

SCREENING GUIDE



IN A CLIMATE EMERGENCY, WHAT ACTIONS ARE NECESSARY?

NECESSITY

OIL, WATER, AND CLIMATE RESISTANCE

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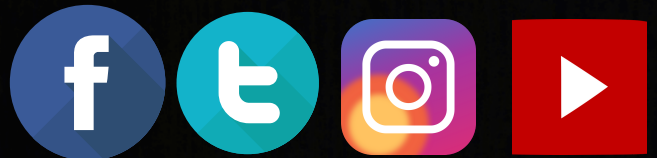
NECESSITYTHEMOVIE.COM





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The film Necessity: Oil, Water and Climate Resistance is
being considered for a series, for updates on the movie,
screenings, and climate justice movement visit our
website: <https://www.necessitythemovie.com>



NECESSITY IS A FISCALLY SPONSORED PROJECT OF FILM INDEPENDENT,
SELECTED PROJECT OF DOC SOCIETY + EXPOSURE LABS INAUGURAL
CLIMATE STORY LAB, AND SELECTED PROJECT OF THE FLEDGLING FUND
CALL FOR PROJECTS ON CLIMATE CHANGE.

Director's Statement



(Samantha Praus and Jan Haaken)

Jan Haaken

As a documentary filmmaker, I rely on mainstream storytelling conventions in thinking about the arc of the narrative and devices for building tension and investments in the characters. But I also try to subvert consumerist forms of documentary spectatorship--what bell hooks terms "eating the other," the privilege of the culturally dominant to enjoy images of exoticized others. Working with traditions of psychoanalytic film criticism and clinical theory, I try to understand how fantasies and defenses are mobilized through moving pictures. In making films on topics that make people anxious, for example, the recent projects on abortion and climate change, psychoanalysis provides helpful tools for thinking through some of the psychological dynamics in audience reception--of creating "holding places" in the film itself.

Samantha Praus

I've worked with Jan on three previous documentaries that also take up ethical questions and stigmatized groups working on the social margins. I have a deep personal interest in the NECESSITY project, having grown up in North Dakota and near the region where the team filmed in Minnesota. After spending time at Standing Rock bringing firewood to activists camped there, I saw this film as an opportunity to support the ongoing story of Indigenous resistance in the Midwest.

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ABOUT THE FILM

NECESSITY traces the fight in Minnesota against the expansion of pipelines carrying highly toxic tar sands oil through Native lands and essential waterways in North America. Front line communities--Native Peoples and communities of color--suffer the most immediate and severe consequences of the climate crisis: impacts on physical and mental health as well as territorial desecration and displacement. Yet with painful histories have come deep insights, forms of resilience and modes of resistance. This one-hour documentary follows Indigenous leaders and non-Indigenous allies using direct action to protect the sacred and demand justice. Legal experts discuss the record of disparate treatment in the justice system and the legal strategy of the necessity defense, which makes a moral case for acts of civil disobedience, while medical and scientific experts address the health effects of fossil fuels and dangers of pipeline and refinery infrastructure. Capturing the natural beauty of the region as well as the vulnerability of local habitats, aesthetic and stylistic elements drive the action forward, including animated maps with illustrations.

We want this documentary to deepen viewers' awareness of the film's key issues: the problems of environmental racism and of violence against Native American women, water protectors and land defenders; the significance of tribal sovereignty; the strategy of the necessity defense; the dangers of tar sands oil and fossil fuel infrastructure; the value of civil disobedience; and the possibilities of non-Indigenous alliance with Indigenous leadership.

We invite those who watch and discuss the film to come away with a greater readiness to support—perhaps even to engage in—direct action in the service of climate justice.

Do You Know?



There are a few important constitutional rights that are relevant to climate protesters. Under the First Amendment, you have the right to speech and assembly, and this protects a lot of things.

Kelsey Skaggs, Attorney
Executive Director, Climate Defense Project

THE NECESSITY DEFENSE

Requirements for the Necessity Defense vary somewhat by jurisdiction, but there are four basic elements:



1. a reasonable belief that the commission of a crime was necessary to avoid or minimize harm;

2. the harm sought to be avoided was greater than the harm resulting from the violation of the law;

3. the threatened harm was not brought about by the defendant; and

4. no reasonable alternative existed

KEY ISSUES

NECESSITY is an excellent tool for outreach, bringing climate struggles and their legal consequences to a personal and practical level. As you plan a screening, you may also want to collaborate with local groups working on other key issues in the film, or other issues regarding climate justice (including housing, houselessness, transportation, health care, racial equity, food sovereignty) or civil liberties (legal defense, police reform or abolition, direct action).

Potential Partners

- Groups focused on any Key Issues
- Indigenous Rights Organizations
- Environmental Justice Organizations
- Groups fighting Anti-Protest Bills
- Anti-Imperialist Groups
- Academic Departments & Student Groups
- Faith-based Organizations
- Legislators and other policy makers
- Community organizations with a mission to promote climate justice

Potential Themes

- Climate Justice
- Environmental Justice
- Environmental Law
- Indigenous Sovereignty
- Civil Disobedience
- Direct Action
- Pipelines
- Fossil Fuel Infrastructure
- Grassroots Organizing
- Capitalism
- Corporate Power
- Criminalization of Protest
- Extraction Projects
- Racism
- Environmental Protection
- Settler Colonialism
- Economic Development
- Just Transition

National and international organizations may have a chapter in your area. Some of these groups are listed on pages 38 and 47.

Bringing it all together!

YOUR SCREENING

**Planning, Promoting, Facilitating,
and Following up on your
Screening & Discussion**

Planning an In-Person Event

Identify groups who could be co-sponsors and/or participants. Use this opportunity to build alliances and coalitions in your community. Include groups who would find it useful to talk with others about the issues raised in the film – as well as people who can link these conversations to concrete changes in your community.

Connect with other potential participants. Do you need an outside facilitator, translator, or sign-language interpreter? Are there local experts on the topic or community leaders who should be present to speak with the audience? Is there a local band or poet who might provide additional entertainment?

Consider logistics. Will you need a microphone, chairs, projector, screen, table, water, food? Be sure to test before the day of the screening any equipment you will be using. Preparation: You don't need to be an expert on climate change, pipelines, Indigenous peoples' struggles, or legal rights to lead an event, but knowing the basics can help you keep a discussion on track and gently correct misstatements of fact. If you have time, watch the film through before the event and familiarize yourself with this guide.

Location: Find a space where all participants can feel comfortable. Consider access for people using wheelchairs or with other disabilities. Can the site be reached easily by various kinds of transportation? If you are bringing together different constituencies, is it neutral territory? Consider community centers, school meeting spaces, union halls, or church social halls. If you intend to have a discussion, can people see one another? Will everyone be able to see the screen and hear the film easily from their seats? Are there spaces to use for small breakout groups?

Time: Pick a time that works for your audience. Think about people coming from work, and about other events going on that day.

Scheduling: Start the event 30 minutes before the film, so people have a chance to get settled in, get food, visit the information table, be welcomed. Include time for discussion and action planning after the film.

Childcare: Parents may be more likely to come if they know they can bring their children. Discussions are more productive when children are entertained, if you can afford childcare or arrange it with volunteers.

Food: People are more likely to come if they know there will be food or snacks, especially if the event occurs around mealtime. You may be able to have food donated by local vendors who care about the issues.

Planning an Online Event

MANY OF THE SUGGESTIONS FOR PLANNING AN IN-PERSON EVENT ALSO APPLY TO ONLINE EVENTS, PARTICULARLY THOSE CONCERNING POTENTIAL CO-SPONSORS, PARTICIPANTS, AND PREPARATION.

LOGISTICS AND LOCATION WILL DIFFER, OF COURSE! WILL YOU MAKE A STREAMING LINK AVAILABLE TO PARTICIPANTS, TO BE FOLLOWED BY A VIDEO-CONFERENCE DISCUSSION? OR WILL YOU WANT TO MAKE THE VIDEO AVAILABLE VIA SHARING YOUR SCREEN THROUGH A VIDEO CALL?

SHARING YOUR SCREEN PROVIDES FOR A MORE SHARED EXPERIENCE, AND MOST VIDEO-CONFERENCING SOFTWARE ALLOWS FOR SIMULTANEOUS CHAT, SO VIEWERS MIGHT COMMENT ON THE FILM WHILE WATCHING.

HOLDING DISCUSSION DURING AND RIGHT AFTER THE SCREENING ALSO ENSURES THE FILM WILL BE FRESH IN EVERYONE'S MINDS.

