Committee for a Constructive Tomorrow (CFACT)

The Committee for a Constructive Tomorrow gets significant funding from big oil, and has been known to rally behind anti-government extremists, make racist and transphobic statements, spread climate change disinformation, and promote fringe conspiracy theories.

Summary: The Committee for a Constructive Tomorrow (CFACT) is a climate denial group peddling disinformation and fighting green policies. CFACT <u>spreads disinformation</u> about the Biden Administration's <u>America the Beautiful Conservation initiative</u> that aims to conserve 30% of lands and waters by 2030, as well as climate science, while saying the "real threat" is policies like clean energy and federal management of public lands.

To spread disinformation and create fear amongst supporters, <u>CFACT pushes conspiracy theories</u> like equating green policies to Nazi Germany and saying COVID-19 and climate policies were designed to work together to destroy the United States. CFACT promotes the Agenda 21 conspiracy theory <u>favored by anti-public land extremists</u> that a UN resolution from 1992 will destroy private property rights.

CFACT rallies behind anti-government extremists, even providing <u>supplies to the Canadian Truckers</u> occupying downtown Ontario and <u>praising the Bundys</u>. CFACT went so far as to equate the Bundy militia's occupation of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge with Tiananmen Square.

CFACT and its leadership use extremist statements and <u>attack people of color</u> in the Biden administration. Refusing to limit themselves to climate denial, CFACT uses its platform to <u>fearmonger about "critical race theory,"</u> attack support for transgender children, and say only immigrants who want to learn English should be allowed in the U.S.

CFACT and its climate denial are <u>funded by Big Oil</u>, getting over half a million dollars from Exxon and north of \$7.8M from Donors Trust and the Koch brothers networks.

In addition to denying climate change and spreading conspiracy theories, CFACT's leadership is aligned with anti-government extremists supporting violence and spreading misinformation about the 2020 election.

Co-founder and president Craig Rucker <u>falsely claims climate change is a hoax</u>. Rucker has spoken on Matt Shea's podcast, a former Washington state representative who repeatedly planned armed attacks against the country.

CFACT director of communications Marc Morano called for <u>climate scientists to be "publicly flogged</u>" and called for more riots across the country as the US Capitol was being invaded on <u>January 6th</u>.

BACKGROUND:

The Committee For A Constructive Tomorrow (CFACT) Is A Climate Denial Group Dedicated To Spreading Disinformation And Attacking Pro-Climate Policies

The Committee For A Constructive Tomorrow (CFACT) Is An "Ultra-Conservative Group That Denies The Existence Of Climate Change." "The letter, penned on behalf of the Committee for a Constructive Tomorrow (Cfact), an ultra-conservative group that denies the existence of climate change, suggests growing desperation about the prospects of a climate change deal emerging from the Paris meeting." [*The Guardian*, 06/26/15]

CFACT Is The Sponsor Of American Stewards Of Liberty's "Stop 30x30 Summit." [American Stewards Of Liberty, accessed <u>03/03/22</u>]

- The Summit Is Hosted By Nebraska Governor Pete Ricketts And Features Former Interior Secretary David Bernhardt, Rep Lauren Boebert, And Sen Kevin Cramer As Keynote Speakers. [American Stewards Of Liberty, accessed 03/03/22]
- "Put enough regulatory pressure on natural-resource industries so that many are forced out of business, and you will also destroy the livelihoods of the people who make their living in those industries. Eventually, enough will leave and decamp for urban areas in search of work. This is how rural cleansing works, and the people behind 30 by 30 know it. Depopulated rural areas are exactly what they want." [CFACT, 07/27/21]

CFACT Denies The Existence Of Global Warming And Praises Carbon Dioxide

CFACT Argued Global Warming Was Not Man Made, If It Was Even Happening. "But do not be fooled by the amateurish approach, these are serious people with a very important message: "Global warming is not man made and in fact may not be happening at all."" [The Telegraph, 12/09/09]

