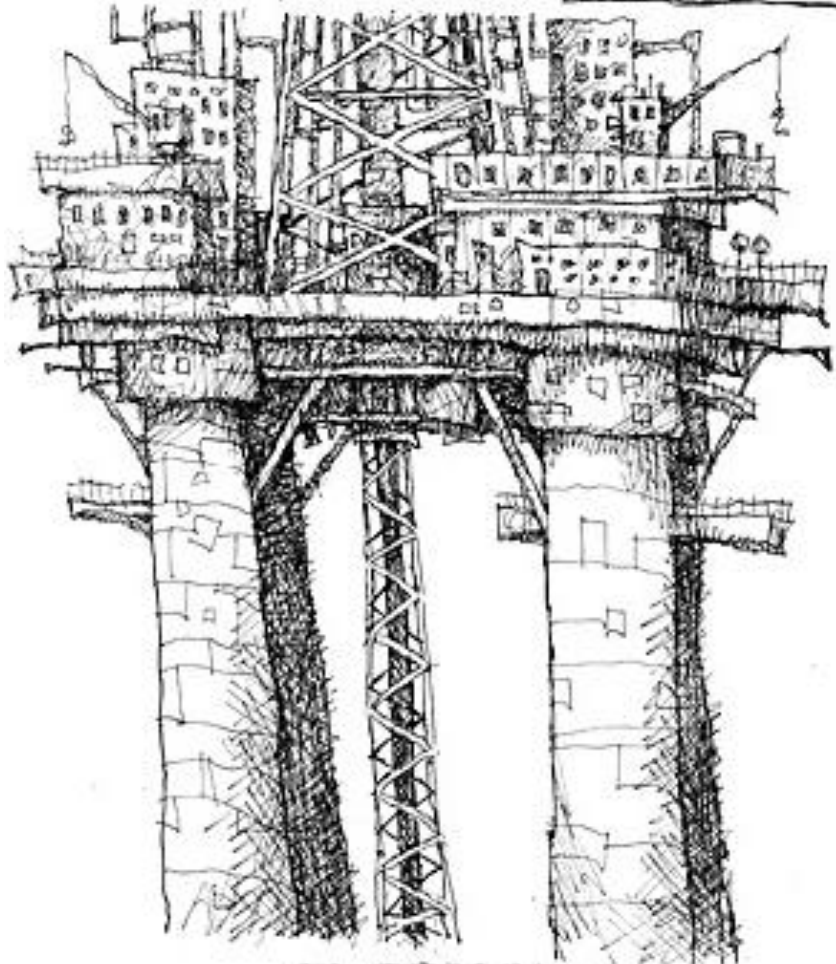


Source: U.S. Coast Guard, NOAA, BP, Transocean

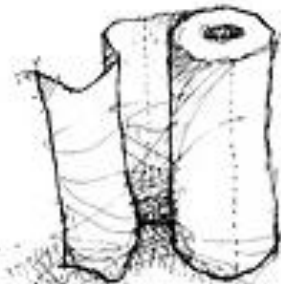
DAN SWENSON / THE TIMES-PICAYUNE

OFFSHORE DRILLING TECHNOLOGIES:

© 2010 THE VANDERBILT NEWS
MAT DAVIES
5/12

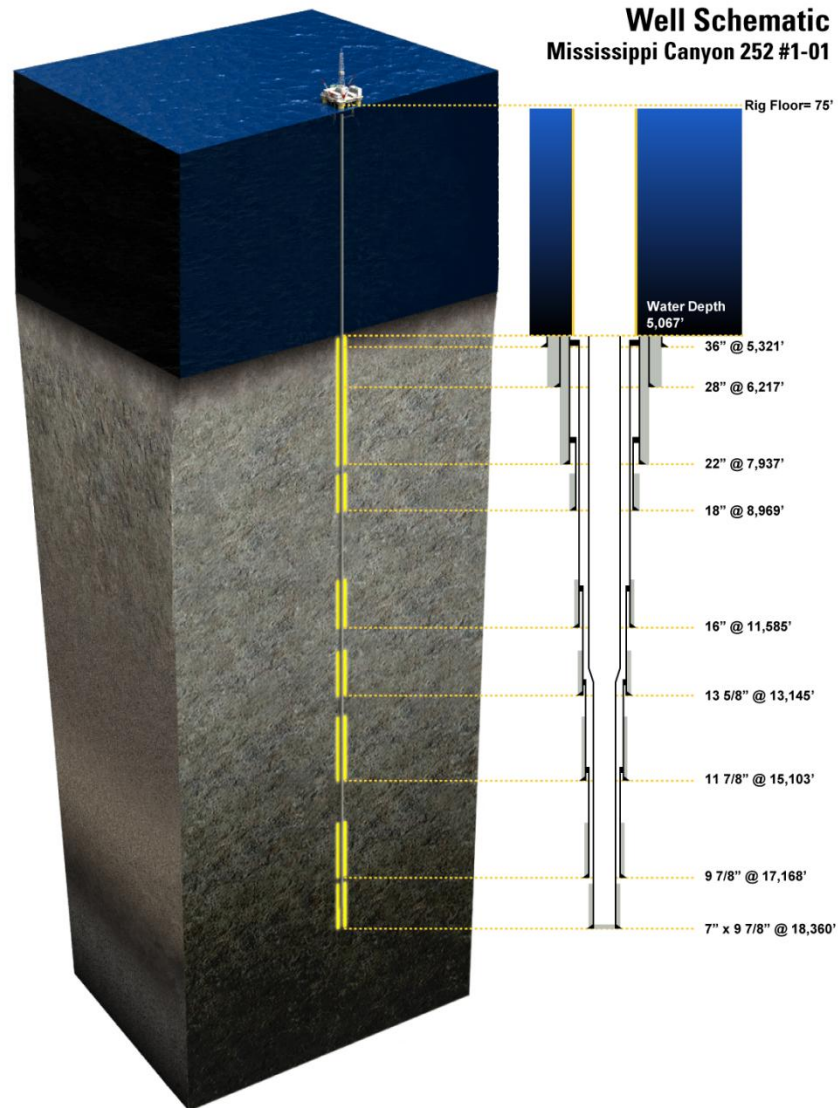


EXTRACTION.



CLEANUP.

Well Profile



In Case of Emergency Call

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1 St James's Square
London, SW1Y 4PD
United Kingdom - [Map](#)
Phone: 44 20 7496 4000
Fax: 44 20 7496 4630
Website: <http://www.bp.com>

Transocean Ltd.

Chemin de Blandonnet 10
Vernier, 1214
Switzerland - [Map](#)
Phone: 41 22 930 90 00
Fax: 41 713 232 77 50
Website: <http://www.deepwater.com>

Cameron International Corporation

1333 West Loop South
Suite 1700
Houston, TX 77027
United States - [Map](#)
Phone: 713-513-3300
Fax: 713-513-3456
Website: <http://www.c-a-m.com>

Halliburton Company

10200 Bellaire Boulevard
1401 McKinney
Houston, TX 77072
United States - [Map](#)
Phone: 281-575-3000
Website: <http://www.halliburton.com>

P.O. Box 3111
Dubai
United Arab Emirate

Deepwater Horizon



5/15/2010

We Don't Know What Else to Be

26

Deepwater Nautilus

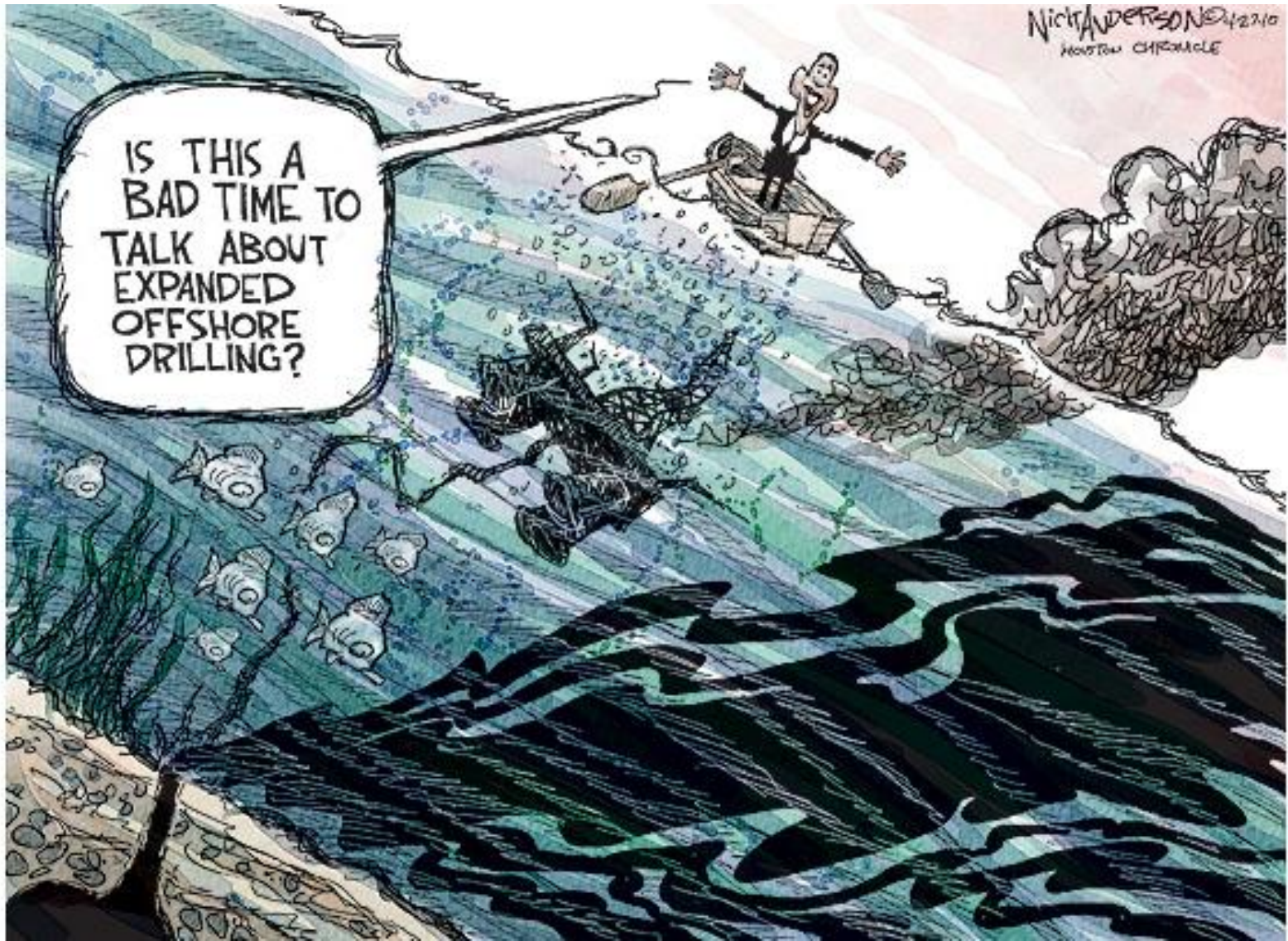




5/15/2010

We Don't Know What Else to Be

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70% of Arizona Voters Favor New State Measure Cracking Down On Illegal Immigration

[70% of Arizona Voters Favor New State Measure Cracking Down On Illegal Immigration](#)

