






CHAPTER 44


**DELIBERATELY
CREATING AN ALIEN
PLANET**




ALIEN — BELONGING OR RELATING TO ANOTHER PERSON, PLACE, OR THING (www.merriam-webster.com)

-  **alien — wholly different in nature; foreign; adverse; inconsistent (with); incongruous** (thinkexist.com>Dictionary>Ain-All)
-  **alien — differing in nature or character typically to the point of incompatibility** (www.merriam-webster.com)
-  **alien — (to somebody/something) strange and frightening; different from what you are used to** (<http://oald8.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com>)





 **INDIVIDUALS OF THE SPECIES *HOMO SAPIENS* OFTEN IDENTIFY THOSE INDIVIDUALS OF THE SPECIES AS ALIENS IF THEY ARE FROM A DIFFERENT CULTURE —A “THEM” VERSUS “US” ATTITUDE. INDIVIDUALS ALSO OFTEN IDENTIFY WITH ECOSYSTEMS IN WHICH THEY LIVE AND THEIR GEOLOGICAL/CLIMATIC ENVIRONMENT (E.G., MOUNTAINS OR PLAINS).**

-  ***Homo sapiens* evolved as a small group (tribal), widely dispersed species and is most secure in small, ideologically uniform groups.**
-  **Although *Homo sapiens* is primarily in large cities, it has not adjusted to this comparatively new condition; ethnic differences are still a major source of contention.**
-  ***Homo sapiens* occupies most of the planet and has partially achieved financial globalization.**
-  **However, *Homo sapiens* has not displayed competence in addressing global problems such as climate change and overpopulation.**

 **THE GENUS *HOMO* AND THE LAST SPECIES, *HOMO SAPIENS*, HAVE LIVED IN A WORLD OF CONSTANT CHANGE FOR APPROXIMATELY 4 MILLION AND 200,000 YEARS, RESPECTIVELY. HOWEVER, NOW THE WORLD HAS BEEN CHANGING MORE RAPIDLY THAN EVER, ESPECIALLY SINCE THE END OF WORLD WAR II.**

-  How did *Homo sapiens* become so powerful that it is capable of seriously damaging Earth's life support system, the present Biosphere?
-  "*Humanity's rise to dominance is a result of both genetic and cultural evolution*
..."¹ However, fossil fuels provided more energy per capita than any large species has ever had.
-  However, present emissions from burning fossil fuels is changing Earth's climate and humanity is feverishly searching for more, which, if burnt, will almost certainly push the present Biosphere past the tipping points that result in collapse.


HUMANITY'S ADDICTION TO DANGEROUS FOSSIL FUELS AS A SOURCE OF ENERGY RESULTS IN DRILLING IN ECOLOGICALLY SENSITIVE AREAS THAT ARE IMPORTANT COMPONENTS OF THE PRESENT BIOSPHERE.


-  Both tar sands processing and coal burning release hazardous chemicals into the water supply and the entire environment.
-  The sun is the primary source of energy — why not use it directly (e.g., solar panels) or indirectly (e.g., wind turbines)?
-  Fossil fuels are only cheap if one ignores the costs in human health and damage to the present Biosphere.
-  The profits from fossil fuels are acquired by a relatively small number of people, but the health and environmental costs are paid by society.





THE PRESENT CONTROVERSY OVER CLIMATE CHANGE PITS IDEOLOGY AGAINST SCIENCE, WHICH IS EVIDENCE BASED.





- 🌍 **The preponderance of evidence confirms that Earth’s climate is changing and anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions are the cause.**
- 🌍 **Time is insufficient for markedly increasing literacy on a complex subject such as climate change.**
- 🌍 **However, the news media can make a major contribution by requiring that climate change denial must be supported by confirmed/verifiable evidence.**
- 🌍 **To further confuse, two new terms have appeared — “climate conflict” and “global warring.”²**


 **“GIVEN THE AVAILABLE SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE OF THE CLIMATE SYSTEM, IT IS PRUDENT FOR SECURITY ANALYSTS TO EXPECT CLIMATE SURPRISES IN THE COMING DECADE, INCLUDING UNEXPECTED AND POTENTIALLY DISRUPTIVE SINGLE EVENTS AS WELL AS CONJUNCTIONS OF EVENTS OCCURRING SIMULTANEOUSLY OR IN SEQUENCE, AND FOR THEM TO BECOME PROGRESSIVELY MORE SERIOUS AND MORE FREQUENT THEREAFTER, MOST LIKELY AT AN ACCELERATING RATE. THE CLIMATE SURPRISES MAY AFFECT PARTICULAR REGIONS OR GLOBALLY INTEGRATED SYSTEMS, SUCH AS GRAIN MARKETS, THAT PROVIDE FOR HUMAN WELL-BEING. . .”²**