CFACT Gave A Presentation Praising The Benefits Of Carbon Dioxide And Denying Its Link To Global Warming At An ALEC Event. "Besides misrepresenting the subject matter of Terrell's session, Nelson and the legislators letter failed to mention that there were two sessions that did focus on climate change at ALEC's annual conference. [...] One, titled "How to Think and Talk about Climate and Energy Issues," was hosted by the Committee for a Constructive Tomorrow (CFACT), sponsor of the fact-challenged Climate Depot website. CFACT handed out a four-page document extolling the benefits of carbon dioxide and denying it is a primary cause of global warming." [HuffPost, 11/13/14]

A Speak On CFACT's Panel At CPAC Claimed Carbon Dioxide Levels Are Too Low And Were Recently So Low All Life On Earth Would End. "In fact, if carbon dioxide levels had continued dropping as they had, we were perilously close to losing all life on earth. We are still very close to the number." [YouTube, CFACT, 57:47, 03/01/21]

CFACT Dismisses The Occurrence Of Extreme Weather Events. "During one presentation by the World Meteorology Organization's Regional Climate Councils, panelists presented their respective observations of temperature data and alleged "extreme" weather events among the major regions of the planet." [CFACT, 11/03/21, archived 11/03/21]

CFACT Says Clean Energy Policies Are The Problem

CFACT's Marc Morano Blamed The Biden Administration's Green Energy Policies For The Russian Invasion Of Ukraine. ""This is about ideology. It's about the green agenda. This is about the Green New Deal. And it's about the real consequences of these policies, because now, instead of getting energy from stable democracies like Israel, we're more reliant on Russia." ... "Canceling this EastMed pipeline from Israel to Europe has just made Vladimir Putin's Russia much stronger."" [CFACT, 02/27/22]

CFACT Falsely Blamed Wind And Solar For The 2021 Blackouts In Texas.

"Unfortunately, "messing with Texas" is exactly what so-called "renewable" energy recently did with Lone Star residents. In mid-February, extreme cold temperatures rocked the state, as well as much of the nation. Yet, unlike the rest of America, Texas was also hit with widespread power outages leaving millions shivering in the cold. [...] In the weeks that followed, Leftist politicians and the media have embarked on an extensive PR campaign, trying to blame everything for the blackouts – except for wind and solar." [CFACT, 04/29/21]

Craig Rucker Dismissed The Struggle For Those Forced To Leave Their Homes Because Of Climate Change, Instead Saying "The Real Climate Refugees" Are Those Bothered By The Sound Of Wind Turbines. "Climate alarmists get huffy about "climate refugees" being displaced by chaotic weather. The real climate refugees, however, are the ones these alarmists create when people must flee their homes to avoid a constant, grating wind turbine noise." [Twitter, @CJRucker, 11/18/20]

CFACT Called Federal Control Of Public Lands "Bondage" And Used Fearmongering To Attack The Biden Administration's 30x30 Plan

CFACT Does Not Support Federal Control Of Public Lands. "CFACT believes that private individuals, incentivized to protect their property, will always do a better job at stewarding the environment than government bureaucrats. Private property has solved the tragedy of the commons, brought endangered species back from the brink of

extinction, helped feed billions of people, and is the cornerstone of a free society." [CFACT Campus, accessed 03/03/22]

Craig Rucker Called Federal Control Of Public Lands "Bondage." "Craig Rucker, CFACT Craig Rucker supports transferring federal public lands to states and referred to federal land ownership as "bondage." He said, "As long as the heavy hand of the federal government holds sway over the rural West, Western states will remain little more than colonies of the distant government in Washington Widespread private ownership of rural land has worked very well elsewhere in the United States, where our farms, ranches, orchards, and tree farms are the envy of the world. Similarly, most of [sic] nation's fracking-driven energy boom is taking place on private land. It's time to end the bondage of the rural West."" [The Montana Post, 11/09/17]

CFACT Opposes Climate Policies Across The Board, Filing Lawsuits To Block The Biden Administration's Interim Social Cost Of Carbon, Rejecting Efforts To Combat Environmental Racism, And Calling For Drilling In The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