SOME VIEWERS MAY PREFER A MORE FLEXIBLE SCHEDULE FOR VIEWING—WE CAN MAKE THE STREAMING LINK AVAILABLE TO YOUR GROUP FOR 24 HOURS, AND YOU CAN HOLD A SCHEDULED DISCUSSION AFTER MEMBERS OF YOUR GROUP HAVE WATCHED THE FILM AT A TIME OF THEIR CHOICE IN THAT WINDOW.

CREATE A BACKUP COMMUNICATION PLAN IN CASE YOU HAVE TROUBLE CONNECTING WITH REMOTE PARTICIPANTS. A BACKUP PLAN CAN INCLUDE USING A MOBILE OR SPEAKERPHONE, AND/OR COLLABORATING THROUGH AN ONLINE COLLABORATION TOOL. YOU MIGHT USE A SIGNAL GROUP (APP; NO GROUP VIDEO) TO PROVIDE SECURE MESSAGING TO YOUR GROUP.

PLAN TO CONNECT VIA A WIRED ETHERNET JACK. THIS PREVENTS WIFI DROPOUTS AND SPEED ISSUES. TEST THE CONNECTION BEFORE THE EVENT. IF CONNECTING FROM A LAPTOP, PLUG IN THE LAPTOP WALL POWER. BATTERY USE CAN ADVERSELY AFFECT VIDEO QUALITY.

ENSURE THAT YOU HAVE A CAMERA, MICROPHONE, AND HEADPHONES OR SPEAKERS AVAILABLE. EARBUDS OR HEADPHONES ARE PREFERABLE TO AVOID AUDIO FEEDBACK AND ECHO. MOST MODERN LAPTOPS AND ALL-IN-ONE DESKTOPS HAVE A HEADPHONE JACK, MICROPHONE, AND SPEAKERS BUILT IN. JOIN FROM A QUIET LOCATION WITH NO BACKGROUND NOISE.

BE AWARE OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS AND HOW YOU APPEAR VISUALLY. CLOSE BLINDS ON WINDOWS SO THAT YOU ARE EASIER TO SEE ON VIDEO. WEAR NEUTRAL, SOLID-COLORED CLOTHING. AVOID BLACK, WHITE, OR STRIPED CLOTHING.

IN CHOOSING A VIDEO-CONFERENCING PLATFORM, YOU WILL WANT TO CONSIDER SECURITY, COST, AVAILABILITY, AND THE NUMBERS OF PEOPLE IT WILL ACCOMMODATE. PLATFORMS AND OFFERS CHANGE, SO INVESTIGATE YOUR OPTIONS CAREFULLY, AND TRY IT OUT IN ADVANCE OF THE EVENT.

Promoting an Event

ALLIANCES:

THINK ABOUT WHO IN YOUR AREA IS WORKING ON ISSUES RELATED TO THE KEY ISSUES OF THE FILM. IF THEY ARE OUTSIDE YOUR NETWORKS, THINK ABOUT HOW TO REACH THEM THROUGH PROMOTION.

INVITE GUESTS:

TRY REACHING PEOPLE THROUGH NEWSLETTERS, COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARDS, EMAIL, BOOKSTORES, CHURCHES, AND LIBRARIES. WHEN FEASIBLE, PERSONAL INVITATIONS WORK BEST. THINK ABOUT MAILING, FAXING, OR HANDING OUT INVITATIONS. FOLLOW UP WITH PHONE CALLS.

PRESS RELEASE:

SEND A PRESS RELEASE TO LOCAL MEDIA AND USE THE OPPORTUNITY TO AMPLIFY LOCAL CAMPAIGNS.

MAKE IT ACCESSIBLE:

PROVIDE INFORMATION ABOUT PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION, AND CLEAR DIRECTIONS TO FIND THE VENUE. LET PEOPLE KNOW WHAT THEY CAN EXPECT IN TERMS OF WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBILITY, TRANSLATION SERVICES, CHILDCARE.

SOCIAL MEDIA:

CREATE A POST ON YOUR BLOG OR WEBSITE, TWITTER, INSTAGRAM, OR FACEBOOK. SHARE WITH US AT [INFO@NECESSITY.COM](mailto:info@necessity.com) OR THROUGH OUR SOCIAL MEDIA, AND WE WILL HELP PROMOTE YOUR EVENT. USE SOME OF THE SAMPLE POSTS WE'VE PREPARED, ADDING INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR EVENT (DATE, TIME, PLACE, AND HOW TO FIND OUT MORE) AND ADAPTING TO YOUR NEEDS. MAKE A FACEBOOK EVENT PAGE FOR YOUR SCREENING AND SHARE IT WITH US ON [HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/NECESSITYTHEMOVIE/](https://www.facebook.com/necessitythemovie/)

SAMPLE TWEETS:

Indigenous activists and non-Indigenous allies use the necessity defense in making a moral case for acts of civil disobedience. On [insert your details] we'll be screening NECESSITY: OIL, WATER, AND CLIMATE RESISTANCE @NecessityMovie #ClimateEmergency #StopLine3 #KeepitintheGround

Fossil fuel pipelines are inherently dangerous; they leak every day. #ShutitDown #KeepitintheGround
Watch the trailer: <https://vimeo.com/297226350> @NecessityMovie

Civil disobedience has been part of every successful social movement in history! "For the sake of climate justice and to ensure a future for human civilization." #ShutitDown #ClimateNecessity Watch the trailer: <https://vimeo.com/297226350> @NecessityMovie

Indigenous activists and non-Indigenous allies work to protect the earth from the predatory fossil fuel companies that seek to poison it. #WaterisLife #ClimateNecessity Watch the trailer: <https://vimeo.com/297226350> @NecessityMovie

Video-Conferencing Platform Options

Jitsi Meet

This video-conferencing platform is recommended by the Civil Liberties Defense Center. It's free, open source—meaning outside parties can check its security— and encrypted. However, it allows a maximum of 75 participants in a chat (and a “better experience” with 35 or fewer), and may require a high-resolution camera for video sharing.

<https://jitsi.org/jitsi-meet/>

WebEx

The free plan allows up to 50 [participants (recently raised to 100 for a limited time offer) with a 40 minute limit to meetings (no time limit with recent limited time offer). Personal rooms can be locked for security. First month free if you sign up for a monthly plan with

<https://www.webex.com>

Zoom

This popular option is easy to use – attendees can join by a publicly shared link from anywhere, and joining does not require downloading any software. However, it has glaring problems of security, and meetings may be crashed by hackers or “Zoom-bombers” with disruptive racist, pornographic, or violent content.

<https://zoom.us/>

Skype

Skype is free, easy to use and widely known. However, the maximum number of people who can join a Skype meeting is 50, and all need to sign up for a free account.

<https://www.skype.com/en/>

Google Hangouts

This option is free and accessible to anyone with a Gmail account, but only 25 people can participate in a video call at once.

<https://hangouts.google.com/>

BlueJeans

BlueJeans is encrypted (secure), can be accessed via browser and does not require an account or the download of a new program. However, it's not free. A basic \$9.99 plan allows meetings up to 50

people and a \$13.99 “pro” product allows up to 75 people per meeting.

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

Sample Facebook Post

Join us [insert event details] for a screening of the powerful film, NECESSITY: OIL, WATER, AND CLIMATE RESISTANCE, about the fight against the expansion of pipelines carrying toxic tar sands oil through North America. The documentary follows Indigenous activists and non-Indigenous allies using the necessity defense to make a moral and legal case for acts of civil disobedience. @necessitythemovie
Check out the trailer <https://vimeo.com/359619138>

Day of Screening & Follow-up

Make sure to check the equipment you are using to make sure the projector, sound, and links are working.

Consider opening with a **territorial acknowledgment** recognizing the Indigenous inhabitants of the place of the screening. See <http://landacknowledgements.org>

Sign-up sheet: Put it out, or if online, make available as a Google doc or form (or similar) for those who want to find out more (name, email, zip).

Introductions: Welcome everyone, introduce yourselves and any other presenters, share what inspired the event, give an overview of the event, thank you to vendors and sponsors, shout outs to activists / organizations / campaigns involved and present. If online, let participants know how to indicate a wish to speak during discussion (for instance, hand raising).

After the Event

Send everyone involved an email about an upcoming action opportunity, ways to get involved further, or just a thank-you.