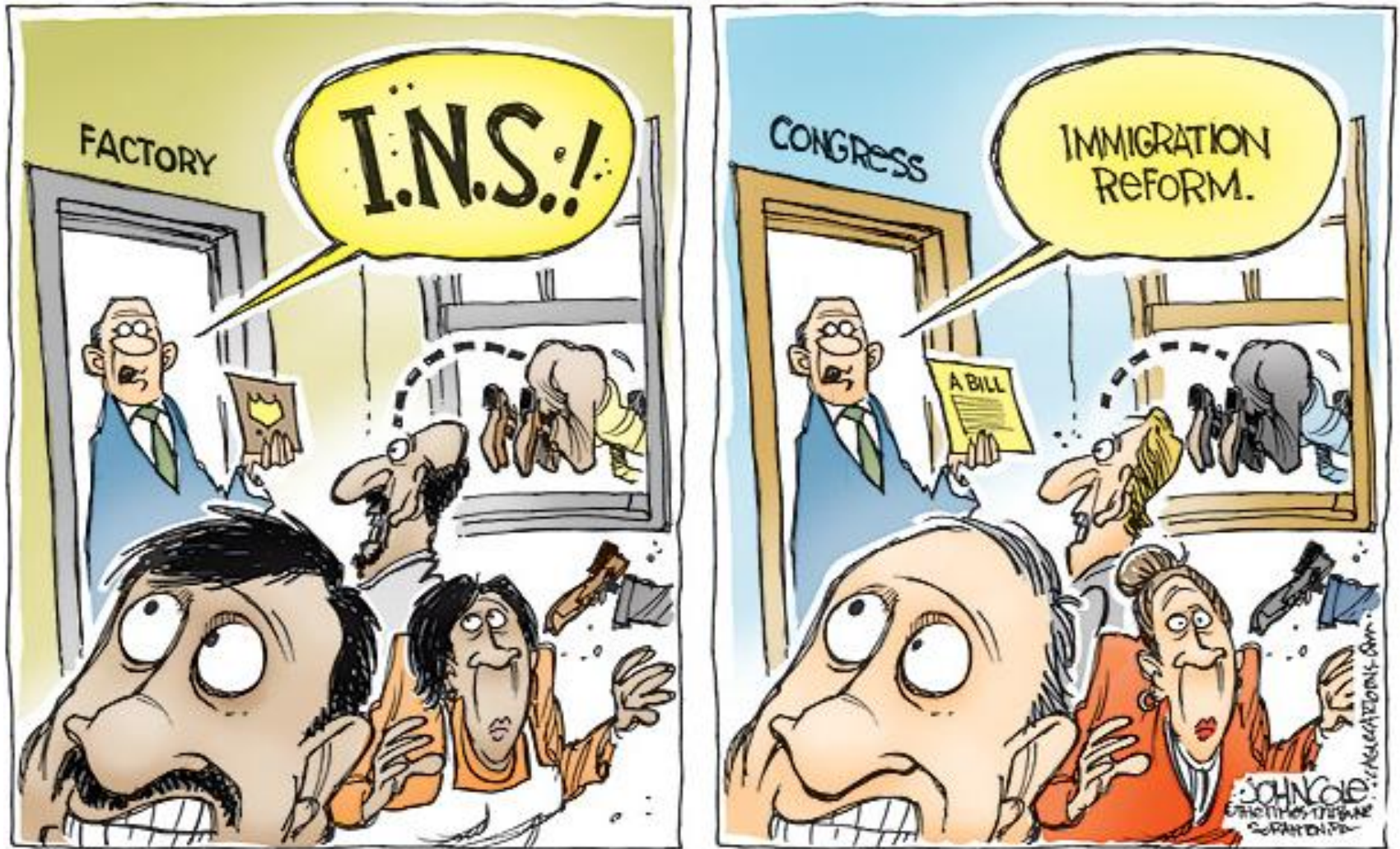
Support Tougher Enforcement - Wednesday, April 21, 2010

A new Rasmussen Reports telephone survey finds that 70% of likely voters in Arizona approve of the legislation SB1070, while just 23% oppose it.

Opponents of the measure, including major national Hispanic groups, say it will lead to racial profiling, and 53% of voters in the state are concerned that efforts to identify and deport illegal immigrants also will end up violating the civil rights of some U.S. citizens. Forty-six percent (46%) don't share that concern Rasmussen Reports

http://www.rasmussenreports.com/public_content/politics/elections2/election_2010/election_2010_senate_elections/arizona/70_of_arizona_voters_favor_new_state_measure_cracking_down_on_illegal_immigration

How to CLEAR a ROOM...



Broad National Support for Arizona's SB1070

[Broad Support for Arizona's SB1070 \(Why?\)](#)

Support Tougher Enforcement - Wednesday, May 12, 2010

A new Pew Research poll reveals that the **majority of Americans** support most of the provisions offered in Arizona's new immigration enforcement law. **Seventy-three percent of Americans believe that individuals should carry proof of legal status, 67% support police being able to detain an individual that can't prove legal status, 62% support police questioning an individual they suspect to be in the country illegally, and 59% support the Arizona law.** Pew Research Center

<http://people-press.org/report/613/arizona-immigration-law>



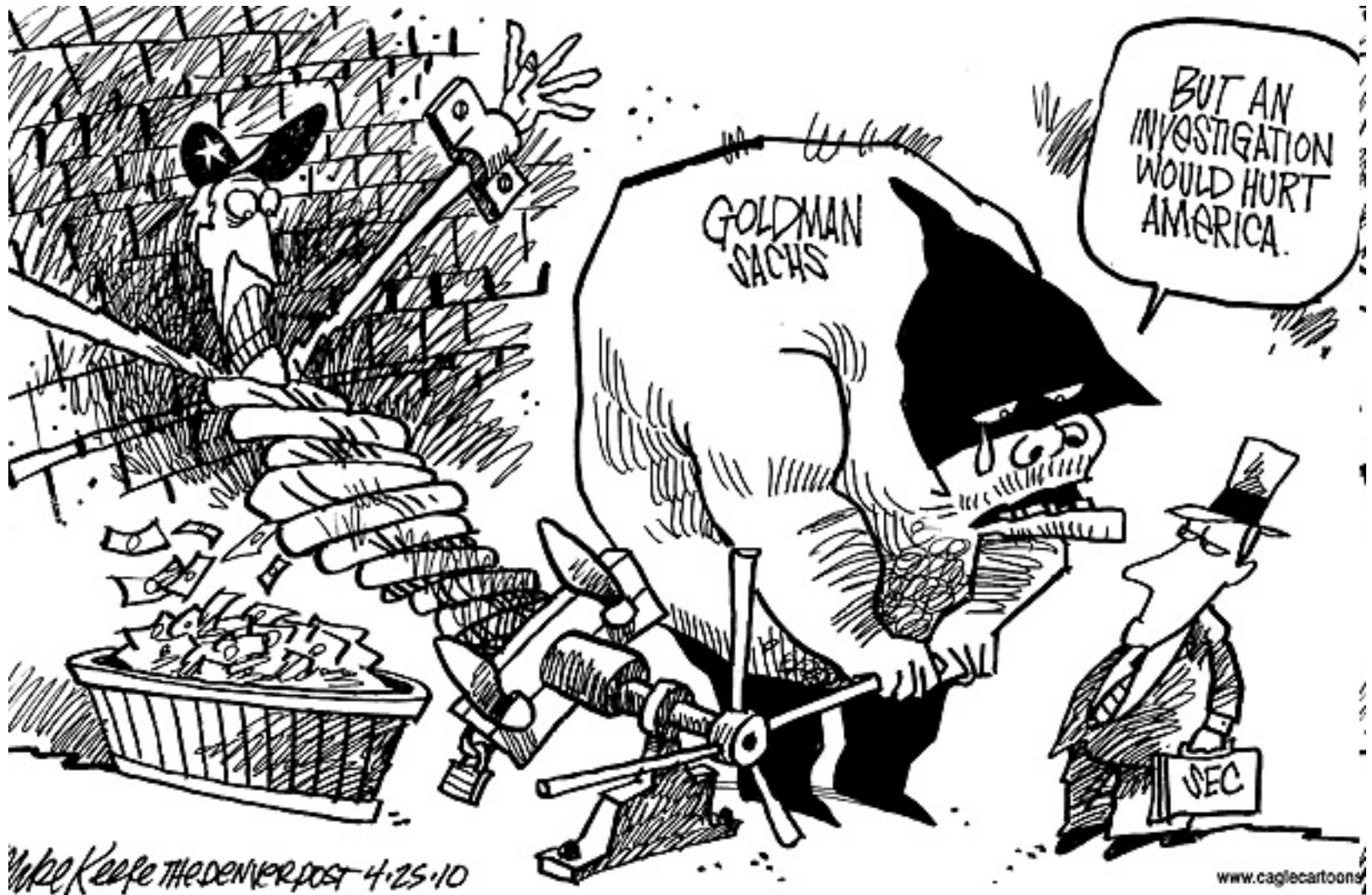


" I'M HAVING A BIG FUNDRAISER AFTER THIS. CAN I COUNT ON YOU FOR THE USUAL DONATION ?

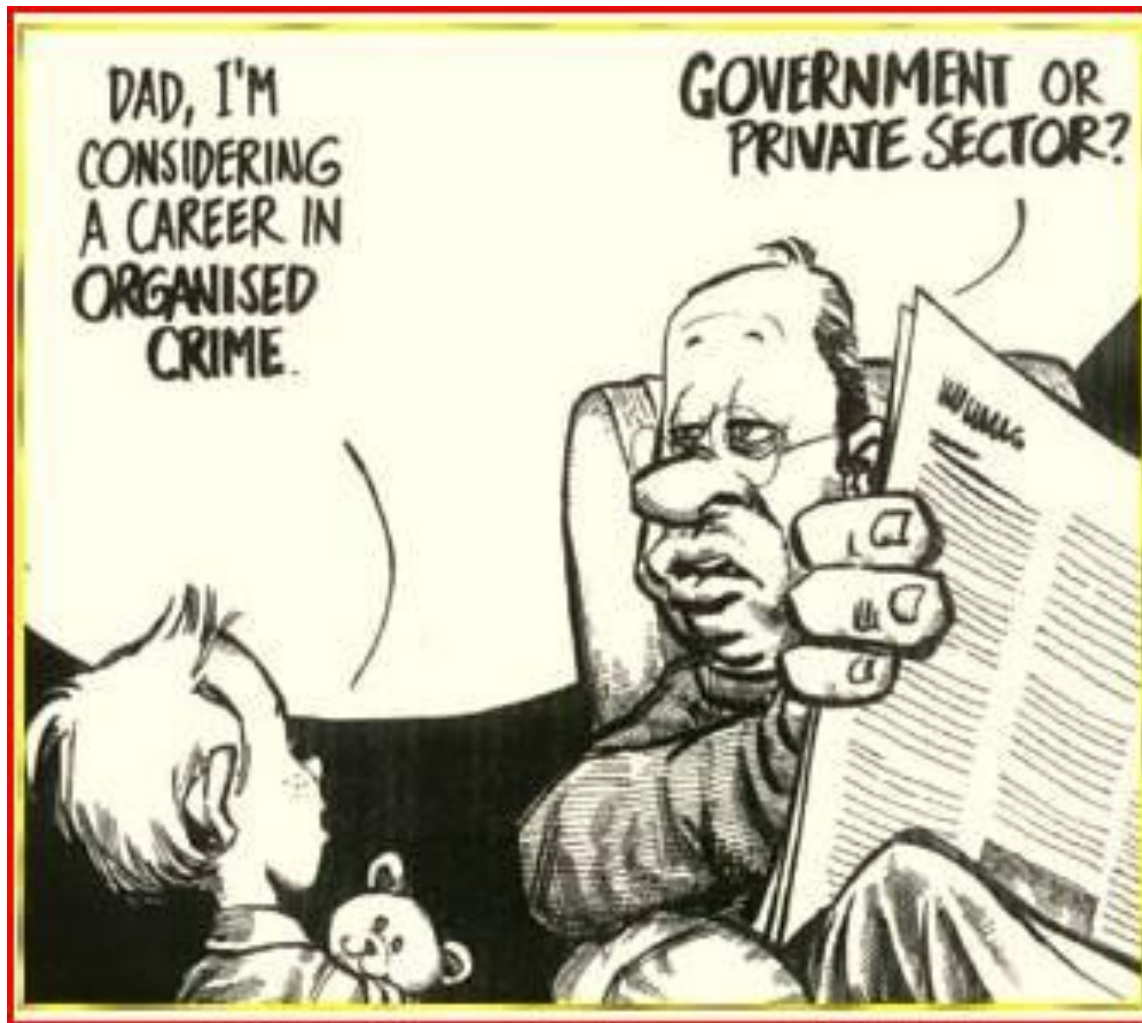
Why Did the Senate Vote to Audit the Fed?

[More](#) By Max Fisher on May 12, 2010 3:42pm On Monday, the Senate voted 96-0 to add to the financial reform bill an amendment requiring the Federal Reserve to undergo a one-time audit. Authored by Vermont Independent Bernie Sanders, the amendment accomplishes a long-time goal of the libertarian, Tea Party wing of the Republican Party, best represented by Texas Rep. Ron Paul, who has [frequently called](#) to audit the Fed. How did the audit-the-Fed movement not only go mainstream, but lead the Senate into one its rare unanimous votes?

