



10 WAYS FOSSIL FUELS IMPROVE OUR DAILY LIVES

A TURNING POINT USA PUBLICATION



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10 WAYS FOSSIL FUELS IMPROVE OUR DAILY LIVES

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Your hard work is appreciated.

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FOREWORD

Across the nation, college students are clamoring for their campuses to divest from fossil fuels, claiming they are harmful to us, our families, and the environment. Students are indoctrinated to believe the myth that fossil fuels are dirty and renewable energy is a plausible alternative. This misinformed movement of “divestment” is the motivation behind this publication on the benefits of fossil fuels.

Over the last century, fossil fuels have drastically improved our daily lives thanks to their ability to operate more efficiently and cost effectively than any other form of energy. Not only are fossil fuels cheaper and more efficient, but they create countless health benefits through medical improvements and the reduction of the transmission of diseases.

In this booklet, you will find that fossil fuels are quite literally the driving force behind all current and future societal advancements.

It is with great pleasure that I bring to you “10 Ways Fossil Fuels Improve Our Daily Lives.” I hope that it opens your eyes to the benefits of fossil fuels and dispels any myths that are perpetuated by your leftist professors on college campuses today.

Charlie Kirk

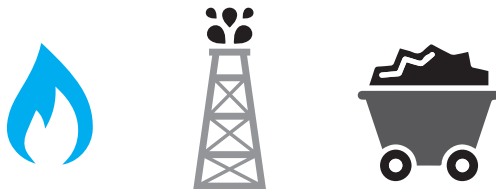
Founder and Executive Director
Turning Point USA

INTRODUCTION

"IF WE LOOK AT HISTORY, AN INCREDIBLY DISPROPORTIONATE PERCENTAGE OF VALUABLE IDEAS HAVE COME IN THE LAST SEVERAL CENTURIES, COINCIDING WITH FOSSIL-FUELED CIVILIZATION. WHY? BECAUSE SUCH A PRODUCTIVE CIVILIZATION BUYS US TIME TO THINK AND DISCOVER, AND THEN USE THAT KNOWLEDGE TO BECOME MORE PRODUCTIVE, AND BUY MORE TIME TO THINK AND DISCOVER."

ALEX EPSTEIN,
THE MORAL
CASE FOR
FOSSIL FUELS

FOSSIL FUELS: When people refer to fossil fuels, they are actually referring to a group of substances that are used to produce energy. The most common fossil fuels are coal, oil, and natural gas. These substances are not artificially produced like nuclear energy. Instead, they are produced naturally over billions of years from the living organisms of the prehistoric era. This explains where the name "fossil fuels" comes from. They are, quite literally, a fuel created from the fossils of organisms from long ago. When burned, fossil fuels release chemical energy through hydrocarbon bonds that power the devices we use today.



01 | FOSSIL FUELS REDUCE THE TRANSMISSION OF DISEASES

There is a common belief in American culture that “coal is dirty.” This is the idea behind many arguments that arise against fossil fuels. The word “dirty” is almost always brought up with a negative connotation. Naturally, individuals shy away from anything with this description. However, if we take a look at all the environmental and health impacts of fossil fuels, there are countless positives to take into consideration.

If we transported someone from the 1800’s (an essentially coal-free environment) to the present, what would they think of the world’s health? It is certain they would be amazed by the lack of overall disease that exists today. In the 1800’s there were no immunizations. Tuberculosis, smallpox, chickenpox, cholera, whooping cough, and influenza ran rampant. Individuals lived in damp houses that were so close together it was difficult for light and air to enter them. The question is, what is different between the 1800’s and today?

The answer is the introduction of fossil fuels into society and business. Alex Epstein from the Center for Industrial Progress expressed that when “humans didn’t mine, didn’t burn fuels, didn’t develop and were unwilling or unable to control or displace other species where necessary, they died early and often.” By now, society has learned how to produce cheap, reliable energy from fossil fuels. Using energy has helped humanity create a world that is cleaner and safer than any other century before it. “Without hydrocarbon-based synthetic pesticides, the U.S. would still be cursed with insect-borne diseases, such as malaria, which afflict much of the undeveloped world,” Epstein says.