Tell us about your event: Please send us pictures and a short description of the event (how many were there, what organizations, activities at the event, future actions planned). If you had a sign-up sheet, please send us a picture of it. If you took photos, post them to your blog or social media, email them to us at info@necessity.com, or tag us in your social media:

[twitter logo] @NecessityMovie

hashtags: #ClimateNecessity #ClimateDisobedience #ClimateResistance

[instagram logo] @necessitythemovie

[facebook logo] @necessitythemovie

[gmail logo] info@necessity.com

PEOPLE IN THE FILM



TARA HOUSKA

Tara Houska, JD, Couchiching First Nation Anishinaabe, is a tribal attorney and environmental & Indigenous rights advocate. She advocates on behalf of tribal nations at the local and federal levels on a range of issues impacting Indigenous peoples. She holds degrees from the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities in Biology, Art History, and American Indian Studies, and a JD Magna Cum Laude from University of Minnesota Law School. Houska has worked in Indian Child Welfare and environmental policy, and has clerked for the White House Council on Environmental Quality. Formerly the National Campaigns Director of Honor the Earth, she was previously advisor on Native American affairs to Bernie Sanders. She is a co-founder of Not Your Mascots, a nonprofit committed to educating the public about the harms of stereotyping and promoting positive representation of Native Americans in the public sphere, and founder of Giniw Collective, a grassroots, frontlines effort led by Indigenous women to protect the sacred and empower the next generation of leadership with traditional values. Houska's writing has appeared widely, including in The New York Times, The Guardian, Al Jazeera, and Indian Country Today; her TED talk on Standing Rock has been viewed over a million times. Houska spent six months on the frontlines in North Dakota fighting the Dakota Access Pipeline, and is heavily engaged in the movement to defund fossil fuels and a years-long struggle against Enbridge's Line 3 pipeline. In NECESSITY, Houska shares her expertise in environmental and treaty law and her knowledge of resistance strategies, and describes the disparate impact of environmental issues on Native people and as well as the unequal treatment received in the criminal justice system.

DEBRA TOPPING



Debra Topping is a member of the Fond Du Lac Lake Superior Chippewa tribe. A mother, wife, and grandmother, she has decades of experience harvesting wild rice near her home and resisting encroachments on tribal sovereignty. In *NECESSITY*, Topping guides us along the lands and waterways of the area, illuminating Ojibwe history of Settler Colonialism and intergenerational trauma, as well as the challenges of current assaults on the environment. Topping actively participates in the Duluth action in which water protectors Scot Bol, Ernesto Burbank, and Michael Niemi lock down a branch of Wells Fargo Bank, a funder of the proposed Line 3, and she is involved in the celebration of the city's decision to recognize Indigenous Peoples' Day. Topping leads tours of toxic sites in Minnesota and Wisconsin to raise awareness about continuing dangers, and continues actively organizing against pipelines in Northern Minnesota.

Ernesto Burbank, Michael Niemi, and Scot Bol are climate activists with the Makwa Initiative who locked down Duluth Wells Fargo in protest of the bank's financial support for fossil fuel industry including Enbridge's new Line 3.

Ernesto "Neto" Burbank, a Diné tattoo artist from Arizona and a citizen of the Navajo Nation, spent time at Standing Rock opposing the Dakota Access Pipeline and providing livestream reporting on events there, and he has continued to work against pipeline construction. In *NECESSITY*, he discusses the importance of the awakening at Standing Rock in the context of Indigenous history, and addresses the pressing nature of climate change and the value of the necessity defense.



Scot Bol and Michael Niemi are longtime activists on issues of peace, justice, and environment, based in Duluth, Minnesota. In *NECESSITY*, they discuss their activism, the need for lawyers to make the necessity argument for climate activists, and the importance of non-Indigenous allies' stepping up to risk arrest.

Jennifer McEwen and JT Haines provided legal counsel to Ernesto Burbank, Scot Bol, and Michael Niemo on their Duluth Wells Fargo case.



Jennifer A. McEwen, JD, graduated from Hamline University Law School in 2009, and worked in Arizona as an attorney for Legal Aid, where she was project director for a grant Legal Aid received from the Native American Rights Fund. She has served as judicial clerk to the Hon. Heather L. Sweetland and as assistant public defender in the Sixth Judicial District, Duluth, where she lives with her family in the home built by her great-grandparents. In addition to working as an associate attorney with the firm Falsani, Balmer, Peterson & Balmer, she serves on the board of the Damiano Center.

JT Haines, JD, holds a law degree from University of Virginia and a policy degree from the University of Minnesota, and practices law in the Duluth area. He is also a photographer and producer with Northland Films, and is active with Duluth for Clean Water.

Annette Klapstein and **Emily Johnston** and are two of the five “Valve Turners” who, in a coordinated action on October 11, 2016, instigated the shutdown of the pipelines carrying tar sands oil from Canada into the United States.



Annette Klapstein is an activist with the Raging Grannies in Seattle and a retired attorney, formerly with Puyallup tribal government in Washington State, focusing on fisheries cases.

Emily Johnston is a Seattle-based writer and activist, co-founder of 350Seattle.org. Her essays have been published in Truthout, The Guardian, Slate, Crosscut, and elsewhere. Her first book of poetry, *Her Animals* (Hummingbird Press, 2015), was a finalist for the Washington State Book Award.

They were initially charged with felonies carrying maximum penalties of some 20 years in prison and fines up to \$40,000. All charges except one of damaging critical pipeline infrastructure were dropped just before their October 2018 trial in Bagley, Minnesota, which ended in their acquittal on all charges before they and their team could present the necessity defense of their actions.



Kelsey Skaggs and Alice Cherry are co-founders of the Climate Defense Project and part of the legal team for the Valve Turners in Minnesota.



Kelsey Skaggs, JD, is Executive Director of the Climate Defense Project. Born and raised in Alaska, she holds a B.A. in International Relations from the University of California, Davis, and a J.D. from Harvard Law School. Prior to attending law school, she coordinated a program to provide pro bono legal assistance to indigent survivors of gender-based violence in Alaska. She has worked on environmental issues at Crag Law Center in Oregon; on international environmental policy at Universal Rights Group in Geneva; on defending free speech activists at Media Legal Defense Initiative in London; she has also written about First Amendment issues related to NSA surveillance programs.

Alice Cherry, JD, is Staff Attorney with the Climate Defense Project. She studied anthropology and environmental policy at Northwestern University before attending Harvard law school, where student-led movements for climate and racial justice were formative experiences; she also interned at the California Office of the Attorney General and the Sierra Club.



Bruce Snyder, MD and Anthony Ingraffea, MS, PhD were among the expert witnesses expecting to testify in support of the Valve Turners' necessity defense in Minnesota—testimony precluded by their early acquittal.

Dr. Bruce Snyder is a retired neurologist based in Minnesota. He is a Union of Concerned Scientists Science Network member and works with several environmental organizations including the Sierra Club and Fresh Energy, and is a co-founder of Health Professionals for a Healthy Climate (HPHC).

.Dr. Anthony Ingraffea is the Dwight C. Baum Professor of Engineering Emeritus and a Weiss Presidential Teaching Fellow at Cornell University where he has been since 1977, and has been president of Physicians, Scientists and Engineers for Healthy Energy, Inc., where he remains a senior fellow. He holds a B.S. in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Notre Dame, an M.S. in Civil Engineering from Polytechnic Institute of New York, and a Ph.D. in Civil Engineering from the University of Colorado. Dr. Ingraffea's research concentrates on computer simulation and physical testing of complex fracturing processes in metals, ceramics, and geomaterials. He has authored & coauthored over 250 papers in these areas, including co-authoring a 2011 Cornell University study that established the greenhouse gas footprint of fracking as being greater than that of any other fossil fuel including coal. Professor Ingraffea has received many professional awards and honors, for his teaching, interest in



social justice, and mentoring women and people of color in engineering, as well as for his research achievements in hydraulic fracturing. For his public education efforts about the dangerous effects of hydraulic fracturing, shale gas and oil, TIME Magazine named him one of its "People Who Mattered" in 2011.

He was principal author of the American Petroleum Institute's Pipeline Safety Recommended Practice (2014).

Guidelines for Facilitating Discussion

Consider who will facilitate. You may or may not be the best person to facilitate, especially if you have multiple responsibilities for your event.

Know your group. Issues can play out very differently for different groups of people. Is your group new to the issues or have they dealt with them before? Factors like geography, age, race, religion, and socioeconomic class can all have an impact on comfort levels, speaking styles and prior knowledge. An experienced facilitator can help make sure everyone gets heard.

Consider how well group members know one another. If you are bringing together people who have never met, you may want to devote some time at the beginning of the event for introductions or an icebreaker activity.

Agree to ground rules around language. Involve the group in establishing some basic rules to ensure respect. Typically, such rules include prohibiting yelling and the use of slurs and asking people to speak in the first person ("I think....") rather than generalizing for others ("Everyone knows that...").

Ensure that everyone has an opportunity to be heard. Be clear about how people will take turns or indicate that they want to speak. Plan a strategy for preventing one or two people from dominating the discussion. If the group is large, are there plans to break into small groups or partners?

Talk about the difference between dialogue and debate. In a debate, participants try to convince others that they are right. In a dialogue, participants try to understand one another and expand their thinking by sharing viewpoints and listening actively. Remind people that they are engaged in a dialogue.