What the Audit Does The Washington Post's [Brady Dennis explains](#), "the Fed must undergo a one-time examination of its massive emergency lending programs and post details on its Web site by December about the firms that benefited from its lending during the crisis. The new language, however, prevents investigators from peering into the central bank's deliberations on interest rates and other elements of monetary policy." **The original measure called for regular audits, but the White House lobbied it down to just one.** <http://www.theatlanticwire.com/opinions/view/opinion/Why-Did-the-Senate-Vote-to-Audit-the-Fed-3580>







Thanks to Paul Klein



4-18-10

Ten Races That Have Democrats Worried for 2010

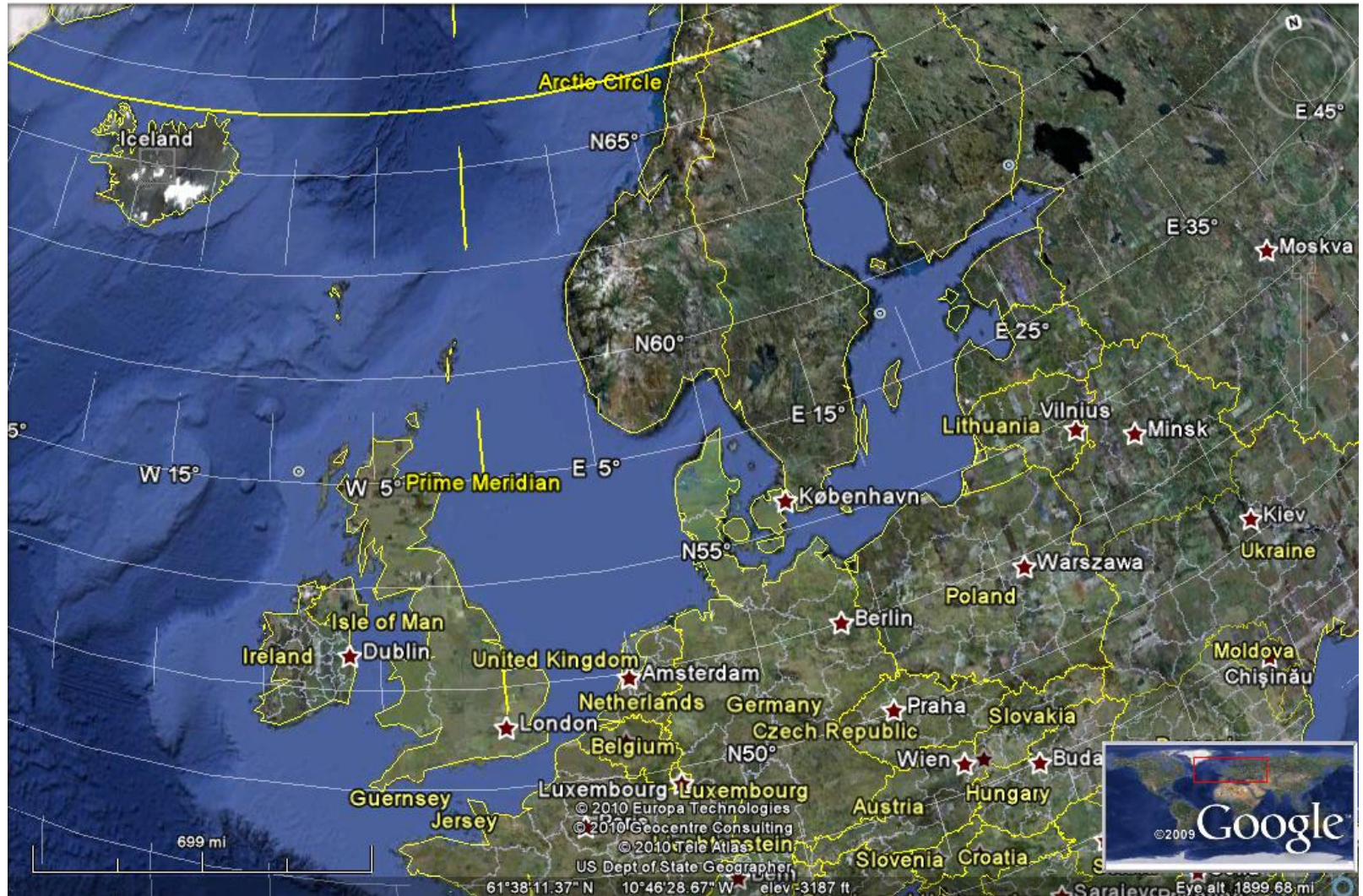
A look at the 10 elections that have Democrats most concerned

Full List

VULNERABLE DEMOCRATS

1. What's at Stake
2. Chris Dodd (Connecticut)
3. The Obama Seat (Illinois)
4. Harry Reid (Nevada)
5. Arlen Specter (Pennsylvania)
6. The Biden Seat (Delaware)
7. Blanche Lincoln (Arkansas)
8. The Salazar Seat (Colorado)
9. Byron Dorgan (North Dakota)
10. The House
11. The Governors

The ash cloud is moving SE



Phil Jones makes some unexpected admissions

The former director of the Climate Research Unit (CRU) at Britain's University of East Anglia, admitted to the BBC last Saturday that there has been no statistically significant global warming since 1995, and that the world may have been warmer during medieval times.

In the interview (<http://bit.ly/bv1fec>), professor Phil Jones, a former lead author on the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 2001 assessment report and outspoken proponent of the man-made-global-warming theory, confessed to the following:

There was no statistically significant global warming from 1995 to 2009. (Although temperatures edged up at a rate of 0.12 Celsius per decade during that period, it was not significant, according to Jones.)

From January 2002 to the present, the earth has been cooling. (Jones said the temperature decline is “not statistically significant,” while failing to mention that the falling temperatures contradict the IPCC model, which forecast a temperature increase of 0.2 degrees Celsius per decade.)

The [Medieval Warm Period \(MWP\)](#) from 800 to 1300 A.D., did exist, a scientifically accepted fact that Jones and other climate researchers tried to discount or hide. According to Jones: If the Medieval Warm Period “was shown to be global in extent and as warm as or warmer than today . . . then obviously the late-20th century warmth would not be unprecedented” (Jones, however, clings to the belief that the MWP may not have been global and may have affected only parts of the North America, the North Atlantic, Europe and parts of Asia.)

The warming rates for the periods 1860 to 1880, 1910 to 1940 and 1975 to 1998 “are not statistically significantly different.” In other words, none of these warm periods -- early and recent -- is exceptional or unusual. (Even if the recent warming had been "statistically significantly different," it would not implicate CO2 emissions as the cause.)

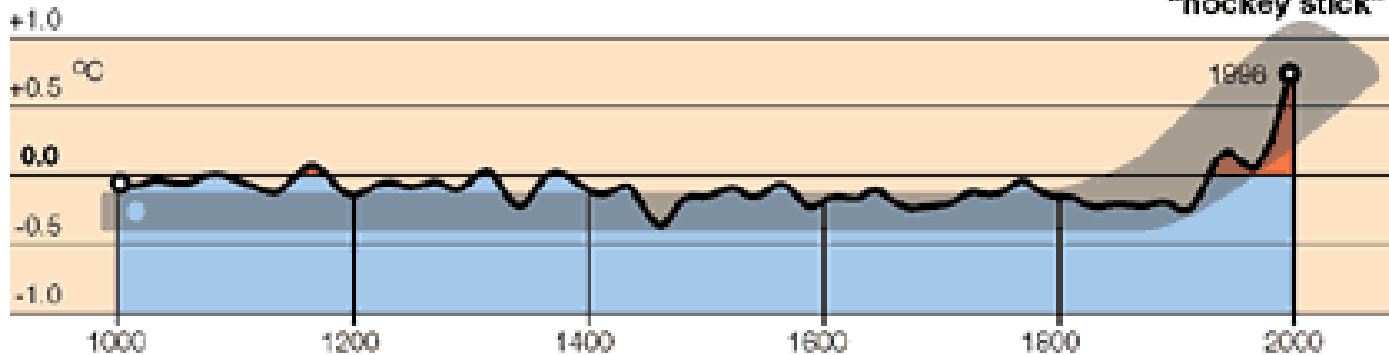
Jones’ Johnny-come-lately confession may shock fellow researchers still clinging desperately to the fast-disintegrating global warming theory, but skeptics who have been making the same declarations for years, and were ignored, are enjoying a “We told you” moment.

“They’ve finally admitted that the current warming period is similar to previous warming periods. Congratulations, we’ve known that for a long time,” says [Michael Smith](#), a software engineer who played a key role in exposing the manipulation of global temperature data by NASA and NOAA.