In the past, diseases were often contracted through dirty water. Fossil fuels have helped stop the spread of diseases through water treatments that clean our water today. “Our water [goes] through a massive, high-energy treatment plant where it [is] treated with complex synthetic chemicals to remove toxic substances like arsenic, lead or mercury. Before that, the water would have been disinfected using chlorine, ozone, or ultraviolet light to kill off any potentially harmful biological organisms. And to make all these steps work efficiently, the pH level of the water has to be adjusted, using chemicals like lime or sodium hydroxide,” Epstein explains. Not only did the process of the old days take a longer amount of time to complete, but it was also more expensive. The technological advancements of water treatment has helped save millions of lives. According to the Center for Disease Control, 2,200 children in undeveloped regions die every day as a result of diarrheal diseases. Unsafe drinking water, inadequate availability of water for hygiene, and lack of access to sanitation together contribute to about 88% of deaths from diarrheal diseases.

Technological advancements in the medical field spurred on by fossil fuels have helped stop the spread of diseases through new medicines, treatments, and prevention practices. A majority of the items used in the medical field today rely on oil and gas products to function. For example, without petrochemical derivatives, hospitals would not have rubber gloves, disposable syringes, medications, sterile packaging, or MRI and CT scanners. Medical advancements such as these have helped raise the life expectancy of those in the U.S. from age 46 in 1900 to age 79 today. All direct benefits of modern innovation and expansion that have been fueled by the use of fossil fuels in modern America.

02 | FOSSIL FUELS KEEP US WARM IN THE WINTER AND COOL IN THE SUMMER

"THE OPEN SECRET OF OUR RELATIONSHIP TO CLIMATE IS HOW GOOD WE ARE AT LIVING IN DIFFERENT CLIMATES THANKS TO TECHNOLOGY."

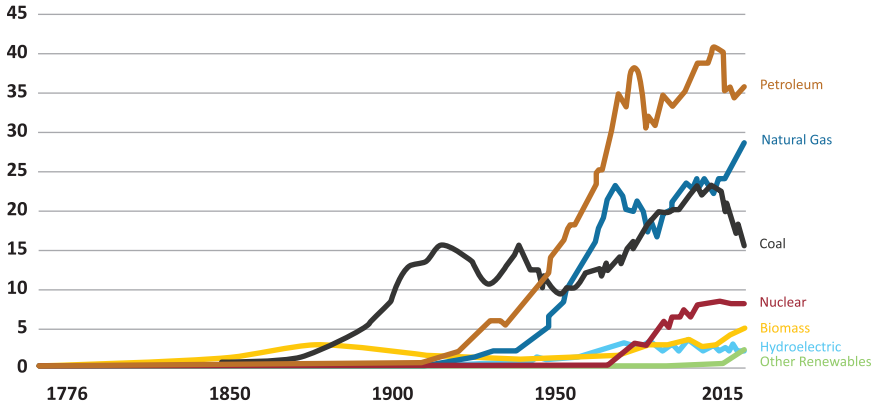
ALEX EPSTEIN,
THE **MORAL**
CASE FOR
FOSSIL FUELS

Fossil fuels improve our daily lives by powering the air conditioning and heating available in nearly every building and home. When you turn on the air conditioning or heating in your home, you are burning fossil fuels. The advantages of heating and cooling seem obvious. In a world without fossil fuels, humans would be reduced to living in purely natural weather conditions. These conditions would interrupt our work patterns and other daily rituals. Buildings would require extra labor hours to create properly functioning fireplaces.

In the market today, businesses are required by government regulations to provide heating when temperatures dip below freezing. An advantage of using fossil fuels to provide heating and cooling is their capacity to generate huge amounts of electricity in a single location. Transporting oil and gas to power stations can be made easier through the use of pipes underground. For all these reasons, the use of fossil fuels in the U.S. is necessary for readily available and convenient heating and cooling.