Encourage active listening. Ask the group to think of the event as being about listening as well as discussing. Participants can be encouraged to listen for things that challenge as well as reinforce their own ideas.

Remind participants that everyone sees through the lens of their own experience. Who we are influences how we interpret what we see. Everyone in the group may have a different view about the content and meaning of the film they have just seen, and each of them may be accurate. It can help listeners to understand others' perspectives if people identify the evidence on which they base their opinions.

Discussion Questions & Resources

1. Climate Change

2. Extraction Economies

3. Environmental Racism

4. Disruption to food systems/sacred sites

5. Water Protectors and Land Defenders

6. The Necessity Defense

7. Civil Disobedience and Pipeline Resistance

**8. Pipeline Projects, Violence, and Gender:
MMIW and Man Camps**

9. Take Action

1. Climate Change

“I was taken aback when these . . . women were accused of endangering the public by doing something that inherently was not dangerous, when the pipeline itself is inherently dangerous.” (Anthony Ingraffea, PhD, in NECESSITY)

- a.** Tara Houska and Bruce Snyder each explain some of the particular dangers of tar sands oil. What are some of the points they raise about the Alberta tar sands and the transport of tar sands oil?
- b.** Climate action requires both a serious sense of the urgency of the problem and hope for the possibility of change. What do you feel about the urgency of climate crisis? What aspects of the film leave you feeling hopeful or otherwise?
- c.** What effects have you seen climate change having on health or weather in your area? What are the sources of climate-forcing emissions in your area?
- d.** What are some concrete actions you can take to address these conditions? Are there campaigns to reduce emissions or find alternatives?

Resources on Climate Change

Website of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Climate Change, and Indigenous Peoples: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs: Indigenous Peoples

<https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/climate-change.html>

BBC News Science and Environment guide to climate change: “What is climate change? A really simple guide” (May 2020) <https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-24021772> Resources

Paper by James Hansen on climate change: “Climate Change in a Nutshell: The Gathering Storm” (2018)

https://www.columbia.edu/~jeh1/mailings/2018/20181206_Nutshell.pdf

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Special Report on climate change: Global Warming of 1.5C (2018) <https://www.ipcc.ch/sr15/>

U.S Global Change Research Program (USGCRP), 4th National Climate Assessment: Report (2018) <https://nca2018.globalchange.gov>

2. Extraction Economies

“Our entire economy is based on one big fundamental market failure, which is we’re not capturing the costs and externalities of burning these fossil fuels—in fact we’re subsidizing the burning of these fossil fuels. I think part of what these activists are doing is a tiny, tiny market correction on the failure to capture these costs, by imposing different costs.” (JT Haines, JD, in NECESSITY)

“People feel like their livelihoods depend on this industry that’s killing us all.” (Kelsey Skaggs, JD, in NECESSITY)

- a.** Several figures in the film discuss the economic and consequent political power of fossil fuel companies. What problems does the film point out in the current economics of fossil fuels? Who benefits from fossil fuel industries? Who pays for the effects of the fossil fuel economy? What are underlying systemic social and political conditions that make some communities more vulnerable than others?
- b.** In NECESSITY, Tara Houska discusses plans to meet with a credit-rating agency about lowering Enbridge Energy’s corporate credit rating, which was then at “A,” indicating “Low Risk” for investors. Better ratings enable corporations to access more capital, yet the degradation of the environment entailed in fossil-fuel projects is inherently “High Risk” for planetary well-being. Should credit-rating agencies be required to take into account these environmental risks, thus reducing corporate access to capital and to related political influence?
- c.** Engineer and pipeline safety expert Anthony Ingraffea points out that what the Valve Turners did in shutting down pipelines is the same thing a pipeline inspector might do as part of a Security Validation Assessment; we also see promotional footage from pipeline companies assuring the public that, in case of safety problems, they will shut down dangerous pipelines. What do you make of this footage? How does it contrast with comments from Enbridge about the Valve Turners’ actions? How does it contrast with Ingraffea’s comments on pipeline safety?
- d.** The lawyers with the Climate Defense Project met each other through a fossil-fuel divestment campaign. What are the goals of fossil-fuel divestment? If you or your employer have a bank account, loan, pension, or other investments, what do you know about how your money is invested?

Resources on Extraction Economies

ProPublica article by Lena V. Groeger on pipeline safety and safety failures: "Pipelines Explained: How Safe are America's 2.5 Million Miles of Pipelines?" (2012)

<https://www.propublica.org/article/pipelines-explained-how-safe-are-americas-2.5-million-miles-of-pipelines>

Humanities Journal article by Anna J. Willow on settler colonialism, extraction economies, and "extractivism": "Indigenous ExtrACTIVISM in Boreal Canada: Colonial Legacies, Contemporary Struggles and Sovereign Futures" (2016)

<https://www.mdpi.com/2076-0787/5/3/55>

NDN Collective article by Pennelys Droz on Indigenous Nations transforming economies: "Rebuilding Indigenous Economies and Remembering How to Creatively Thrive" (2019)

<https://ndncollective.org/rebuilding-indigenous-economies-and-remembering-how-to-creatively-thrive%ef%bb%bf/>

Article by Jessica Corbett in **Common Dreams**, "Fossil Fuel Industry Could Face \$25 Trillion Collapse Due to Clean Tech, Climate Policies, and Covid-19 Pandemic." (June 2020)

<https://www.commondreams.org/news/2020/06/04/fossil-fuel-industry-could-face-25-trillion-collapse-due-clean-tech-climate-policies>

Article in **The Guardian** by Emma Howard, "A beginner's guide to fossil fuel divestment"

(June 2015): A comprehensive guide to the basics of divestment: what it means, why the urgency and how it impacts climate change.

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/jun/23/a-beginners-guide-to-fossil-fuel-divestment>

Calendar Year	Number	Fatalities	Injuries	Total Cost Current Year Dollars
2000	290	38	81	\$272,169,219
2001	233	7	61	\$83,588,483
2002	258	12	49	\$131,617,050
2003	297	12	71	\$173,502,025
2004	309	23	56	\$333,167,284
2005	336	16	46	\$1,565,984,067
2006	257	19	34	\$166,816,094
2007	264	15	46	\$157,040,290
2008	278	8	54	\$627,528,955
2009	275	13	62	\$191,517,571
2010	264	19	103	\$1,966,084,186
2011	285	11	50	\$473,959,037
2012	255	10	54	\$247,957,147
2013	303	8	42	\$396,859,739
2014	302	19	94	\$333,868,015
2015	330	9	48	\$364,796,711
2016	309	16	86	\$390,378,617
2017	303	7	30	\$325,724,416
2018	290	6	81	\$1,932,793,481
2019	308	13	35	\$303,709,454
Grand Total	5,746	281	1,183	\$10,439,061,842

PHMSA Pipeline Incidents: Multi-Year Averages (2000-2019)

Incident Type: Significant **System Type:** (All Column Values) **State:** (All Column Values)

Chart from the U.S. Department of Transportation, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) lists significant incidents (those including any of the following: Fatality or injury requiring in-patient hospitalization &/or 2. \$50,000 or more in total costs, measured in 1984 dollars, &/or 3. Highly volatile liquid releases of 5 barrels or more or other liquid releases of 50 barrels or more &/or 4. Liquid releases resulting in an unintentional fire or explosion) but excludes those that began because of a fire or explosion.

3. Environmental Racism

“The Dakota Access Pipeline was originally supposed to go through Bismarck, North Dakota, like through the watershed right there. Because of concerns to the drinking water, they rerouted it next to the reservation. So Bismarck’s water mattered, but the reservation’s water did not. Environmental racism doesn’t get any clearer than that.” (Tara Houska, JD, in NECESSITY)

a. Tara Houska points out that the Dakota Access Pipeline was rerouted to preserve the safety of the water supply for Bismarck, South Dakota, but the substitute route threatens the water of the Standing Rock Sioux and the Cheyenne River Sioux tribes. What does this tell us about the problem of environmental racism?

b. What other instances of environmental racism do we hear about in the film, or are you familiar with in other communities?

c. How are sources of environmental dangers distributed in your region? Are there actions you can take to address issues of environmental racism?