CFACT Supports Drilling In Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. "Would drilling for oil in Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge harm the environment? Well many environmentalists say "yes," but the facts, especially as they relate to present oil drilling in Alaska, seem to suggest otherwise. According to the National Center for Public Policy Research, drilling at Alaska's North Slope has disrupted a mere 2 percent of the 250,000 acre field, and this has had no discernable impact on wildlife." [CFACT, 07/06/04]

CFACT Helps Other Organizations With Anti-Climate Policy Lawsuits Against The Biden Administration. "Empowering us to send people into Washington, into committee hearings, into the courts – because we are doing amicus briefs and we're helping a lot of these different organizations with their lawsuits – but giving the resources to groups like ours that can go out there and also fight the battle." [*The New American*, 03/31/21]

• CFACT Submitted An Amicus Brief Opposing The Biden Administration's Interim Social Cost Of Carbon. "The Committee For A Constructive Tomorrow (hereinafter "CFACT") respectfully submits this proposed Brief as Amicus Curiae in support of Plaintiffs in The States of Missouri, et al. v. Joseph R. Biden, Jr. et al., No. 4:21-CV-00287. The case focuses on the separation of state and federal powers and the speculative, inadequate, arbitrary and capricious analysis by the Interagency Working Group (hereinafter "Working Group" or "IWG") and its affiliated Federal Government agencies in setting "social costs" of greenhouse gases, to justify enormously expanding the federal regulatory reach, forcing the attempted substitution of "renewable" energy for hydrocarbon or "fossil fuel" energy, and intruding into virtually every aspect of Americans' lives, health and

living standards." [*The State Of Missouri et al V Biden*, Case No 4:21-CV-00287, 06/23/21]

CFACT Denied Environmental Racism And The Biden Administration's Efforts To Combat It. "Biden's so-called environmental justice push is going to bring on a big wave of bogus research. Everything is racist now apparently, even the environment." [Twitter, @CFACT, 05/10/21]

CFACT Called The Paris Climate Accords Goals To Limit Global Warming "Silly." "The Agreement has a hard (and silly) target of limiting future global warming to 2.0 degrees C above what are called pre-industrial levels. But there is also a softer (and sillier) target of 1.5 degrees. As usual with international agreements, the language is vague, but all the countries say they will go for 2 but try for 1.5." [CFACT, 02/05/18, archived 02/21/18]

Craig Rucker Opposed An International Climate Treaty At COP15. "CFACT arrived in Europe last week for the prelude to COP15 starting with a press conference at the European Parliament on Wednesday and an all day climate conference in Berlin, Friday. [...] I am confident that anyone listening to these experts with an open mind, anyone exmaning the mountains of scientific data and evidence surrounding this issue will conclude that no climate treaty should be signed in Copenhagen this December!" [Copenhagen National Journal, 12/09/09, archived 07/14/11]

Extremism: Promoting Conspiracy Theories

CFACT Promotes Conspiracy Theories To Spread Fear About Efforts To Combat Climate Change, Equating Pro-Climate Measures To Communist East Germany And Claiming Environmentalists Will Take Your Pets.

CFACT Founder And President Craig Rucker Called Concern Over Climate Change The "Greatest Threat" To Mankind Since "The Fall Of Twentieth Century Totalitarianism." "Ladies & Gentleman, mankind is in danger. The threat is real. Unless we, gathered here together resolve to take action there will be real and dire consequences. Never before in my lifetime has the danger been so real, so close, so palpable. The threat, however, is not from man-made global warming, but from man-made hysteria. Yesterday, some 10,000 delegates representing over 180 nations flew into this lovely city for the start of the United Nations conference on Climate Change. They represent the greatest threat to the health, safety, standard of living and hope for progress of all mankind since the fall of twentieth century totalitarianism." [Copenhagen National Journal, 12/09/09, archived 07/14/11]