Energy Consumption in the United States (1776 – 2015)

quadrillion Btu



However the most important argument against those that wish to run our country’s heating and air through solely renewable energy sources is that the U.S. is still not producing enough to support the country’s total energy needs. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, “in 2015, renewable energy sources accounted for [only] about 10% of total U.S. energy consumption.” To rely solely on renewable energy sources in the upcoming years would leave millions of homes without energy. Millions of Americans would lose their access to air conditioning and heating.



03 | FOSSIL FUELS CONNECT OUR ECONOMY DOMESTICALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY



Fossil fuel powered trucks travel across the United States, shipping goods all the way from California to New York. Internationally, oil powered ships open up markets for U.S. companies, allowing them to sell their products all over the world. Oil powered ships alleviate the stress of international shipping by transporting goods without massive delay. These ships also allow international companies to access U.S. consumers by shipping to the

U.S. from abroad. Being connected nationally and internationally can be crucial to the economic health of a country.

Cuba's declining economic health during the U.S. embargo is one of the most notable examples of what can happen when a country becomes economically isolated. Essentially forcing Cuba to rely on Russia for oil, fertilizer, pesticide, and a large amount of food, the country's economy fell into a downward spiral. The government faced large opposition as the crisis continued and Cuba's economy shrank. The shortage of oil had massive consequences for Cuba's agricultural development. Without fuel for tractors, Cuba could not produce enough food to feed its citizens. This led to strict food rationing throughout the country for nearly 50 years. Not being connected to the entire international market hurt Cuba dramatically and for an extended period of time.

In contrast, fossil fuels, particularly oil, keep the U.S. heavily involved in the world market. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, in 2015, the U.S. imported petroleum products from 82 different countries. In the same year, the U.S. exported petroleum to 136 countries. One benefit of all this international trade is that countries with better economic ties tend to have better diplomatic relations overall. Having better diplomatic relations between countries can help lead to a more connected, peaceful world.



04 | FOSSIL FUELS ALLOW US TO PRESERVE MORE OPEN LAND AND NATURE

Energy policy should take into consideration how efficiently we use our natural resources. Environmentalists tend to focus on the argument that the burning of fossil fuels contribute to the emission of greenhouse gasses into the atmosphere. However, they often don't take into account the use of land in producing energy. Solar and wind energy sources, for example, use the most land per megawatt of electricity produced, while sources such as nuclear and fracking use relatively small amounts of land per megawatt. Fracking requires briefly clearing a plot of land, setting up the drill, and then returning the land back to its original form. A fracking drill can run for years in perfect harmony with nature. Solar and wind sources, on the other hand, require constant land use, as they require above ground access and maintenance. The more solar and wind power the U.S. creates, the less land the U.S. will have overall.



The demands of humanity have increased as the earth's population continues to rise. Thankfully, fossil fuels have helped save land through the creation of improved fertilizers and pesticides. If fossil fuel inputs had not been used in the creation of these products our farming methods would not be nearly as productive. Fossil fuel powered machines have helped save the earth in more ways than just saving space. Oil-powered farming machines have increased crop yield and decreased

the amount of land needed for farming. Gas powered equipment can till, plant, and harvest food quicker, and cheaper, than man or animal powered machinery.

If fossil fuels had never been used to create better, more efficient fertilizers more land would need to be used as croplands. Indur Goklany, in the article, *Nature, Not Only Mankind, Saved by Fossil Fuels*, states that if fossil fuels had not been used, “to maintain the current level of food production, at least another 2.3 billion hectares of habitat would have had to be converted to cropland. This is equivalent to the total land area of the United States, Canada, and India combined.”