Resources for Environmental Racism

Journal article by David Pellow on environmental justice, Black Lives Matter, and state violence:

“Towards a Critical Environmental Justice Studies: Black Lives Matter as an Environmental Justice Challenge.”

https://www.academia.edu/27800797/TOWARD_A_CRITICAL_ENVIRONMENTAL_JUSTICE_STUDIES_Black_Lives_Matter_as_an_Environmental_Justice_Challenge

Academic journal article in Progress in Human Geography by Laura Pulido, **“Geographies of race and ethnicity II: Environmental racism, racial capitalism and state-sanctioned violence”** (2016)

<https://nycstandswithstandingrock.files.wordpress.com/2016/10/pulido-2016.pdf>

Rolling Stone article by Antonia Juhasz on the most polluted regions of the United States: **“Louisiana’s ‘Cancer Alley’ is Getting Even More Toxic—But Residents Are Fighting Back”** (2019)

<https://www.rollingstone.com/politics/politics-features/louisiana-cancer-alley-getting-more-toxic-905534/>

Kairos Center testimony by Sharon Lavigne on the fight for life in Death Alley: **“The Fight for Life in Death Alley: Testimony from Sharon Lavigne, St. James, Louisiana”**

<https://kairoscenter.org/the-fight-for-life-in-death-alley-sharon-lavigne-testimony/>

Bioneers article excerpting the book As Long As Grass Grows: **The Indigenous Fight for Environmental Justice, from Colonization to Standing Rock** by Dina Gilio-Whitaker: As Long as Grass Grows: The Indigenous Fight for Environmental Justice (2019)

<https://bioneers.org/the-indigenous-fight-for-environmental-justice-ze0z1906/>

4. Disruption to Food Systems/Sacred Sites

“They want this pipeline in the middle of all of this. The tribal council was forced with a decision. We have to decide which wild rice lakes we are going to sacrifice, if there is a leak.” (Debra Topping, Water Protector, in NECESSITY)

a. Tara Houska points out that the Dakota Access Pipeline was rerouted to preserve the safety of the water supply for Bismarck, South Dakota, but the substitute route threatens the water and wild rice beds of the Sioux. What does the film tell us about the importance of wild rice?

b. How should society decide what ways of life to value, particularly if one way of life fundamentally threatens another way of life? Consider the dominant society’s overconsumption and reliance on resources (like oil and gas) vs. Native communities’ need for clean water and traditional food economies to live.

c. What is the meaning of the word “sacred”? How do Native peoples understand the sacred, and how does this influence their politics and perspectives on pipeline projects?

d. Discuss how you would feel about an oil pipeline cutting through your back yard or a family property. How would you respond to such a project and what actions would you take to defend your land?

Resources for Disruption to Food Systems/Sacred Sites

Article by Jennifer Bjorhus in **Star Tribune**, “Minnesota tribe asks: Can wild rice have its own legal rights? Maneuver to inject nature into modern law faces long odds” (February 2019)
<https://www.startribune.com/minnesota-tribe-asks-can-wild-rice-have-its-own-legal-rights/505618712/>

Chapter by Kyle Powys Whyte on “Indigenous Food Systems, Environmental Justice, and Settler-Industrial States” In **Global Food, Global Justice: Essays on Eating under Globalization**. (2015).
https://kylewhyte.marcom.cal.msu.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/12/2018/07/IP_Food_Systems__EJ_and_Settler_States1-1-16.pdf

Indigenous Food System Network <https://www.indigenousfoodsystems.org/food-sovereignty>

Article in **Scientific American** by Daniel Cusick, “Climate Change Threatens the Ancient Wild Rice Traditions of the Ojibwe” (June 2020). Yields of native wild rice have shrunk due to temperature rise, shoreline erosion and other environmental problems.
<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/climate-change-threatens-the-ancient-wild-rice-traditions-of-the-ojibwe/>

Article in **Religion and Politics** by Michael D. McNally, “Defend the Sacred: How Native Americans Protect Their Religious Freedom” (May 2020). |
<https://religionandpolitics.org/2020/05/19/defend-the-sacred-how-native-americans-protect-their-religious-freedom/>

5. Water Protectors and Land Defenders

“They came to this one place in hopes that there is a better life and future for themselves and their children. A better world is necessary at this point.”

(Ernesto Burbank, Water Protector, in NECESSITY)

- a.** In the film, we see a commemoration of Indigenous Peoples’ Day in Duluth, Minnesota, attended by some of the principal figures in the film. How is this event important to the film’s story? What are some ways Indigenous people have a particular stake in problems of climate change and environmental degradation?
- b.** In NECESSITY, we hear about the cruel irony of arresting Native people for trespassing on land that was taken from them, which they are trying to protect to sustain their livelihoods. What challenges does this pose to current legal structures? What systemic changes are needed in order to protect the environment and honor and respect Native people and their land?
- c.** Native communities have claimed to be “Water Protectors” and “Land Defenders” and NOT “Protesters.” What in the term “protestor” are they rejecting and what differences in perspectives, worldviews, and relationships do Native people illustrate through the creation of terms like “Water Protectors” and “Land Defenders”?
- d.** Many Native communities have stories of “the cannibal”: an insatiable creature that consumes everything it can without consideration of the damage that is done. The more the cannibal consumes, the more it hungers to consume. Prior to contact with a settler society, Native people may have told these stories during winter to warn against greed and selfish behavior; when settlers came, many Native people saw the cannibal at work in the economies of European colonizers who took from the land without restraint. Native scholar Dr. Jack D. Forbes noted in the 1970s that American society suffered from a cannibal psychosis (or illness) that made the overconsumption of resources normalized for most people in this society. If we are in fact living in a society in the throes of the cannibal psychosis, what can be done to counteract this social malady? What can you do as an individual/community member to change the way you, your household, and/or your broader community sees and relates to extraction economies, understands consumption of resources, and addresses greedy or selfish behavior?

Resources for Water Protectors and Land Defenders

Chapters by Roxane Dunbar-Ortiz, "Introduction" and "'Indian Country'" in her An Indigenous People's History of the United States. (2014)

<https://nycstandswithstandingrock.files.wordpress.com/2016/10/dunbar-ortiz-2014.pdf>

Post by Nick Estes (Lower Brule Sioux). "Fighting for Our Lives: #NoDAPL in Historical Context." The Red Nation (September 2016).

<https://therednation.org/2016/09/18/fighting-for-our-lives-nodapl-in-context/>

Text article for Public Radio International (PRI) by Allison Herrera, "Standing Rock activists: Don't call us protesters. We're water protectors" (October 2016)

<https://www.pri.org/stories/2016-10-31/standing-rock-activists-dont-call-us-protesters-were-water-protectors>

Opinion article in New York Times by Ferris Jabr, "The Earth Is Just as Alive as You Are: Scientists once ridiculed the idea of a living planet. Not anymore." (April 2019).

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/04/20/opinion/sunday/amazon-earth-rain-forest-environment.html>

Text and audio report by Dustin Dwyer at Michigan Radio, "'We've never had justice': How the Supreme Court rigged land deals against native people" (October 2018).

<https://www.michiganradio.org/post/weve-never-had-justice-how-supreme-court-rigged-land-deals-against-native-people>



6. The Necessity Defense

“The necessity defense is saying, simply, Hey, we got a problem here, the earth is dying. Your children? They’re not going to be able to live on this earth the way you did.” (Ernesto Burbank, Water Protector, in NECESSITY)

a. The legal strategy of the necessity defense has four components: protesters must demonstrate that 1) the protest is meant to avert a harm greater than the harm that it caused; 2) there were no lawful alternatives available other than protest to accomplish the goal; 3) the harm it meant to avert was imminent; and 4) the protest did contribute to averting the harm that it sought to avert. How do we see each of these points being met by the activists in the film?

b. Alice Cherry and Anthony Ingraffea both mention the idea that the dismissal of charges against the Valve Turners was a strategic loss on the part of the Enbridge, because the company didn’t want the publicity of the case arguing the immediate threat of climate change and they couldn’t afford a ruling that shutting down their pipelines was indeed warranted by necessity. What do these comments suggest about the role of corporations in the US legal system? What might change if the necessity defense had been presented and successful?

c. The Haudenosaunee philosophy of 7 generation thinking teaches that human beings should consider their every action and decision by how it will impact the 7 generations that come after us. Actions and decisions should always contribute to a balanced and sustainable world for our descendants. Do you think the United States society is currently working to leave a balanced and sustainable world for the generations that will follow us? Why or why not? What actions and decisions will become necessary to align the U.S. society with generational thinking?

Resources for the Necessity Defense

Climate Defense Center, **"Climate Change: What's Law Got To Do With It?"** An overview of the current legal framework of the United States as it relates to climate change, as well as tentative proposals for the effective use of legal tools by the climate movement.