Battle of the graphs

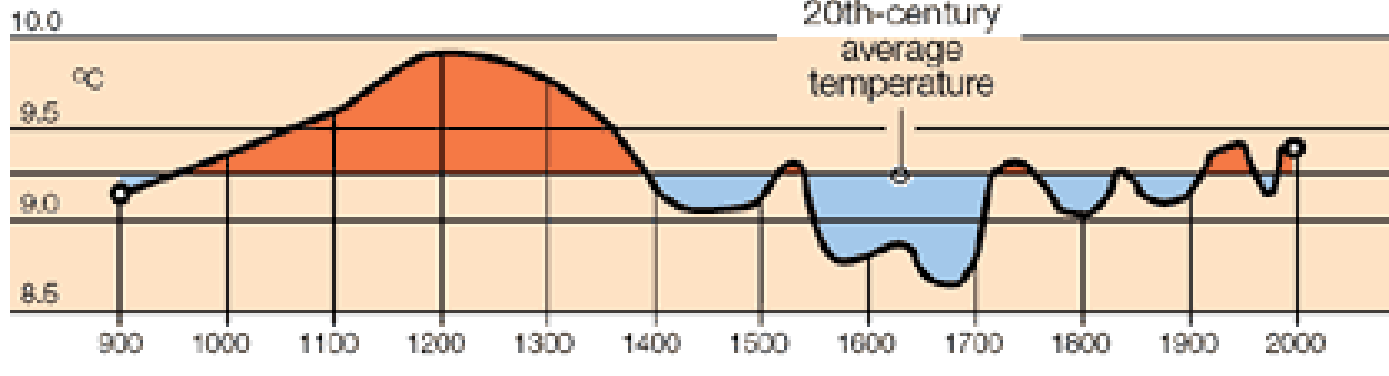
Temperature anomaly

Relative to 1960-1990



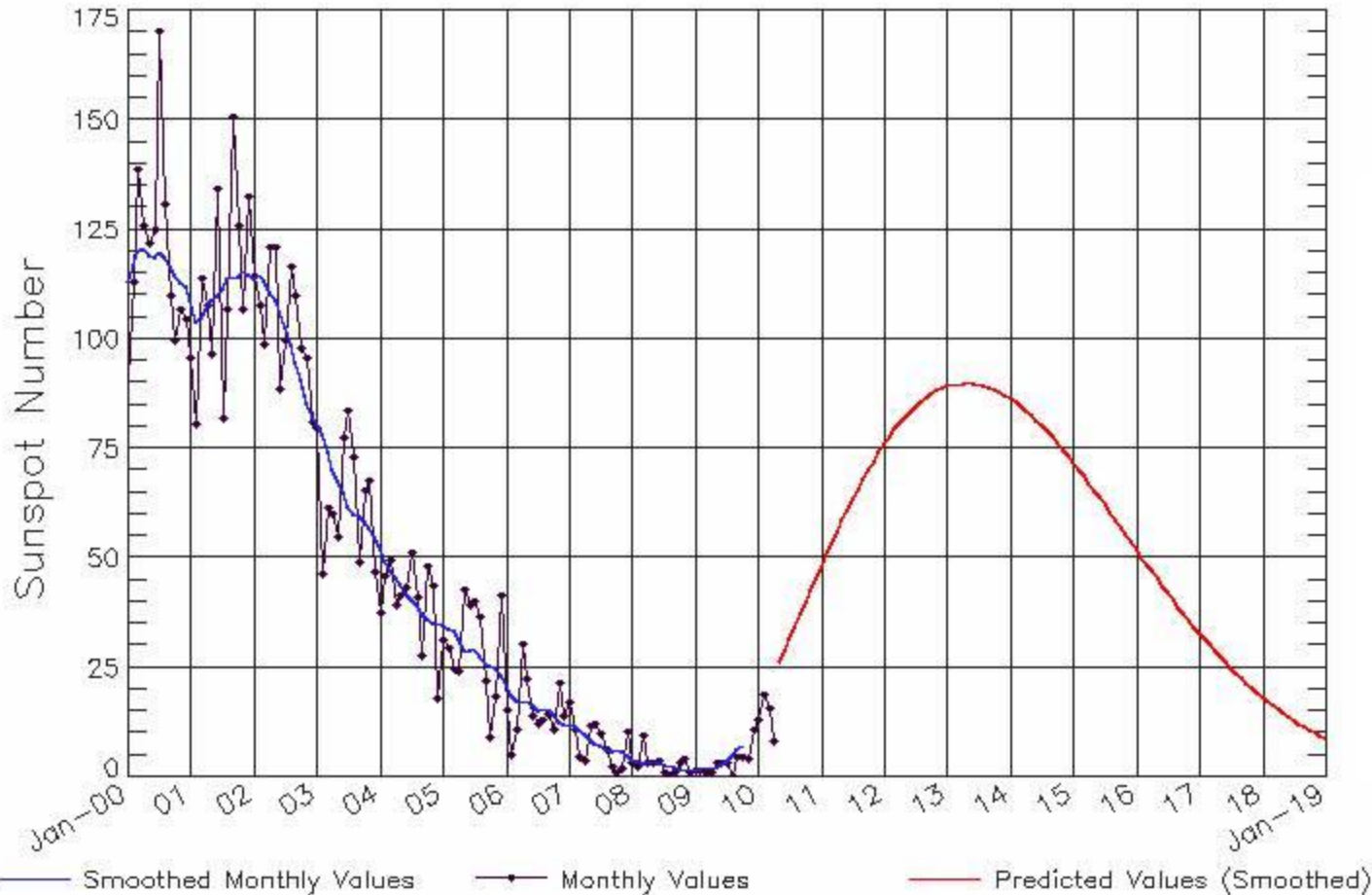
Climatic changes in europe

Over the past thousand years

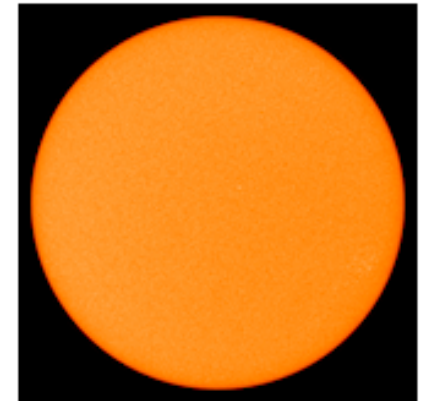


Sunspot Projections

ISES Solar Cycle Sunspot Number Progression
Observed data through Apr 2010



Daily Sun: 14 May 10



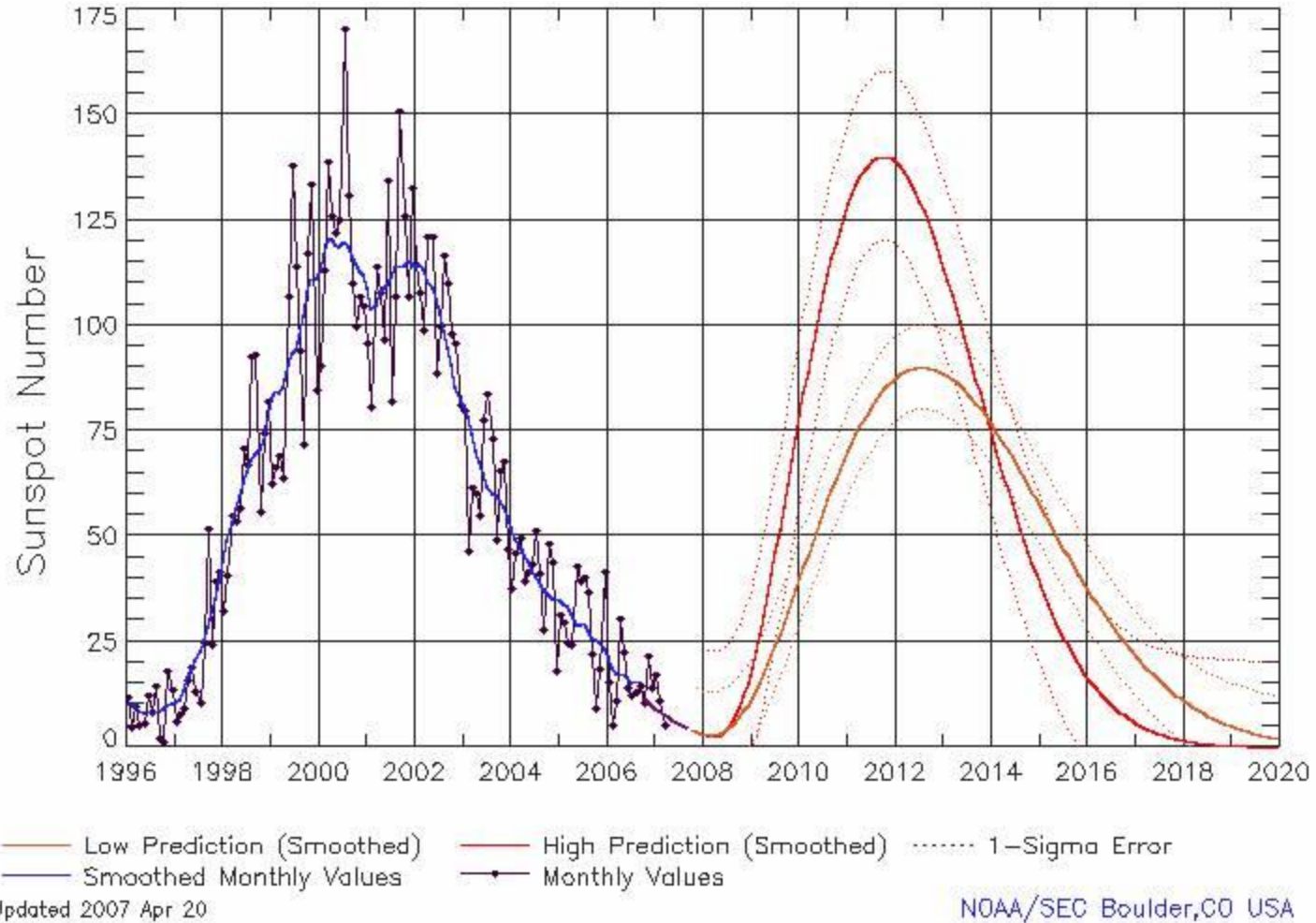
There are no sunspots on the Earth-facing side of the sun.
Credit: SOHO/MDI

Updated 2010 May 4

NOAA/SWPC Boulder, CO USA

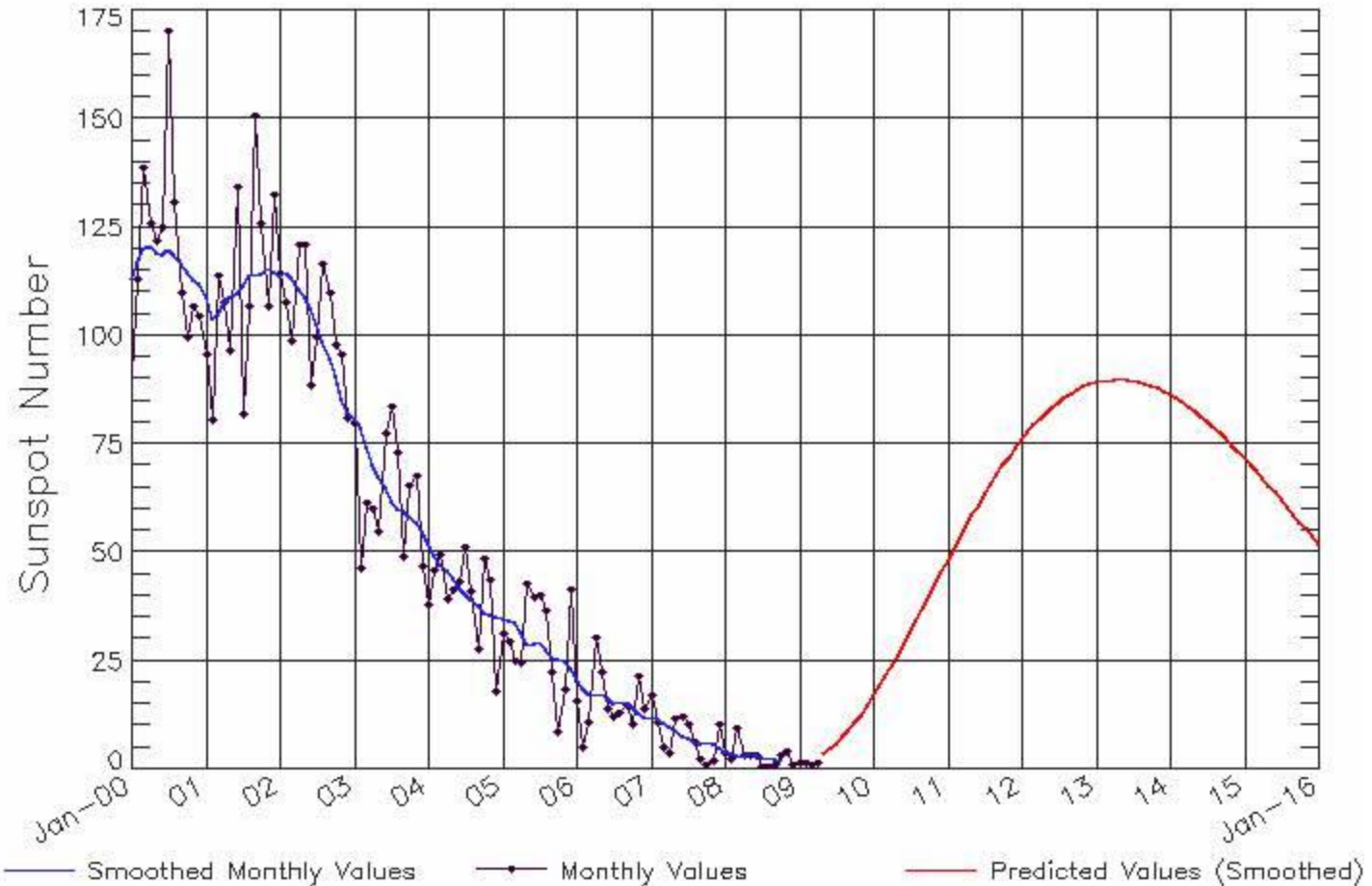
Various Projections (07)

Solar Cycle 24 Sunspot Number Prediction
Data Through 31 Mar 07



Last Year

ISES Solar Cycle Sunspot Number Progression
Data Through Apr 09



Updated 2009 May 8

NOAA/SWPC Boulder, CO USA

Quiet sun puts Europe on ice

14 April 2010 by [Stuart Clark](#)

BRACE yourself for more winters like the last one, northern Europe. Freezing conditions could become more likely: winter temperatures may even plummet to depths last seen at the end of the 17th century, a time known as the Little Ice Age. That's the message from a new study that identifies a compelling link between solar activity and winter temperatures in northern Europe.

The research finds that low solar activity promotes the formation of giant kinks in the jet stream. These kinks can block warm westerly winds from reaching Europe, while allowing in winds from Arctic Siberia. When this happens in winter, northern Europe freezes, even though other, comparable regions of the globe may be experiencing unusually mild conditions.