It would be impossible to maintain the same amount of food production the U.S. enjoys today without fossil fuels. Without fossil fuels, more land across the United States would be croplands, meaning there would be less space overall for people and developments. Fossil fuels helped make producing food easier and more effective and because of this less people starve. Without them, there would be less food produced in the world. This would perpetuate world hunger and leave less space on earth for humans to develop homes and businesses.



05 | FOSSIL FUELS POWER BLUE-COLLAR JOBS



Manufacturing and other blue-collar jobs are powered by affordable energy. Politicians and the media tend to focus on coverage that insists manufacturing is moving overseas for cheaper labor. Luckily, thanks to a glut of energy from fracking and drilling, manufacturing is still increasing in the United States. A report by

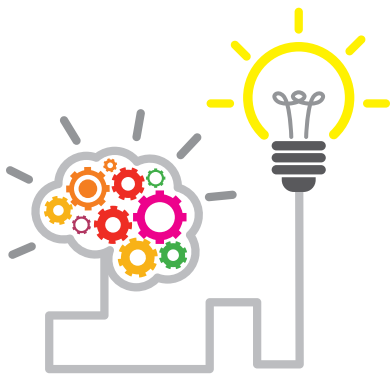
the Boston Consulting Group found that the United States is on pace to match China for manufacturing competitiveness thanks to affordable energy. BCG states in their report that, “perhaps the single largest factor is that fracking has helped dramatically drive down the price of oil and gas that’s being used in energy-intensive industries such as steel, aluminum, paper and petrochemicals...If we want to ‘bring back manufacturing’, we should make it easier to frack and drill.”

There are still benefits for manufacturing companies to assemble in the U.S. In the past few years some advantages the U.S. offers have become more valuable to producers. Low energy costs, a relatively healthy economy, and more productive workers are just some of these assets. According to PwC, a business consulting firm, the development of America’s shale natural gas reserves could add more than 1 million U.S. manufacturing jobs by 2025. Currently, the oil and natural gas industry support 9.8 million jobs, which is 5.6% of the U.S.’s total employment.

06 | FOSSIL FUELS ALLOW US TO ENJOY MORE LEISURE TIME

"THE MORE OPPORTUNITY YOU HAVE TO DO WHAT YOU WANT WITH YOUR TIME, THE MORE OPPORTUNITY YOU HAVE TO BE HAPPY."

ALEX EPSTEIN,
THE MORAL
CASE FOR
FOSSIL FUELS



Imagine the world with little to no energy. Washing machines, dishwashers, refrigerators, and coffee makers, all wouldn't exist without the use of fossil fuels. These machines simplify daily chores and allow individuals to devote more time to other activities. In some countries today, simply living is a full-time occupation. People must light their own fires to cleanse their dishes and make meals. Without refrigeration, individuals must cook only enough food for one day. Cheap oil and coal-powered electricity allow us to take hot showers every morning. We don't think about it every time we turn on the shower, but we should be thankful that fossil fuels have allowed us to enjoy what remains a luxury for some.

Industrial innovation allows individuals to bypass basic tasks. The ability of individuals to purchase household items is what typically separates a developed country with a developing or low-income country. To have enough income to purchase non-essential commercial items is a luxury that not many people around the world have. The introduction of fossil fuels along with industrialization has allowed more people worldwide to achieve enough income to live comfortably. When people have more disposable income, they are allowed to make more choices economically. This helps signal demand in the market and helps power capitalism.

Reducing time spent doing daily tasks allows individuals to spend more time performing leisurely activities. These activities can include spending more time with family or friends, relaxing, exercising, or a hobby. Activities such as these are theorized to help boost people's productivity and overall quality of life. Fossil fuels and the many inventions that have come as a direct result of their use have helped people maximize their time spent working and enjoying leisurely activities, allowing people to live happier, more productive lives.