 ***“Unabated emissions of greenhouse gases are bound to cause trouble in an era of peak human population and appetites, so efforts to shift from energy menus dominated by fossil fuels are a very good idea.”²***

 **For the record — anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions are still increasing substantially as vigorous searches continue for new sources of fossil fuel. Clean coal remains an aspiration, not a reality.**

 **FOR MANY YEARS, THE MERCHANTS OF DOUBT³
HAVE USED UNCERTAINTY IN SCIENCE TO DELAY
ACTION ON SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION WHILE
TURNING A BLIND EYE TO THE UNCERTAINTIES IN
POLITICAL ELECTIONS, SPORTS, AND LIFE IN
GENERAL.**

-  ***“There’s been a lot of uncertainty and quite a range of this quantity called climate sensitivity in the climate models . . . If you take our results at face value, it certainly indicates that the climate change will be at the higher side of what’s been put forth previously, and that’s not good news.”⁴***
-  ***“Clouds significantly influence the earth’s temperatures, but predicting how those ever-shifting masses will change is notoriously difficult.”⁴***
-  **The “new normal” climate will increase uncertainty until additional scientific evidence is available.**
-  **The war on science will impede gathering additional evidence.**

 **EARTH WILL BECOME INCREASINGLY ALIEN UNTIL HUMANITY ACCEPTS THE UNIVERSAL LAWS OF PHYSICS, CHEMISTRY, AND BIOLOGY AND LIVES ACCORDINGLY.**

-  ***“In the end, a pell-mell, decades-long rush to throw up housing and businesses along fragile and vulnerable coastlines trumped commonsense concerns about the wisdom of placing hundreds of thousands of closely huddled people in the path of potential cataclysms.”⁵***
-  ***“It’s just horrendous that there’s been all this research and all this analysis and so little action. . . It’s a shame that we seem never to take the kind of action we need to until something really awful happens.”⁶***



***“INSANITY: DOING THE
SAME THING OVER AND
OVER AGAIN AND
EXPECTING DIFFERENT
RESULTS.”*** Albert Einstein


- 🌍 **Is humanity confident it can live forever on an increasingly alien planet?**
- 🌍 **Humankind has no planet B to escape to and cannot “secede” from the universal laws.**



“WHAT ME WORRY?”

Alfred E. Neuman

fictional mascot
and cover boy
of *Mad Magazine*

 **THE CRUCIAL QUESTION OF THE 21ST CENTURY IS
“WILL HUMANITY FRAME A REALISTIC EVIDENCE
BASED WORLD VIEW OR BE PERSUADED BY THE
“MERCHANTS OF DOUBT”³ THAT CLIMATE CHANGE IS
A HOAX PERPETUATED BY SCIENTISTS IN ORDER TO
ACQUIRE RESEARCH FUNDING?”**




A related question is “Will the news media continue to give the “merchants of doubt” considerable coverage despite the lack of robust evidence to support the world view of the doubters?”



Hope is still justified! “All nations will suffer the effects of a warmer world, but it is the world’s poorest countries that will be hit hardest by food shortages, rising sea levels, cyclones, and drought . . .”⁷



“A resource crisis exacerbated by global warming is looming, . . . More scientists must speak out.”⁸

 **HUMANITY WILL SUFFER
CATASTROPHES FROM PREVIOUSLY
EMITTED GREENHOUSE GASES, BUT
NOW HOPE IS EMERGING THAT
RISKS CAN BE REDUCED.**

-  ***“A coalition of the world’s largest investors called on governments . . . to ramp up action on climate change and boost clean-energy investment or risk trillions of dollars in investments and disruption to economies.”⁹***
-  **A current high probability is that a planetary tipping point will be passed if “business as usual” continues on greenhouse gas emissions.**
-  **Then the planet and the present Biosphere will become unmistakably alien.**



**HUMANITY HAS SIMULTANEOUSLY
GLOBALIZED ITS FATE AND AN
INDUSTRY WHOSE PRIMARY GOAL IS
TO CAST DOUBT ON THE SCIENTIFIC
EVIDENCE BEARING ON THAT FATE
(E.G., CLIMATE CHANGE).**

- 🌍 **Humankind's ancestors lived in a dangerous world and they knew it.**
- 🌍 **An error in judgment could be fatal and they knew it.**
- 🌍 **Mother Nature (i.e., the universal laws) eliminates those species whose life styles are not congruent with the universal laws.**
- 🌍 **Conferences do not impress Mother Nature — action does.**

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