Read the whole article at:

<http://www.newscientist.com/article/mg20627564.800-quiet-sun-puts-europe-on-ice.html?full=true>

When to Doubt a Consensus

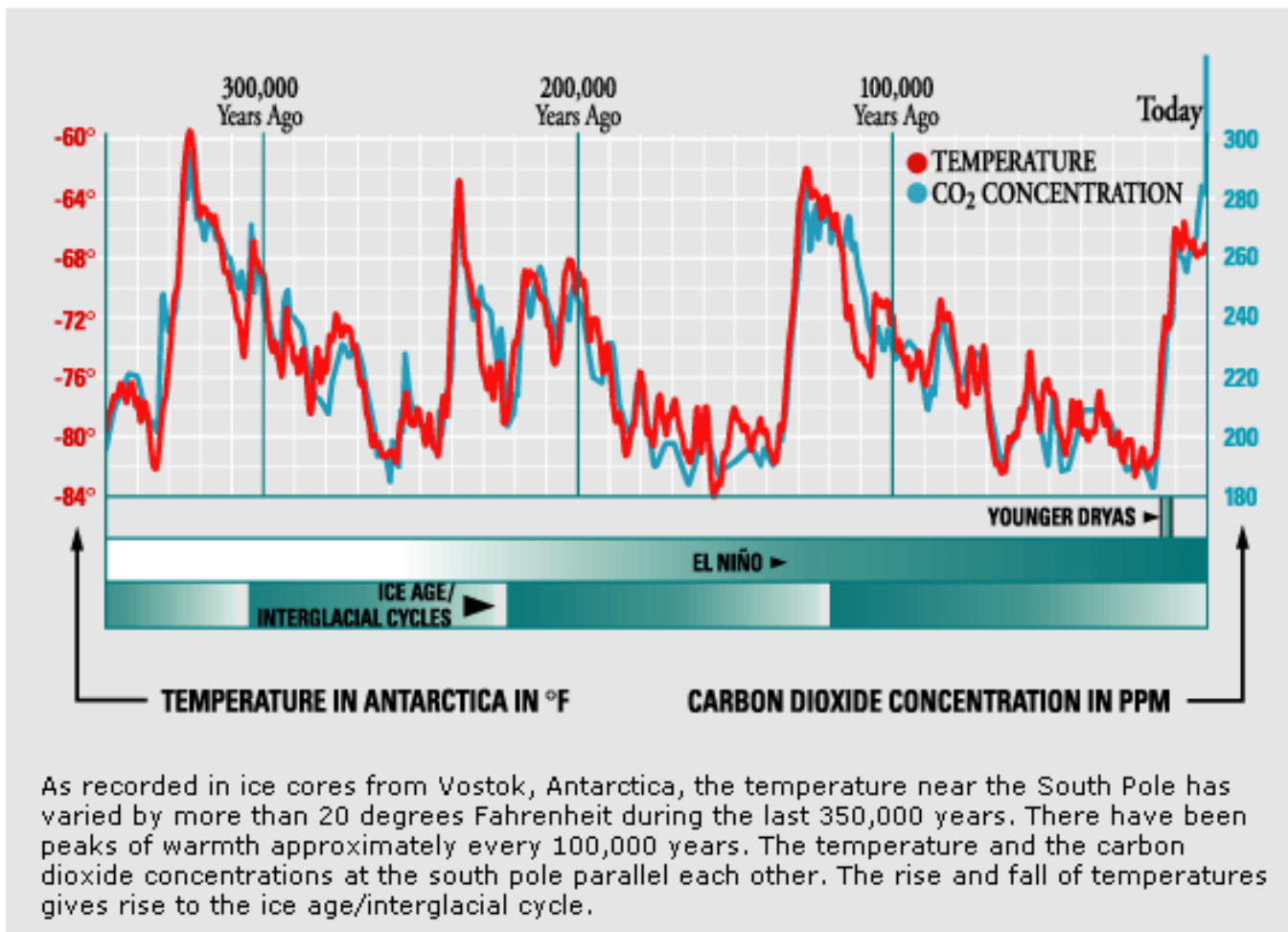
(1). When different claims get bundled together.

Usually, in scientific disputes, there is more than one claim at issue. With global warming, there's the claim that our planet, on average, is getting warmer.

There's also the claim that human emissions are the main cause of it, that it's going to be catastrophic, and that we have to transform civilization to deal with it. These are all different assertions with different bases of evidence. Evidence for warming, for instance, isn't evidence for the cause of that warming. All the polar bears could drown, the glaciers melt, the sea levels rise 20 feet, Newfoundland become a popular place to tan, and that wouldn't tell us a thing about what caused the warming. This is a matter of logic, not scientific evidence. The effect is not the same as the cause.

There's a lot more agreement about (1) a modest warming trend since about 1850 than there is about (2) the cause of that trend. There's even less agreement about (3) the dangers of that trend, or of (4) what to do about it. But these four propositions are frequently bundled together, so that if you doubt one, you're labeled a climate change "skeptic" or "denier." That's just plain intellectually dishonest. When well-established claims are fused with separate, more controversial claims, and the entire conglomeration is covered with the label "consensus," **you have reason for doubt.**

This graph is based on ice cores drilled in Vostok, Antarctica. It shows temperature changes near the South Pole, which were more extreme than in the middle latitudes.



<http://www.koshland-science-museum.org/exhibitgcc/historical02.jsp>

Texas on the Brink

Eliot Shapleigh, a State Senator from El Paso, compiled a report each legislative session called [Texas on the Brink](#). Shapleigh's little book of horrors comes fully footnoted to avoid being attacked by partisans. His staff gathered data from the Census Bureau and TX govt agencies. examples about Texas:

2. 1st in the percentage of people over 25 without a high school diploma
3. 41st in high school graduation rate
4. 1st in percentage of uninsured children
6. 1st in percentage of population uninsured
7. 1st in percentage of non-elderly uninsured
8. 3rd in percentage of people living below the poverty level
9. 49th in average Women Infant and Children benefit payments
10. 1st in teenage birth rate

http://shapleigh.org/system/reporting_document/file/255/Texas_on_the_Brink_2009_website_final.pdf

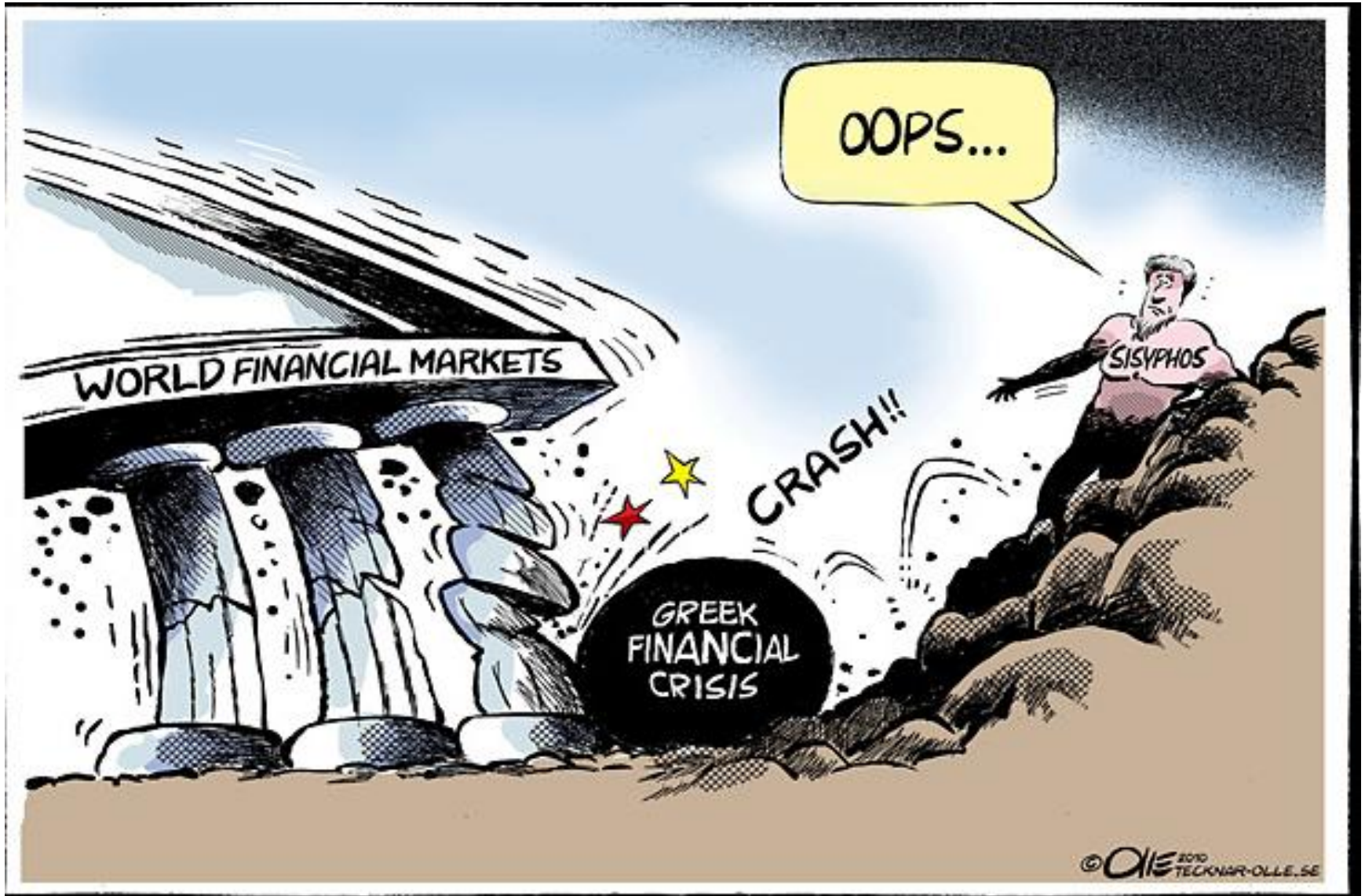
Britain has a Government (for awhile)

Tuesday, May 11, 2010

[Britain has a government](#)

Five days after the people spoke, Britain has a new government. A little over an hour ago Gordon Brown resigned as Prime Minister and moments ago David Cameron arrived at No. 10 Downing Street as the country's new Prime Minister. Unlike in the United States there is no real "lame duck" period. Mr. Brown had no sooner departed the palace then H.M. the Queen summoned Mr. Cameron and asked him to form a government. After the proforma meeting at the palace Mr. Cameron became at once the Prime Minister.

Governing as a minority Prime Minister will be challenging If history is a guide this might not last that long. We will have to see. But the last hung parliament was dissolved in less than a year. Posted by John (Ad Orientem) at [12:48 PM](#) ___ Labels: [Great Britain](#), [Politics](#)



Dow 5 Day



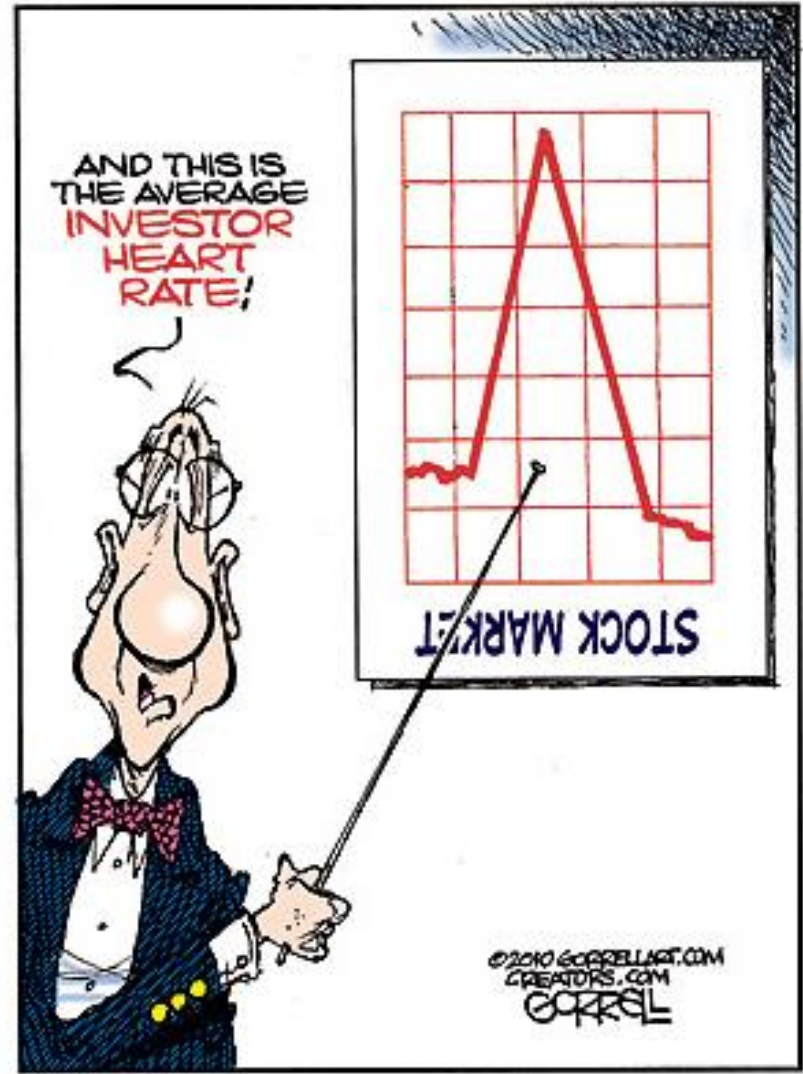
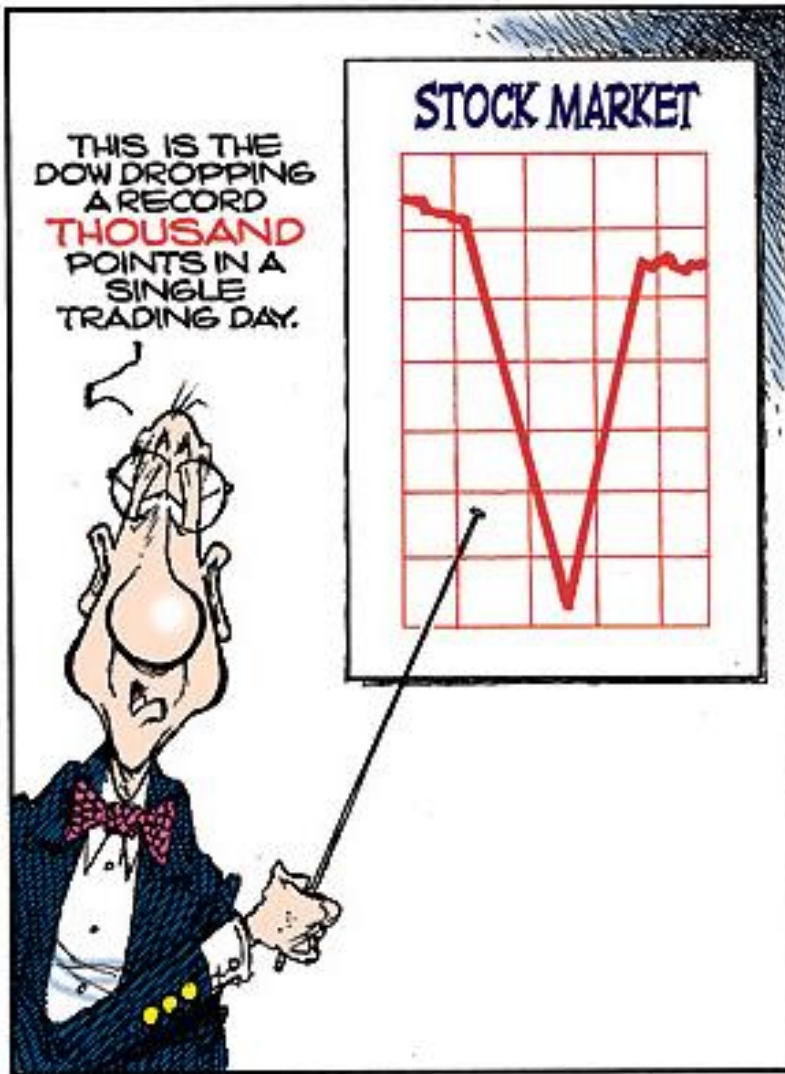
Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJI:DJIA)