<https://climatedefenseproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/Climate-Law-6.1.17.pdf>

Climate Disobedience Center, **"The Climate Necessity Defense: A Legal Tool for Climate Activists"**

<http://www.climatedisobedience.org/necessitydefense>

Climate Disobedience Center, **"The necessity defense: not the end, but a means"**

http://www.climatedisobedience.org/necessity_strategy

Article by Naveena Sadasivam at Grist, **"Indigenous tribes are at the forefront of climate change planning in the U.S."** (February 2020)

<https://grist.org/climate/indigenous-tribes-are-at-the-forefront-of-climate-change-planning-in-the-u-s/>

Article by Jonathan Davis at Wild Open, **"We Are Not Defending Nature, We Are Nature Defending Itself"** (July 2019)

<http://www.wildopen.net/we-are-nature-defending-itself/>

7. Civil Disobedience and Pipeline Resistance

**“If we can’t say no to this, then the question is, what can we say no to?”
(Bruce Snyder, MD, in NECESSITY)**

- a.** In the film, we see images of those who have engaged in civil disobedience in the past, including abolitionist John Brown, contraception advocate Margaret Sanger, evolution teacher John Scopes, Civil Rights activists Rosa Parks and Martin Luther King, Jr., as well as other participants in battles for abolition of slavery, for women’s right to vote, for Indigenous rights, and against legal segregation. To what extent were you already familiar with the role of civil disobedience in social change? How has civil disobedience contributed to social change in the past?
- b.** Several figures in the film observe that law enforcement and the justice system may give different treatment to white protesters as opposed to Indigenous protestors or other protestors of color. What are some of the ways this treatment differs? How can those least at risk support those more likely to be targeted by law enforcement in the struggle against damage to our shared environment?
- c.** In light of the murder of George Floyd, a Black man killed in Minneapolis in May 2020 by a white police officer, and the national protests that followed, what is the role of direct action and civil disobedience in our society today? How are these types of actions viewed by the broader society? To what extent do these types of actions effect change in meaningful ways?



Resources for Civil Disobedience and Pipeline Resistance

Article by Mason Adams in **Mother Jones**, "How a 'Bunch of Badass Queer Anarchists' Are Teaming Up With Locals to Block a Pipeline Through Appalachia" (May 2020).

"People that grow up in places like this, seeing their environment destroyed, it stirs them, it causes people to want to get involved, and that's why I'm here."

<https://www.motherjones.com/politics/2020/05/yellow-finch-mountain-valley-pipeline-appalachia/>

Article by Skyler Simmons in **Earth First!** Newswire, "From the Ashes of Standing Rock, a Beautiful Resistance is Born" (March 2017).

<https://earthfirstjournal.org/newswire/2017/03/15/from-the-ashes-of-standing-rock-a-beautiful-resistance-is-born/>

Text and audio of speech by Martin Luther King Jr. "Letter From a Birmingham Jail" (1963) at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Papers.

<https://kinginstitute.stanford.edu/king-papers/documents/letter-birmingham-jail>

Article by Alleen Brown at **The Intercept**, "A Powerful Petrochemical Lobbying Group Advanced Anti-Protest Legislation in the Midst of the Pandemic" (June 2020).

<https://theintercept.com/2020/06/07/pipeline-petrochemical-lobbying-group-anti-protest-law/>

Article by OluTimehin Adegbeye at **The Correspondent**, "No matter what you think of protesters, you have them to thank for society's progress" (January 2020).

<https://thecorrespondent.com/245/no-matter-what-you-think-of-protesters-you-have-them-to-thank-for-societys-progress/32432842750-005740a8>

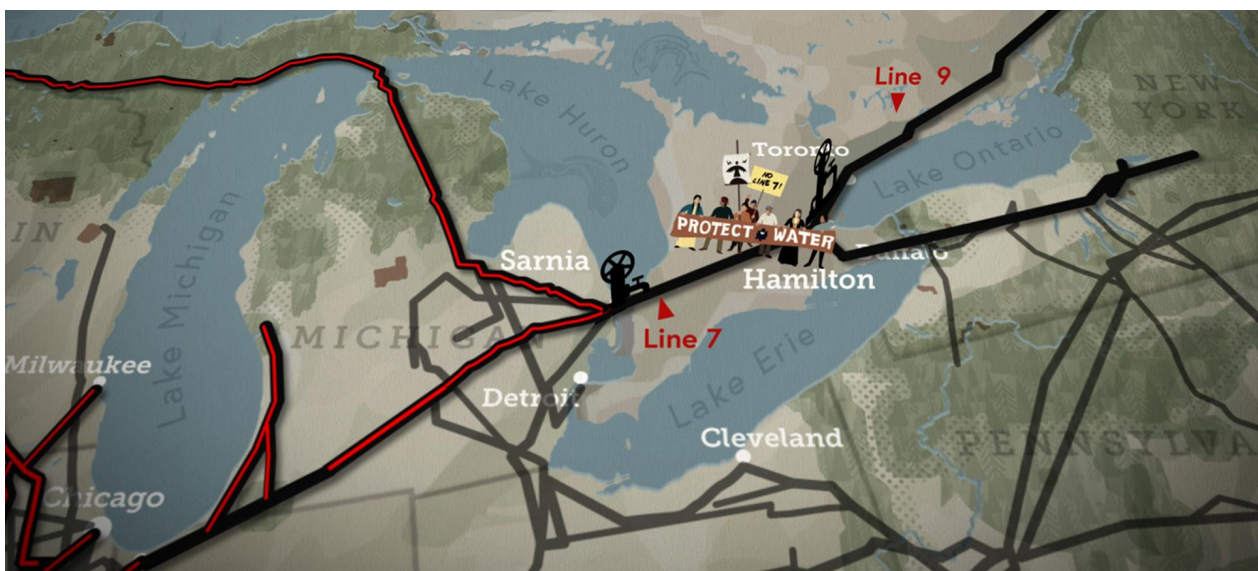
8. Pipeline Projects, Violence, and Gender: MMIW and Man Camps

**"I'm done being invisible. I'm done. You will hear me and you will see me."
(Debra Topping, Water Protector, Honor the Earth, in NECESSITY)**

a. Native American women and girls are statistically (percentage/per capita) more likely to go missing or to be murdered than any other racial group in the United States. What do you think are some of the conditions that led to this gruesome reality? How do extractive economies contribute to the continued abuse of Native women and girls?

b. What are "man camps" and how do they contribute to increased violence against Native American women and girls?

c. Since the Covid-19 pandemic, many pipeline projects have not only continued but have sped up their efforts, calling this work "essential infrastructure" and "essential work." Much of this work is done near Native American communities and reservations (which can lead to increased violence against Native women and girls and increased concern over Covid-19 transmission). Tribal communities have pointed out the multifaceted ways that pipeline projects threaten their health and safety, but these concerns are rarely heard by politicians and corporations. In light of these safety and health concerns how do you respond to the claim that these are essential projects? What can you and your community do to raise awareness of these issues and what can you do to join in defending tribes' safety and health?



Resources for Pipeline Projects, Violence, and Gender: MMIW and Man Camps

Chapter by Christina Heatherton, 2016. "Policing the Crisis of Indigenous Lives: An Interview with the Red Nation" in Policing the Planet: Why the Policing Crisis Led to Black Lives Matter (2016).

<https://nycstandswithstandingrock.files.wordpress.com/2016/10/heatherton-2016.pdf>

Report from Human Rights Watch, "Those Who Take us Away: Abusive Policing and Failures in Protection of Indigenous Women and Girls in North British Columbia, Canada" (2013). <https://www.hrw.org/report/2013/02/13/those-who-take-us-away/abusive-policing-and-failures-protection-Indigenous-women>

An Open Letter to President Trump from Seeding Sovereignty MMIWGT2SR - Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, Trans, Two-Spirits and Relatives, "Five Asks for May 5th Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives Awareness Day" (May 2020) <https://seedingsovereignty.org/mmiwgt2s>

Article in Bustle magazine by Eryn Wise, "This Is The Frightening Way Fossil Fuels & Violence Against Native Women Are Connected" (April 2018) <https://www.bustle.com/p/this-is-the-frightening-way-fossil-fuels-violence-against-native-women-are-connected-8858200>

Article at Indianz news by Acee Agoyo, "Native women confront missing and murdered task force over Trump's role in crisis" (June 2020). Includes an extensive list of links to related stories. <https://www.indianz.com/News/2020/06/03/native-women-confront-trump-administrati.asp>

Article at Yes! Magazine by Abaki Beck, "Why Aren't Fossil Fuel Companies Held Accountable for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women?" (October 2019). "Resource extraction takes a toll on more than just the economy and the environment." <https://www.yesmagazine.org/environment/2019/10/05/native-fossil-fuel-missing-murdered-indigenous-women-mmiwg/>

9. Take Action

**“There is love in resistance and there is beauty in struggle.”
(Tara Houska, JD, in NECESSITY)**

- a.** Has the film changed your thinking about climate activism? If so, how? What parts of the film did you find most compelling or memorable?
- b.** List anything in the film that inspired you or made you angry. Choose one item from your list and follow up on it. Research it and suggest possible actions, or find organizations working on the issue and ask them what they are doing and how you can help.