07 | FOSSIL FUELS HELP LOWER THE COST OF LIVING

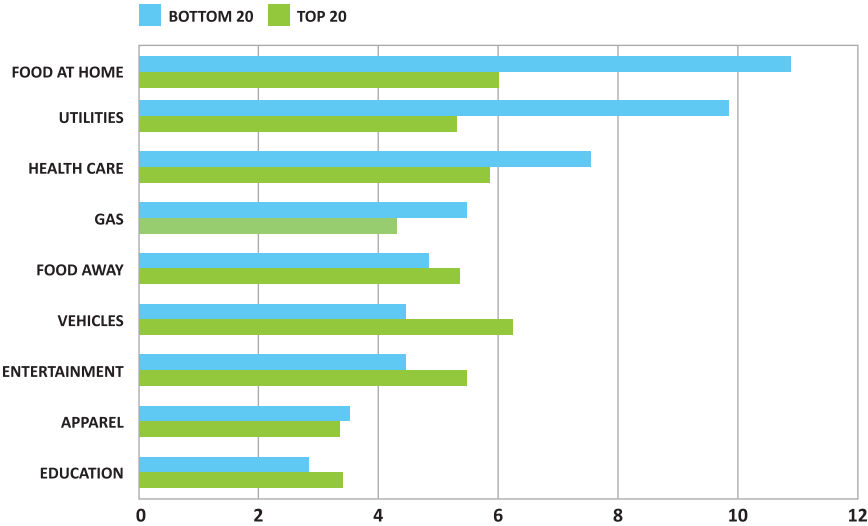


Fossil fuels help to power planes, trains, and automobiles. These modes of transportation allow people across the U.S. to access materials from all over the world. This has been especially important in the last several years as the U.S. has increased our imports from China. The use of improved transportation

systems has allowed the commercial market to expand exponentially. Consider the options available to you when you go to the supermarket. When you need to buy rice, there is not just one U.S. brand that is available to you. There are multiple brands from multiple countries, which all arrived in the U.S. and to your supermarket through modes of transportation fueled by fossil fuels. With the amount of competition that exists in the market today, companies must come up with new ways to target customers. Most often, the method companies use is to reduce their production costs so they are able to sell their products at a lower price. These lower prices directly impact consumers and help lower the overall cost of living in America. Lower prices are obviously good for all consumers, but they especially impact the poor, who spend the largest percentage of their income on consumption goods.

Richer and Poorer

The Biggest Spending Gaps Between the Top/Bottom Quintiles (X Axis: % of Expenditures)



Another way fossil fuels help lower the cost of living is through affordable electricity. Natural gas, oil, and coal are the cheapest forms of electricity available, which is vital to living a comfortable life. “What those living in energy poverty need are reliable, low-cost fossil fuels,” writes Bjorn Lomborg, an expert on energy and climate. “Cars, electricity, and refrigeration all require fossil fuels and are also important to a daily life. Try going one week without eating refrigerated food, driving somewhere (of course, even public transportation runs on fossil fuels), or turning on the lights.” Lomborg asserts that for individuals living on a low-income budget, fossil fuels not only make life more affordable but more comfortable as well. To run these products on solar or wind energy, would cause prices to rise. Fossil fuel production of energy is the cheapest form of energy production available today, and it helps millions of individuals every day by lowering the prices of nearly everything we buy.

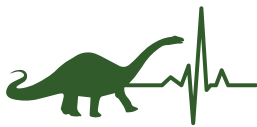
08 | FOSSIL FUELS SAVE LIVES AND POWER MEDICAL DEVICES



Solar and wind are unreliable sources of energy. While these methods of energy are perfectly acceptable to use if you're going to charge your phone; using solar or wind power to charge your ventilator could cause a major health crisis. Medical equipment simply requires more energy than ordinary household appliances. If medical equipment fails, there can be serious consequences for the patient. Fossil fuels are an incredibly reliable energy source, making them a safer choice for hospitals. "Every hospital lives and dies based on just-in-time transportation of supplies, sanitary plastic devices and disposables, and petroleum-based pharmaceuticals," Alex Epstein from the Center for Industrial Progress stated. Without fossil fuel energy, hospitals would run less efficiently. Less efficient hospitals would lower people's trust in their hospital care, result in more deaths and illnesses, and produce less research-based institutions.