Index Value:	10,620.16
Trade Time:	May 14
Change:	↓ 162.75 (1.51%)
Pre Close:	10,782.95
Open:	10,780.68
Day's Range:	10,537.25 - 10,780.75
52wk Range:	8,057.57 - 11,309.00

Quotes delayed, except where indicated otherwise. Currency in USD.

Headlines

- Fri, May 14 Euro-zone troubles may keep stocks on edge Reuters
- Fri, May 14 Wall St Week Ahead: Euro-zone troubles may keep stocks on





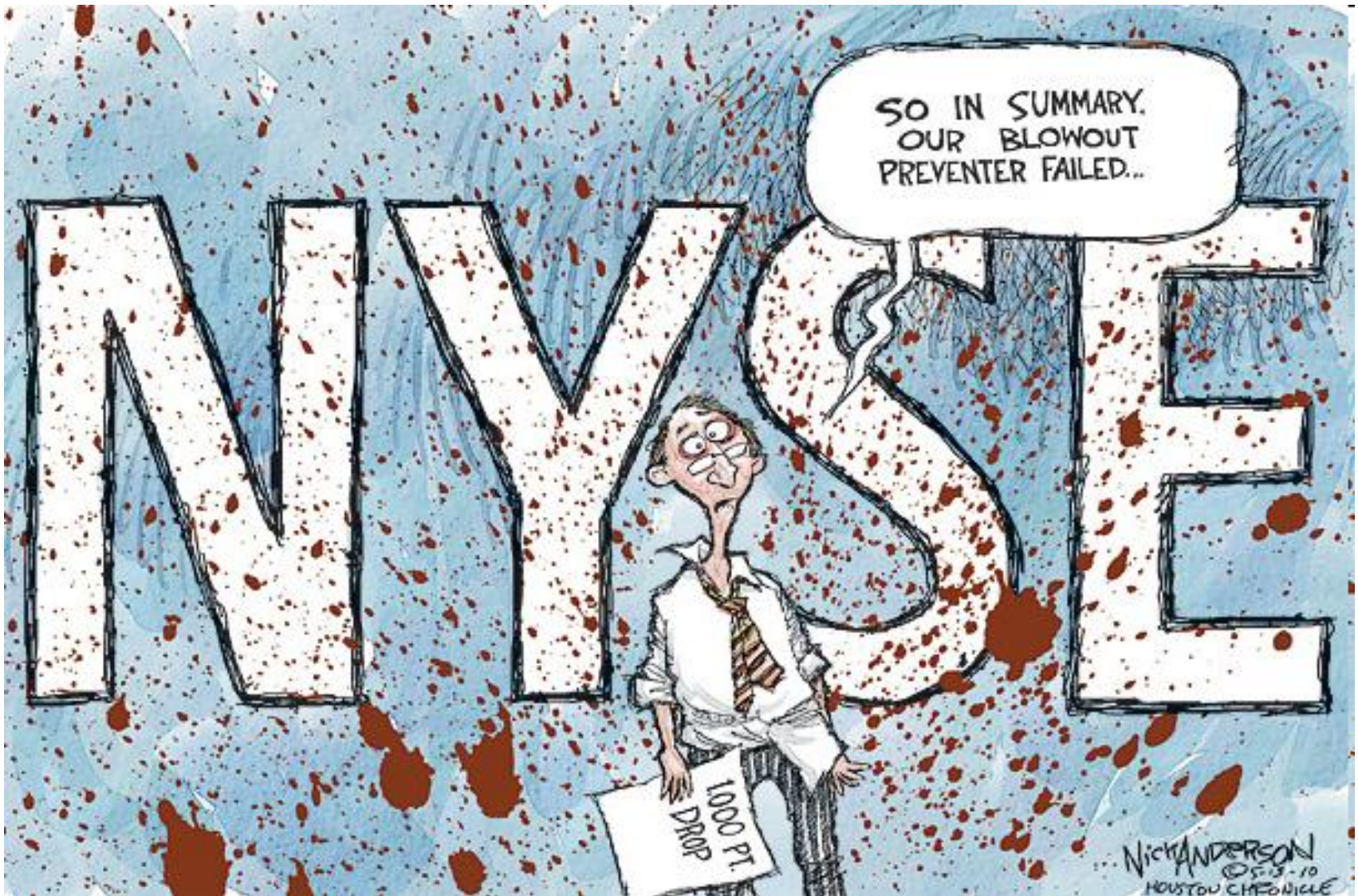
Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJI: ^DJI)

Index Value: **10,620.16**

Trade Time: May 14



89.12.10
NORM
The Miami Herald



Dow 2 yr



Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJI: ^DJI)

Index Value: **10,620.16**

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Roll over to watch our equity experts discuss their strategies. >

1 Years after Black Friday



Third Saturday Seminar 2009-2010
Humanity at a Crossroads
Session 09
15 May 2010

We Don't Know What Else to Be

Curt Gibby

**ALL Program, Lone Star College - Montgomery, Conroe,
Texas**

Our Middle Aged Brains

David Niesel and Norbert Herzog

Ah... if only I could stay young... instead of faking it.

No kidding! It's actually true that our brains change with age. There was a report that said forty percent of your brain cells are lost with age but that's actually not true....

Something the middle aged brain is better at doing is recognizing the central idea or big picture. So if the brain is in good shape, it can build pathways that allow it to recognize patterns and their significance and find a solution faster than a young person.

How do you keep effective brain connections and establish more of them?

Even at middle age, the human brain has plasticity... meaning it can change and increase the complexity of the connections. **One theory about promoting adult brain health is to confront your brain with thoughts that are contrary to your own.**

For example when taking a history class, read multiple viewpoints and reflect on how that influences your opinion. If you only read about and talk with those who agree with your views, your brain won't be challenged to create new connections.

So force your brain to stretch!

Learn a foreign language or take a different route to work. Just because you're middle-aged like we are does not mean your brain can't stay sharp.

http://www.medicaldiscoverynews.com/shows/181_OurMidBrain.html

About Barry Lopez:

His travels have taken him to some of the most inhospitable places on the earth, outside the furthest reaches of human civilization. But Barry Lopez always returns to his home in Oregon to write about what he has seen. April 30, 2010

<http://www.pbs.org/moyers/journal/04302010/profile.html>

Bill Moyers interviews Barry Lopez



Hope Can Turn Toxic

"... hope is actually- toxic. If you hold it long enough without some resolution."

We Marginalize Nature

"...we have created a world in which we marginalize that which we don't think serves us as well as it could. We've turned nature into a thing. You know, Martin Buber's wonderful I/it relationship and I/thou relationship. This is an "it." The book is an "it." It is soulless. It is utilitarian. I can throw it on the ground if I want. But if it's an I/thou relationship, you never make those kinds of presumptions. So a lot of what traditional people when you watch- when you're in their environment, everything is I/thou. The relationship to the wind; the wind is alive. It has a soul. It's part of the moral universe."

A Love of Humanity

"...you know, you can turn on the television and see people who claim expertise that they don't possess. And I say that, because the kind of expertise we need is not a facile grasp of policy, but a love of humanity. That's what we need.

The Darkness and the Light

"Why does the Dalai Lama laugh? Why does Desmond Tutu--you know, was somebody that I worked with once--why is he capable of such laughter?" And I think part of the answer is that they're fully comfortable with the riotous expression, the darkness and the light, of what it means to be alive."

Opening Yourself Up to The Earth

"And then you've got to be on your own, walking the earth, opening yourself up to it, becoming vulnerable. And it's talking to you. And you take it in. And then you sit down with somebody whose- background is completely different from yours. And you say, "When you look out there, what do you see?" And then just listen. "

The Spiritual Interior of the Language

"And Kazumasa San said to me, "Your work is to take care of the spiritual interior of the language." And he said in Japanese this word we use, kotodama, means that each word has within it a spiritual interior. The word is like a vessel that carries something ineffable. And you must be the caretaker for that. You must be careful when you use language to look at every part of the word and make sure that you're showing respect for it in the place that you've given it to live in the sentence."

Mostly You Know it all, But You Forget It.

"I think, what is at the core of every story. I mean, how many novels have you put down and said to yourself, "Oh, I never knew that." Mostly you know it all, but you forget it. And you close a book and you say, "I knew that, but I'd forgotten it. And I am so glad to be reminded of what I intend to do and who I am. And what-- and how I want to conduct myself in the world."

Forces Arrayed Against Justice and Fairness

" I was talking to a mutual friend of ours one night. And he has always been an affirmative and optimistic fellow. And he was saying, "You know, Moyers, for the first time in my life," and he's in his 50s, he said, "I'm beginning to think this America I believed in won't work. That the are so great that we're going to go down."

**If I can find a way to build with language a bridge between
a failure to believe and a witness to what is
incomprehensible**

"When I sit at that typewriter, I have to be frightened of what I'm trying to do. I'm frightened by my own, belief that I can actually get a story down on paper. I still have that thing in my mind from childhood, "Who cares what you have to say?" So, my path is the same path. It's still a path through confusion and lack of self confidence, and struggle and embarrassment over all of my imperfection. But I would tell you at the same time, I have seen things that have dropped me to my knees in a state of awe, and when I know that that too is there, if I can find a way to build with language a bridge between a failure to believe and a witness to what is incomprehensible. If I can build that bridge and then do it again and then do it again. I would hope that at the end of my life, somebody would say, "Well, his life was useful. He helped."

"Okay, you stole fire. Great for you.

"But for people all over the world, in small groups, to be in touch with each other about what is welling up in every country, among every group of people, which is a desire for justice. You know, there-- I'm trying to remember the story. I don't remember the philosopher, the Greek philosopher who told the story of Zeus and Prometheus. Which really stuck when I first heard it, is that Zeus said to Prometheus, "Okay, you stole fire. Great for you. Now your people have technology. Wonderful. But here's something you don't know."

**But here's something you don't
know...**

You lack two things. And if you don't take these two things that I will give you, this will be a failure. Technology, you know, fire, all your magic, it will fail completely. It will be your undoing. And the two things that you need to make it work are justice and reverence.