WAYS YOU CAN TAKE ACTION

Action for change takes a wide variety of forms, from beginning to think and learn about an issue, to doing research, to participating in or organizing discussions, to exerting pressure to change things through public discussion or demonstration, pressuring legislators, and taking direct action. What sort of action are you prepared to take now? How might you begin?

SUPPORT AN ORGANIZATION

Support the organizations that do the work, and stay informed on their activities. Tell interested friends and colleagues about the work these groups are doing. These organizations need your support! To stay informed about what they are up to, sign up on their email lists and/or digital alerts.

EDUCATE YOURSELF & OTHERS

Educate yourself further: explore the resources in this guide as well as others recommended by groups doing this work. text

JOIN A GROUP

Join a group already working on these issues; support a group working on these issues; share money and resources

Work in your union, neighborhood, school, community of worship, or other group to support climate justice.

OTHER WAYS TO SUPPORT THE MOVEMENT

ASK YOUR LEGISLATOR

Write letters to political decision makers, letters to the editor, or op-eds to share what you've learned. You can find a guide to writing Op-Eds from Climate Nexus: <https://climatenexus.org/communications-climate-change/writing-and-pitching-op-eds/>. You can find a guide to writing letters to the Editor from the Union of Concerned Scientists: <https://www.ucsusa.org/resources/writing-effective-letter-editor>

Provide public testimony on impending policy decisions about which you are knowledgeable, and work with groups who track and work to influence these regulations, rulings, and laws.

HOST A SCREENING

NECESSITY: Oil, Water and Climate Resistance - the documentary can be accessed at <https://www.necessitythemovie.com>

SUPPORT FRONTLINE COMMUNITIES

Support frontline communities, Indigenous rights, direct action and divestment campaigns. There are many groups working on these issues. Here are some:

Indigenous Peoples Power Project (IP3). Provides nonviolent direct action training, campaign support, and community organizing tools to support indigenous communities taking action in defense of their homelands.

<https://ip3action.org/>

The Climate Justice Alliance (CJA) formed in 2013 as a coalition of Black Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) organizations working on climate issues.

<https://climatejusticealliance.org/>

Rising Tide North America, environmental and social justice direct action organization.

<https://risingtidenorthamerica.org/>

Indigenous Environmental Network (IEN) is an alliance of Indigenous Peoples whose Shared Mission is to Protect the Sacredness of Earth Mother from contamination & exploitation by Respecting and Adhering to Indigenous Knowledge and Natural Law.

<https://www.ienearth.org/>

Mazaka Talks ("mazaka" is a Lakota word for "money") seeks to leverage economic power to fight repression of indigenous rights and desecration of Mother Earth.

<https://mazaskatalks.org/>

Some Contested Pipeline Projects

Jordan Cove LNG / Pacific Connector Pipeline

Dakota Access Pipeline

Keystone XL Pipeline (Alberta to Nebraska)

Coastal GasLink pipeline

Jordan Cove LNG / Pacific Connector Pipeline

Holding the Thin Green Line Podcast: The Long and Twisted Tale of Jordan Cove LNG (big picture on the campaign, includes interviews from Coos & Klamath Tribal council members)

holdingthethingreenline.org/jordan-cove-slide-show/

The campaign to stop the proposed Pacific Connector fracked gas Pipeline and Jordan Cove LNG export Terminal in Southern Oregon: NO LNG Exports

<https://www.nolngexports.org/>

Congressional letter to Chair of Federal Energy Regulatory Commission calling for a moratorium on the approval and construction of new natural gas pipeline projects and Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) export facilities during COVID-19 pandemic. (April 2020)

<https://raskin.house.gov/sites/raskin.house.gov/files/FINAL%20LETTER%20-%204.15.20%20Letter%20to%20FERC%20re%20Pipeline%20Approval%20Moratorium.pdf>

Investigative report by Will Parrish and Alleen Brown at The Intercept, "Paid by the Pipeline: A Canadian Energy Company Bought an Oregon Sheriff's Unit" (February 2020): Pembina Pipeline Corp., the Canadian fossil fuel company that owns the Jordan Cove project, was for four years the sole funding source of a unit in the Coos County Sheriff's Office dedicated to handling security concerns related to the project and protests against it.

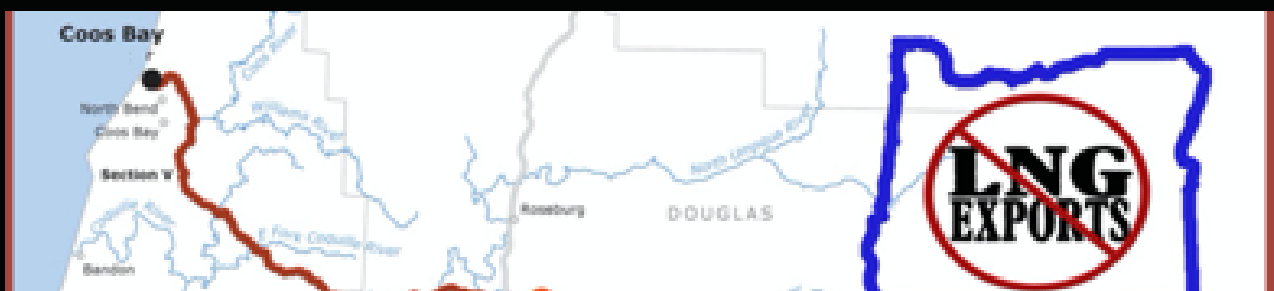
<https://theintercept.com/2020/02/12/jordan-cove-oregon-pembina-pipeline/>

Oregonian Opinion from Klamath Tribal member Ka'ila Farrell-Smith: Why I refuse to hang my paintings in Gov. Brown's office (September 2019)

<https://www.oregonlive.com/opinion/2019/09/opinion-why-i-refuse-to-hang-my-paintings-in-gov-browns-office.html>

New York Times Guest Opinion from Chairman of the Klamath Tribes Don Gentry: The Next Standing Rock? A pipeline battle looms in Oregon (2018)

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/03/08/opinion/standing-rock-pipeline-oregon.html>



Dakota Access Pipeline

Article in New York Times by Saul Elbein, "The Youth Group That Launched a Movement at Standing Rock" (January 2017)

[nytimes.com/2017/01/31/magazine/the-youth-group-that-launched-a-movement-at-standing-rock.html](https://www.nytimes.com/2017/01/31/magazine/the-youth-group-that-launched-a-movement-at-standing-rock.html)

Video, audio, and transcript of Democracy Now episode on "Colonial Pipeline Crisis: It's About a Lot More Than Rising Gas Prices" (November 2016)

https://www.democracynow.org/2016/11/3/colonial_pipeline_crisis_its_about_a



Article by Mark Trahan at Yes! Magazine, "The Injustice at Standing Rock Is an American Story" (October 2016)

<https://www.yesmagazine.org/orphan/2016/10/28/injustice-at-standing-rock-injustice-everywhere/>

Article by Nina Lakhani in The Guardian, "Dakota access pipeline: court strikes down permits in victory for Standing Rock Sioux" (March 2020) Army corps of engineers ordered to conduct full environmental review, which could take years. <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2020/mar/25/dakota-access-pipeline-permits-court-standing-rock>

Keystone XL Pipeline (Alberta to Nebraska)

A list of The New York Times articles focused on the Keystone Pipeline.

<https://www.nytimes.com/topic/subject/keystone-xl-pipeline>

350.org Information on Keystone XL Pipeline: <https://350.org/stop-keystone-xl/>

National Geographic article by Stephen Leahy about tar sands oil: "This is the world's most destructive oil operation—and it's growing"

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/environment/2019/04/alberta-canadas-tar-sands-is-growing-but-indigenous-people-fight-back/>

Coastal GasLink pipeline

Article in The Narwhal by Amber Bracken discusses the threat to the Wet'suwet'en Nation's cultural and ancestral sites: "They are erasing our history": Indigenous Sites Buried Under Coastal GasLink Pipeline

<https://thenarwhal.ca/they-are-erasing-our-history-indigenous-sites-buried-under-coastal-gaslink-pipeline-infrastructure/>

This website hosts information about the No-Coastal GasLink pipeline activities and the Unist'ot'en Camp: Unist'ot'en: Heal the People, Heal the Land

<https://unistoten.camp/no-pipelines/background-of-the-campaign/>

Article by D.T. Cochrane at The Conversation, "Corporations don't seem to understand Indigenous jurisdiction" (January 2019)

<https://theconversation.com/corporations-dont-seem-to-understand-indigenous-jurisdiction-109608>

Photo essay by Amber Bracken at The Narwhal, "Wet'suwet'en matriarchs arrested as RCMP enforce Coastal GasLink pipeline injunction" (February 2020)

<https://thenarwhal.ca/in-photos-wetsuweten-matriarchs-arrested-as-rcmp-enforce-coastal-gaslink-pipeline-injunction/>

Additional Resources

Indigenous Sites & Rights

Books

Websites & Articles

On themes in NECESSITY

Pipelines

Indigenous Sites and Rights

Atlas of Indigenous Territories

<https://native-land.ca/>

The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) was adopted by the General Assembly on Thursday, 13 September 2007 and is the most comprehensive international instrument on the rights of indigenous peoples: United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People

<https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/declaration-on-the-rights-of-indigenous-peoples.html>

Standing Rock Syllabus

<https://nycstandswithstandingrock.wordpress.com/standingrocksyllabus/>

Books

Roxane Dunbar-Ortiz, **An Indigenous People's History of the United States** (2014)

Nick Estes, **Our History is the Future: Standing Rock Versus the Dakota Access Pipeline, and the Long Tradition of Indigenous Resistance** (2019)

Jack D. Forbes, **Columbus and Other Cannibals: The Wetiko Disease of Exploitation, Imperialism, and Terrorism** (1979, revised 1992 and 2008).