Teaching hospitals are an important part of the American healthcare system. As the Association of American Medical Colleges says, "America has the world's best doctors and nurses because we have the world's best teaching hospitals. These institutions train hundreds of thousands of new doctors, dentists, and nurses

every year.” In addition, teaching hospitals are used as research institutions where doctors and students work toward finding new methods and practices to fight diseases. Between 1960-2008 the Association of American Medical Colleges reported that 80 “medical firsts” had been performed at teaching hospitals nationwide. In an article from the website, ourfiniteworld.com, Gail Tverberg notes “the high cost of wind and solar PV doubles our energy problems, rather than solving them.” Teaching hospitals operate on a finite budget. An increased cost in electrical bills will force the institution to shut down other programs, like funding medical research.



Fossil Fuels Save Lives

Fossil fuels help save people’s lives by protecting them from natural disasters better than ever before. Without fossil fuels, it is impossible to say whether satellite technology would be as advanced as it is today. Satellites now

allow us to accurately gather data from disasters, or notice destructive weather patterns before they occur. These advancements have lowered the death rate of humans from natural disasters significantly.

In a Cato Institute study, Patrick Michaels argues that environmentalists “treat the global climate system as a stable and safe place we make volatile and dangerous. In fact, the global climate system is naturally volatile and dangerous- we make it livable through development and technology.” The gas and oil powered machines that have been created with the use of fossil fuels have helped us to build levees and other disaster prevention infrastructures. These are just some of the measures the U.S. and other countries around the world have created to deal with natural disasters. Fossil fuels have helped more individuals survive medical and natural disasters than has ever been historically recorded.

09 | FOSSIL FUELS ARE CLEANER THAN PREVIOUS ENERGY SOURCES



Let's imagine we are back in the 1800's once again. Everywhere we go, we are surrounded by fire. Fire is used for heating, cooking, and cleaning. It is part of everyday life. Today, when we think back over the history of the Earth, we regard the realization that wood creates fire as one of the most important discoveries for human development. However, when we glorify the past like this, we often overlook one key fact about fire: fires always produce smoke. "Most of us have had the experience of sitting around a campfire when the wind changes direction and blows the smoke into our faces right as we take a breath. The resulting experience is unpleasant: a few sharp coughs, along with some stinging of the eyes and throat," Epstein states. This phenomenon is a rare occurrence now, but for hundreds of years, humans inhaled smoke on a daily basis.

Smoke contains carbon dioxide and aerosol particles that are irritating and potentially dangerous by-products of using wood as a fuel source. Inhaling these chemicals on a regular basis can lead to increased cases of asthma and heart disease. Burning



wood for fuel can also contribute to overall air pollution. There are even some types of trees that when burned release life-threatening toxins into the air immediately.

Today, fossil fuels have replaced the use of wood-burning fuel methods in nearly every household in the U.S. The

idea of lighting a real fire in a household is an antiquated practice. As a society, we no longer need to make the choice to inhale smoke in order to be warm in our homes. Fossil fuels have helped clean up the air around us by reducing the amount of smoke produced overall. While the U.S. has a long way to go before we reduce the amount of air pollution to a minimum, the introduction of fossil fuels has been a benefit to society and the condition of the world's air, not a drawback.



10 | THE ARGUMENT FOR FOSSIL FUELS PUTS HUMAN LIFE ABOVE ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

"MANKIND'S USE OF FOSSIL FUELS IS SUPREMELY VIRTUOUS — BECAUSE HUMAN LIFE IS THE STANDARD OF VALUE, AND BECAUSE USING FOSSIL FUELS TRANSFORMS OUR ENVIRONMENT TO MAKE IT WONDERFUL FOR HUMAN LIFE."