Connections

There is considerable more material referenced in the handout, some about about Barry and his mentors and an eclectic collection of articles about the thrill and hell of war,

a definition of peace,

today's youth trusting Uncle Sam, etc.

which I hope to work into the discussion, because as in real life "Everything Connects"

Sebastian Junger On The Thrill And Hell Of 'War'

Five times between June 2007 and June 2008, the writer Sebastian Junger traveled to a remote Army outpost in the Korengal Valley in Afghanistan. Junger, a contributing editor for Vanity Fair, made the trip to embed with a company of soldiers from the Army's 173rd Airborne Brigade as they fought to keep the Taliban from controlling a small, treacherous plot of land. After he returned, Junger wrote about the experiences of these soldiers in a book that he says attempts to locate exactly what it is about combat that appeals to young men.

War

That book is called, simply, War. And, as Junger points out in it, though war may be a lot of things, it is useless to pretend it's not exciting. That's something some civilians may not be prepared to hear.

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=126676276>

Defining peace

The concept of peace is notoriously difficult to define. The simplest way of approaching it is in terms of harmony achieved by the absence of war or conflict. Applied to nations, this would suggest that those not involved in violent conflicts with neighbouring states or suffering internal wars would have achieved a state of peace. This is what Johan Galtung defined as a “negative peace” - an absence of violence.

Positive Peace

The concept of negative peace is immediately intuitive and empirically measurable, and can be used as a starting point to elaborate its counterpart concept, “positive peace”: having established what constitutes an absence of violence, is it possible to identify which structures and institutions create and maintain peace

<http://www.visionofhumanity.org/gpi/about-gpi/overview.php>

Opposite Of Radical: Today's Youth Trust Uncle Sam

May 11, 2010

A generation ago, young people vowed never to trust anyone over 30. But as it turns out, those under 30 today are actually more trusting of the government of all age groups, according to a survey by the Pew Research Center.

"As of now, I trust the government," says Brittany Tucker, a poli-sci major at Northeastern University in Boston. "I feel like they are trying to do what's best for us and their constituents."

Everything is Relative

Tucker believes the government helps more than it hurts. The percentage of young people who agree with her is significantly higher than is the percentage of older people who agree, though it's worth noting that it's still only about a third of the younger set who say they trust the government all or most of the time — and it's often with caveats.

As another poli-sci major, Jennifer Kral, puts it, everything is relative

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=126359205>

Tea Party Awareness

According to Pew, a majority of young people have never heard of the Tea Party movement.

(Remember the Millennials?)

Percentage of respondents who were not aware of the Tea Party, by age group:

Age 18-29 54%

Age 30-49 31%

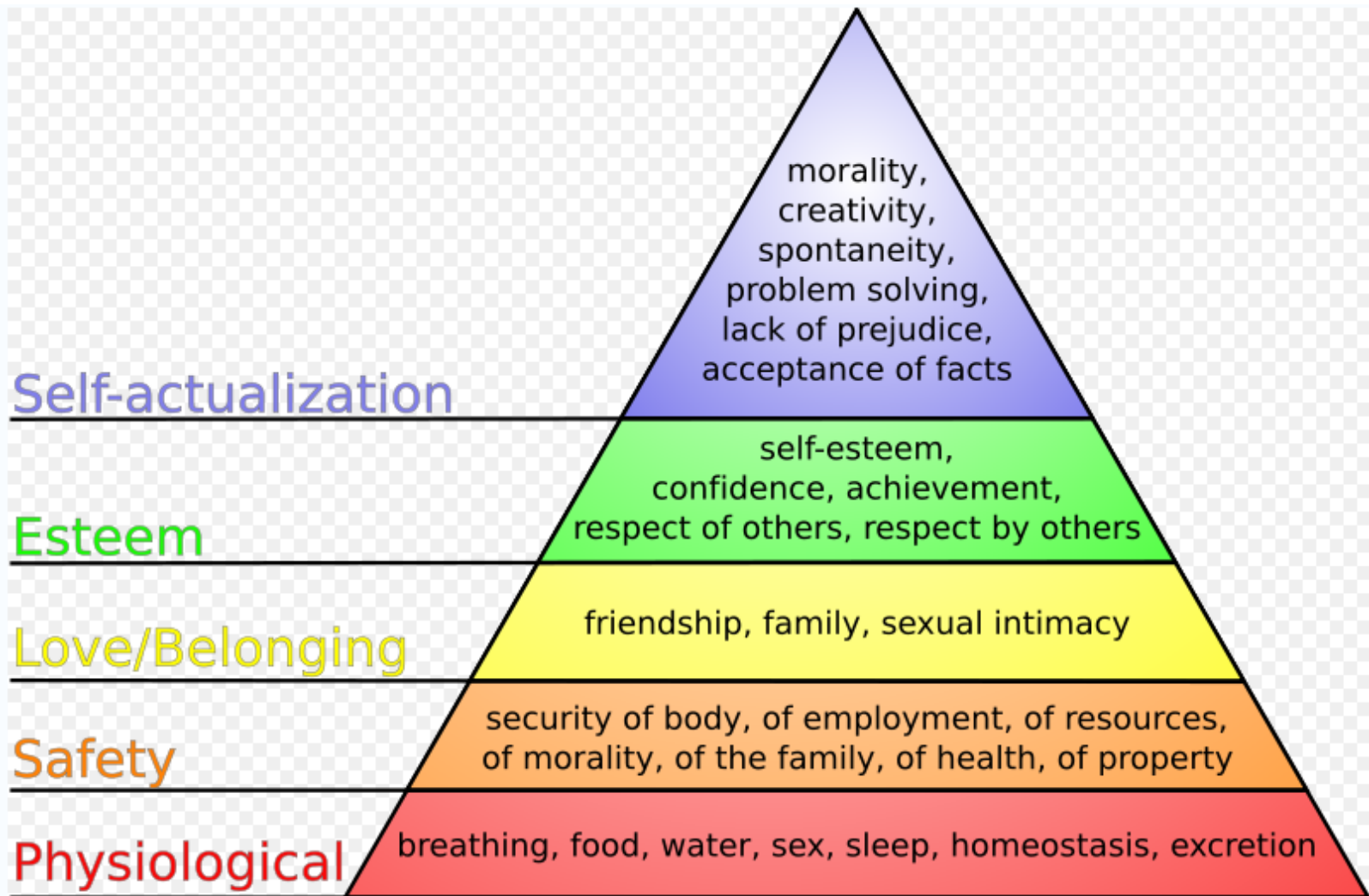
Age 50-64 21%

Age 65+ 21%

Levine says young people today are not angry or alienated like previous generations were.

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=126359205>

Mazlow's Hierachy of Needs



[Maslow's_hierarchy_of_needs.svg](#) (SVG file, nominally 1,717 × 1,124 pixels, file size: 8 KB)

Basic Wilderness Survival Skills

From: **British Columbia Outdoor Wilderness Guide**

Fear - For anyone faced with a wilderness emergency survival situation, fear is a normal reaction. Unless an emergency situation has been anticipated, fear is generally followed by panic then pain, cold, thirst, hunger, fatigue, boredom and loneliness. It is extremely important to calmly assess the situation and not allow these seven enemies to interfere with your survival.

Pain - Pain may often be ignored in a panic situation. Remember to deal with injuries immediately before they become even more serious.

Cold - Cold lowers the ability to think, numbing the body and reducing the will to survive. Never allow yourself to stop moving or to fall asleep unless adequately sheltered.

Thirst - Dehydration is a common enemy in an emergency situation and must not be ignored. It can dull your mind, causing you to overlook important survival information.

Hunger - Hunger is dangerous but seldom deadly. It may reduce your ability to think logically and increase your susceptibility to the effects of cold, pain and fear.

Fatigue - Fatigue is unavoidable in any situation so it is best to keep in mind that it can and will lower your mental ability. Remember that in an emergency situation this is often the body's way of escaping a difficult situation.

Boredom & Loneliness - These enemies are quite often unanticipated and may lower mind's ability to deal with the situation.

Don't panic!

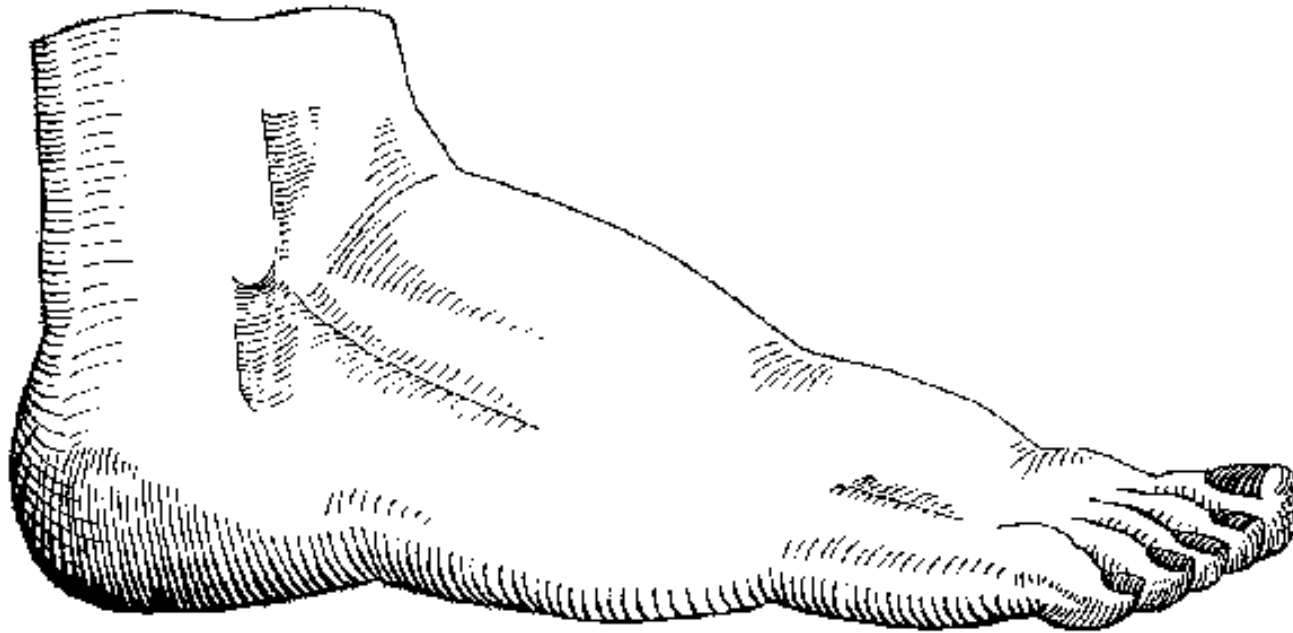
Don't be Panicked!

Have a Great, Safe Summer !



See You 18 September 2010

The Monty Python Foot, a convenient way to end something that would seem to go on for ever accomplishing nothing.... (*See deus ex machina*)



The famous Python Foot can here be seen in its original format in the bottom left corner of "An Allegory of Venus and Cupid" by [Bronzino](#) (~1545)

When Monty Python had no ending for a skit, this foot would appear out of the sky and squash whatever was on screen with a rude noise. Allowing the show to move on.