Robin Wall Kimmerer, **Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants** (2015)

Naomi Klein, **This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs. the Climate** (2014)

Websites & Articles

Climate Research

IPCC Special Report on 1.5C <https://www.ipcc.ch/sr15/>
National Climate Assessment <https://nca2018.globalchange.gov>
Climate Central <https://www.climatecentral.org>
Climate Signals <https://www.climatesignals.org>

Climate Justice Organizations

Honor the Earth <http://www.honorearth.org>
350.org <https://350.org/get-involved/>
Sunrise Movement <https://www.sunrisemovement.org>
Extinction Rebellion <https://rebellion.earth>
Indigenous Peoples Power Project (IP3) <https://ip3action.org/>
The Climate Justice Alliance (CJA) <https://climatejusticealliance.org/>
Rising Tide North America <https://risingtidenorthamerica.org/>

Just Transition

Just Transition <http://www.just-transition.info/resources/>
Next System <https://thenextsystem.org>
Movement Generation <https://movementgeneration.org/justtransition/>

Action Resources

Beautiful Trouble <https://beautifulrising.org>
Ruckus Society <https://ruckus.org>
Climate Disobedience Center <http://www.climatedisobedience.org>

Legal

Climate Defense Project <https://climatedefenseproject.org>
Civil Liberties Defense Center <https://cldc.org>
Know Your Rights ACLU <https://www.aclu.org/know-your-rights/protesters-rights/>
Know Your Rights National Lawyers Guild <https://www.nlg.org/know-your-rights/>

Activist Organizations

350.org

<https://350.org>

An international group founded in 2008 and named for the safe concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, 350 parts per million, 350 pursues a wide range of approaches and issues. The many local chapter affiliates share knowledge and values but operate independently of the 350.org umbrella.

Extinction Rebellion (XR)

<https://extinctionrebellion.us>

Known for highly-visible public demonstrations and direct action, XR calls for government action, citizens assemblies, just transition, and more. Local groups operate autonomously within the shared demands and values.

Sunrise Movement

<https://www.sunrisemovement.org>

Focused on mobilizing young people to achieve a Green New Deal in the USA.

Honor the Earth

<https://www.honorearth.org>

Has a mission to create awareness and support for Native environmental issues and to develop needed financial and political resources for the survival of sustainable Native communities. Honor the Earth develops these resources by using music, the arts, the media, and Indigenous wisdom

On Themes in NECESSITY

Extraction Economies

Chapter by Alberto Acosta, "Extractivism and neoextractivism: two sides of the same curse," in **Beyond Development: Alternative Visions from Latin America**. (2013).

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Article by Judith Lewis Mernit from **Capital and Main** on "Balancing the Books on Climate Change: Green energy investment comes with a steep price tag. So too does business as usual. " (June 2020)

<https://capitalandmain.com/inaction-cost-climate-change-0603>

Go Fossil Free Information on Divestment

<https://gofossilfree.org/divestment/what-is-fossil-fuel-divestment/>

Climate Alliance Mapping Project information on Divestment and Reinvestment

<https://climatealliancemap.org/resources/divestment-reinvestment/>

New Economy Coalition information on the Move Your Money Campaign

<https://neweconomy.net/join-move-your-money-movement>

Article by Kim Maida in **Cultural Survival Quarterly Magazine**, "Divest, Invest, Protect: Indigenous Women Lead Divestment Campaign" (February 2018)

<https://www.culturalsurvival.org/publications/cultural-survival-quarterly/divest-invest-protect-indigenous-women-lead-divestment>

North American Congress on Latin America (NACLA) article by Nicole Fabricant and Bret Gustafson on Extractivism, global capitalism, and imagining new social economies: "Moving Beyond the Extractivism Debate, Imagining New Social Economies" (2015)

<https://nacla.org/article/moving-beyond-extractivism-debate-imagining-new-social-economies>

Movement Generation, Justice and Ecology Project: Transition is Inevitable, Justice is Not: A Critical Framework for Just Recovery

<https://movementgeneration.org/transition-is-inevitable-justice-is-not-a-critical-framework-for-just-recovery/>

Environmental Racism

Scholarly essay by Arnim Scheidela et al., in **Global Environmental Change**, "Environmental conflicts and defenders: A global overview" (July 2020), demonstrating that bottom-up mobilizations for more sustainable and socially just uses of the environment are largely nonviolent and effective, but defenders are frequently subjected to criminalization, violence, and assassination, especially when the defenders are Indigenous people. Offers recommendations to enhance success and safety.

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0959378020301424?via%3Dihub>

Annual Review of Environment and Resources article by Dara O'Rourke and Sarah Connelly on the distribution of environmental and social impacts of oil production and consumption: "Just Oil? The Distribution of Environmental and Social Impacts of Oil Production and Consumption." (2003)

<https://nycstandswithstandingrock.files.wordpress.com/2016/10/orourke-and-connelly-2003.pdf>

Disruption to food systems/sacred sites

Post by Scott Russell on **Healing Minnesota Stories** blog on “Anishinaabe ‘Rights of Manoomin’ Laws Create Legal Basis to Protect Sacred Wild Rice” (January 2019)

<https://healingmnstories.wordpress.com/2019/01/12/anishinaabe-rights-of-manoomin-laws-create-legal-basis-to-protect-sacred-wild-rice/>

with link to press release from The White Earth Band of Ojibwe and the 1855 Treaty Authority, “Chippewa Establish Rights Of Manoomin On White Earth Reservation And Throughout 1855 Ceded Territory”

<https://healingmnstories.files.wordpress.com/2019/01/right-of-manoomin-media-statement.pdf>

Chapter by Harriet V. Kuhnlein, Ph.D. “Why are Indigenous Peoples’ food systems important and why do they need documentation?” in **Indigenous Peoples’ Food Systems: the many dimensions of culture, diversity and environment for nutrition and health**, from Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Centre for Indigenous Peoples’ Nutrition and Environment. Rome 2009 **<http://www.fao.org/3/i0370e/i0370e01.pdf>**

Water Protectors and Land Defenders

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The Necessity Defense & Law

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Indigenous-Centered Legal Support & Knowledge Sharing for Earth Protectors

<https://waterprotectorlegal.org/>

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<https://climatedefenseproject.org/resources/>

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<https://www.rogueclimate.org/rehearingrequest>

Site for Oregonians to call on their Congressional delegation to support a moratorium on approval and construction of new fracked gas pipeline projects and Liquified Natural Gas (LNG) export facilities for the duration of the FEMA-declared public health emergency.

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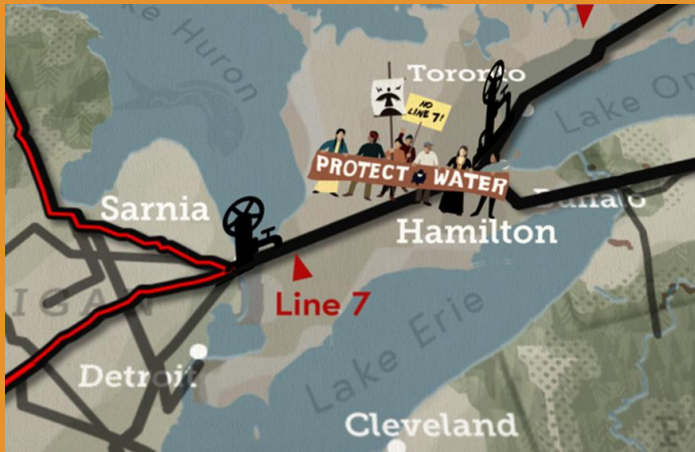
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