ALEX EPSTEIN,
THE MORAL
CASE FOR
FOSSIL FUELS

When discussing an argument of morality, individuals tend to categorize their beliefs into black and white categories representing what is right and what is wrong. Many environmentalists argue that continuing to use fossil fuels when there is reason to believe it will lead to negative consequences for the environment is morally wrong. An extreme form of this view is presented in Alex Epstein's *The Moral Case for Fossil Fuels*, quoting biologist David Garber.

BEHOLD! THE EVILS OF FOSSIL FUELS



Garber wrote in 1989, “we have become a plague upon ourselves and upon the Earth. It is cosmically unlikely that the developed world will choose to end its orgy of fossil-fuel consumption...Until such time as Homo sapiens should decide to rejoin nature, some of us can only hope for the right virus to come along.” While invoking an argument of morality against environmental damage, Garber has invalidated the sanctity of human life. Changes in weather patterns, rising temperatures, and overuse of land are all very real and valid concerns that the U.S. will need to face in the upcoming years, but should these concerns be placed over the value of human life?

Realizing these issues changes the argument about fossil fuels from one of morality to one of practicality. An argument where all citizens should ask, “what will benefit humanity?” Since the introduction of fossil fuels, the possibilities for humanity have grown exponentially. The average human burns 2,000 calories per day, while a gallon of gasoline produces the equivalent of 31,000 calories. Fossil fuels have helped alleviate individuals from intensive physical labor since the 1900’s. This promotes the idea that fossil fuels value human labor and innovation over environmental concerns, an argument that has lead to increased productivity and technological advances over the last century.



CONCLUSION

"WE DON'T WANT TO "SAVE THE PLANET" FROM HUMAN BEINGS; WE WANT TO IMPROVE THE PLANET FOR HUMAN BEINGS."

ALEX EPSTEIN,
THE MORAL
CASE FOR
FOSSIL FUELS

In conclusion, the use of fossil fuels have helped humanity advance to where it is today. Fossil fuels have moved the needle on technological advancements that have saved lives and made everyday lives more manageable. Thanks to fossil fuels we not only have better transportation, heating/air conditioning, medical equipment, and food production, but the most valuable commodity of all, time. Our time on earth has been extended exponentially thanks to innovations powered by fossil fuels that have helped mankind avoid natural disasters, starvation, and disease.

Groups demanding college universities to divest from fossil fuels and denounce the entire energy industry are not only radicals but are hypocrites. 87% of American energy comes from nonrenewable energy sources. Meaning, not only would the cost of living sky rocket if our sole source of energy was limited to renewable energy, but the largest proponents of divestment are fueling their activism with the very energy they are opposed to. We hope this booklet gives you the information necessary to combat the "Divestment" movement that is surely taking place on your campus today.

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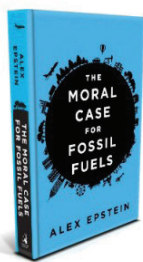
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THE MORAL CASE FOR FOSSIL FUELS by Alex Epstein

You've heard that our addiction to fossil fuels is destroying our planet and our lives. Yet by every measure of human well-being life has been getting better and better. This book explains why humanity's use of fossil fuels is actually a healthy, moral choice.

ALEX EPSTEIN started the Center for Industrial Progress to offer an alternative environmental philosophy to America, one that is anti-pollution but pro-development. A popular speaker on college campuses, he has publicly debated leading environmentalists. He lives in Orange County, California.

Learn more at: www.moralcaseforfossilfuels.com



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Someone on our team will respond within 48 hours.

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This guide and all of the activism initiatives mentioned would not be possible without the grassroots support of generous patriots from all across the country.

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A booklet that teaches students how to combat liberal indoctrination in the classroom and stand up for their beliefs.

Our goal with this publication is to empower, inspire, and train young people to make classrooms in America a place of intellectual diversity.



How America Broke Its Wings

This booklet describes the history and real meaning of the terms “left-wing” and “right-wing,” and presents a new philosophy for to describe our political differences without developing sloppy language that leaves us unnecessarily divided.





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