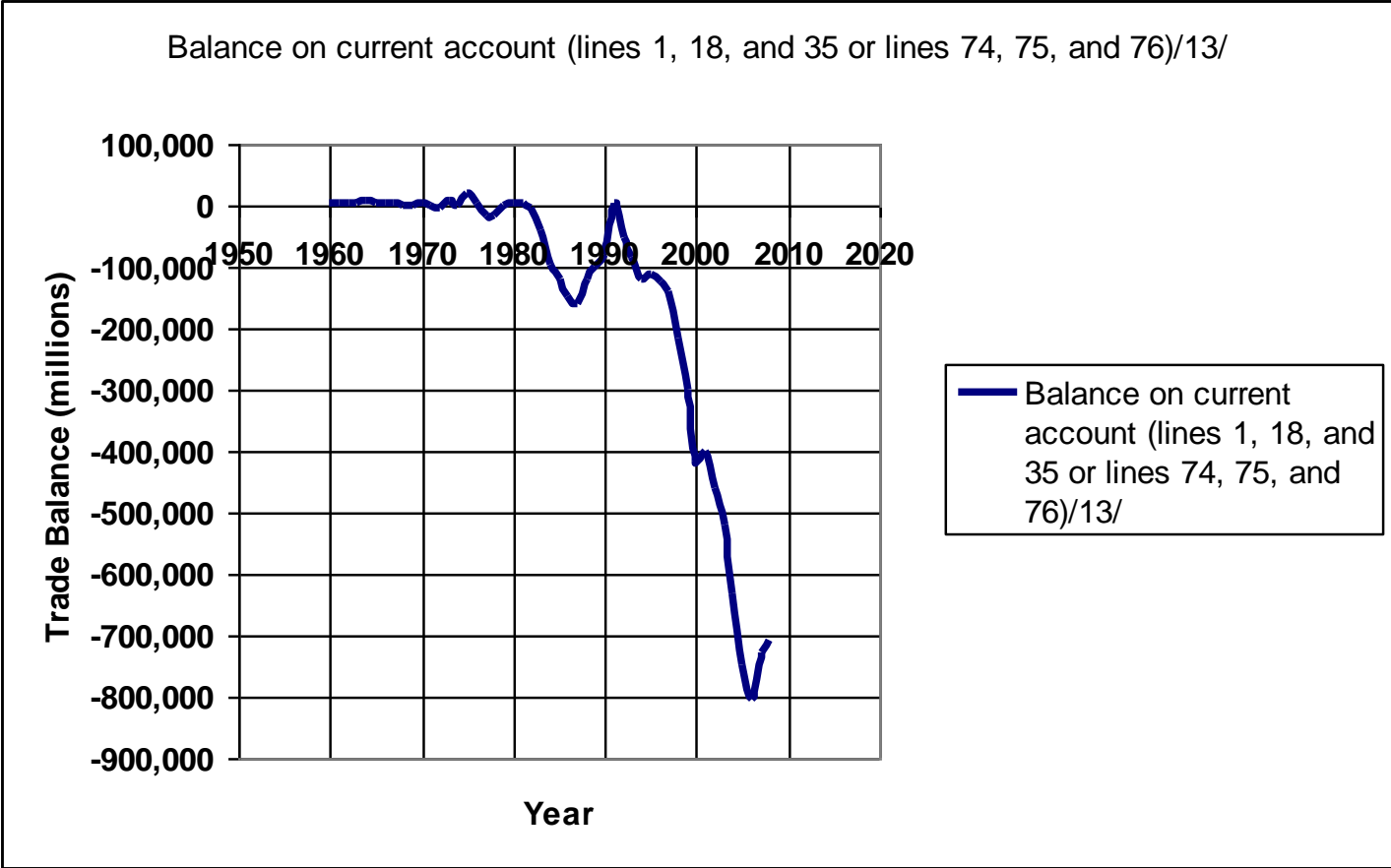
Enrichment Material

One of life's persistent questions:

“Why do cockroaches roll over before the die?”



So what will that look like on the graph?



Don't be Panicked

Can you take responsibility for yourself and others close to you?

Can you stay calm and assess a changing or changed situation?

Can you tell the difference between fact and fabrication.

Can you delay panicking until the threat has passed?

It all connects

Fear, War, Greed

To much capital in the hands of the few

Too little money in the hands of the consumers.

Credit is not a replacement for disposable income

Oil is a limited resource

Unable to anticipate what looks obvious in retrospect

Trusting of Authority

Lacking critical ability/Education

Etc.

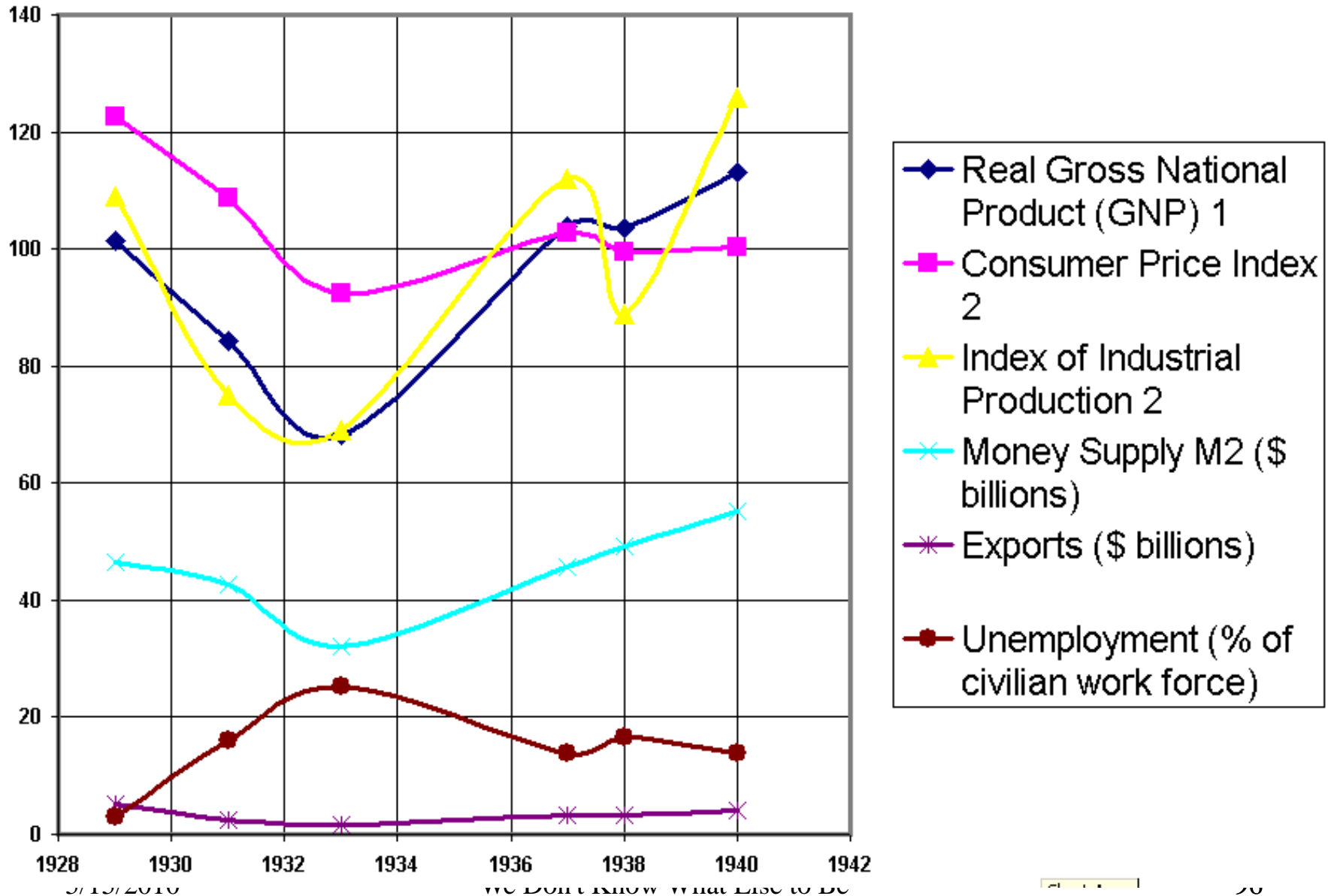
Today's stock market bears about as much resemblance to the real economy as a game of poker or Monopoly or Trivial Pursuit.

Instead of the market indexes, keep tracking employment, wages, and the gross domestic product (GDP). When they return, we will have recovered. Not Before

The stock market may be a game but it is being played with dollars. The rise in stock prices without an increase in productivity or dividends is not an indication of growth but of inflation and instability!

This is the result of an oversupply of money that has been pumped into the pockets of market players and not into the economy.

The Years of the Great Depression



Don't just be a thermometer, Be a thermostat

Jill Carroll

Getting Warmer?



5/15/2010

We Don't Know What Else to Be

98

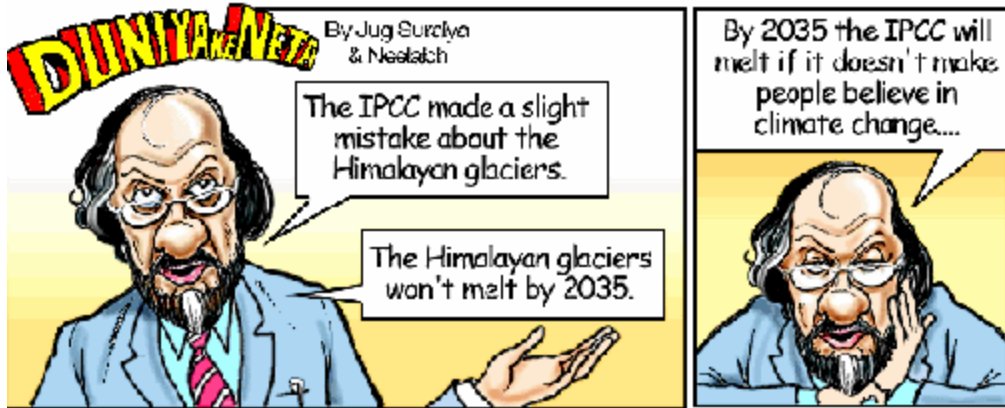
We have it in our power...

**"We have it in our
power to begin the
world over again."**

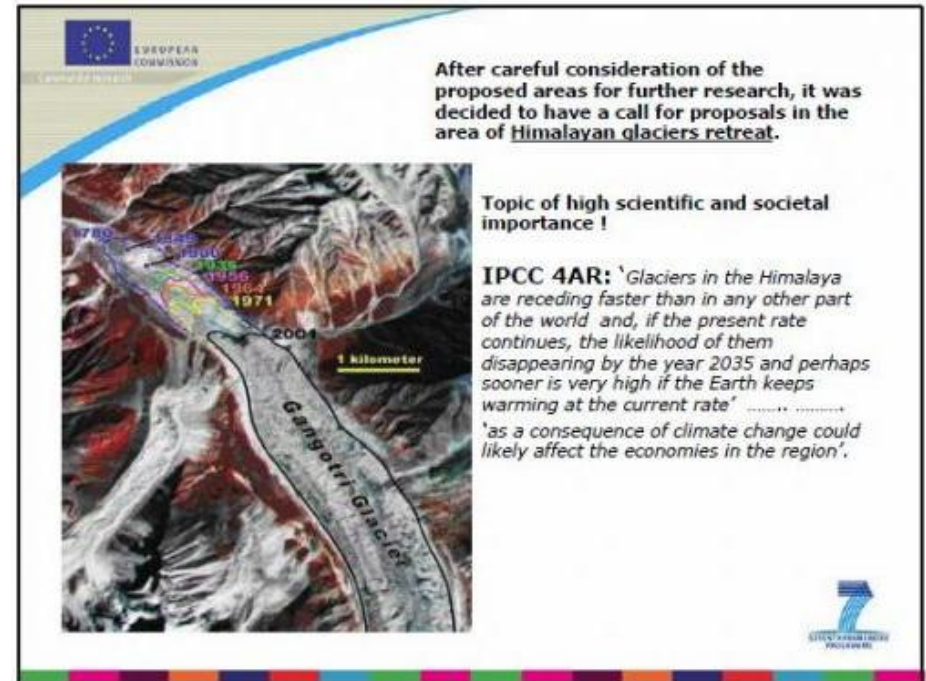
Ronald Reagan quoting Thomas Paine

January 18, 2008 Bill Moyers talks with Harvey J. Kaye

Inconvenient Opinions



<http://epaper.timesofindia.com>



Why the print media is in trouble

The Houston Chronicle offers balanced coverage

They Balance Truth and facts with bullshit*



Rasputin or Pachauri



Grigory Rasputin, the "devil monk", is the most mysterious figure in the Romanov tragedy. Born a poor Siberian peasant, Rasputin became Alexandra's closest advisor due to his ability to alieve her son's sufferings. A powerful and a alcoholic, Rasputin attended orgies and church services with equal devotion. The police and family friends warned the royal couple about Rasputin. The Tsar did nothing. Alexandra dismissed the tales and their tellers as lies and liars. Because Alexis' illness was secret, St. Petersburg assumed Rasputin was or might be her lover. Of course whoever thought this must have been crazy, cause with a hideous monk like him, and a beautiful tsarista like Alexandra it MUST be a rumor!! The rumor was false (of course!). Rasputin influenced the Tsar's political decisions, and his meddling and advice crippled the Imperial government. With the Tsar's power in danger, the aristocracy (includes wealthy Russian politicians) acted. On December 30, 1916, the night before New Years Eve, Prince Yussoufov and his well-born friends invited Rasputin to a drinking party where they poisoned, then shot and finally drowned the monk. Rasputin's corpse was later recovered on the bank of the icy river. The damage Rasputin inflicted helped topple the Romanov dynasty two months later -- an event the monk foresaw and predicted in a letter addressed to the family and delivered to them after his death.