CFACT Compared Smart Meters, A Tool That Allows Utilities And Consumers To Better Observe Their Energy Usage, To Communist East Germany. "In the old East Germany, one of the ways the Stasi kept the populace in line was through a carefully

selected and well-placed "Hausvertrauensmann," or residential confidential informant. [...] Communist East Germany has been mercifully gone for over 30 years, but the residential confidential informant is very much with us. In its new guise it's called the "smart meter." "A smart meter," according to Wikipedia, "is a device that records information such as consumption of electric energy, voltage levels, current, and power factor. Smart meters communicate the information to the consumer for greater clarity of consumption behavior, and electricity suppliers for system monitoring and customer billing."" [CFACT, 06/11/21]

CFACT Claims Climate Change Is Coming For Your "Freedom Of Speech," "Right To Defend Yourself," And "Your Pets." "The climate agenda is coming for your freedom of speech. They are linked with people that want to take away your right to defend yourself (and your pets I guess if they come for them). But when they come for your pets, that should be a bridge too far even for the most ardent leftist. I know people that value their pets over anything else. And a lot of them don't see things my way on climate. I wonder what they are thinking? (probably have no idea this was even said)." [CFACT, 05/06/21]

CFACT's Marc Morano Promoted The Extremist Conspiracy Theory About UN Agenda 21.

At CPAC 2021, Marc Morano Equated The Green New Deal With The UN Agenda 21, A Conspiracy Theory About Government Control Through Land Ownership. "And, by the way, there's a whole chapter [in my book] on the origin of the Green New Deal that's awfully eerily similar to the United Nation's Agenda 21 which came out under republican president George H W Bush when he went down to the Rio Earth Summit." [YouTube, CFACT, 29:11, 03/01/21]

• The Agenda 21 Conspiracy Theory Alleges That The United Nations Will Subvert American Private Property Rights Through A Nonbinding Resolution From 1992. "From one end of the country to the other, a 22-year-old, entirely voluntary United Nations planning document known as Agenda 21 has increasingly come under bitter attack from a wide array of far-right fearmongers. Led by nearly a dozen extremist groups and their propagandists, the plan — a document meant to help local communities deal with overpopulation, pollution, poverty and resource depletion — is being pilloried as a secret conspiracy to impose global governance. The end point, these ideologues insist, is the destruction of freedom and the onset of tyranny." [Southern Poverty Law Center, 04/01/14]

Extremism: Support For The Bundys' Anti-Public Lands Uprising

CFACT Praised The Bundys And Equated Their Militant Occupation Of The Malheur National Wildlife Refuge With Tiananmen Square.

CFACT Praised The Bundys' "Not Guilty" Verdict Following Their Militant Occupation Of The Malheur National Wildlife Refuge. "Score one for ranchers and property rights advocates: The Bundy Gang is Found Not Guilty" [Twitter, @CFACT, 10/28/16]

CFACT Equated The Bundy's Militia Occupation Of The Malheur National Wildlife Refuge With Tiananmen Square. "For now, southern Nevada's last rancher has won the week-long standoff that has been likened to Tiananmen Square. Reports state that "the BLM said it did so because it feared for the safety of employees and members of the public," not because it has changed its position." [CFACT, 04/15/14]

CFACT Provided Supplies To The Canadian Trucker Protesters.

CFACT Praised The Trucker Protest In Canada. "At time of writing, we're hearing reports of troop arrivals, as well as tear gas to be deployed on civilians. It's hard to tell what is real. Our hearts go out to the protestors. We stand in solidarity with them. #freedomconvoy #canadiantruckers #canada" [Twitter, @CFACT, <u>02/19/22</u>]

• **CFACT Sent Supplies To Truckers During The Protests.** "CFACT, for its part, has been, and will continue to, deliver essential food, fuel and basic necessities to those engaged in this epic battle for liberty. We will do this despite any threats and intimidation from the Trudeau government." [CFACT, <u>02/17/22</u>]

CFACT Spread Lies About Vaccines And Argued That COVID And Climate Change Policies Are Conspiracies To Destroy The Country.

CFACT Spread COVID-19 Vaccine Misinformation And Called Pandemic Policies A "Tactic Of Control." "Covid policy is a tactic to control. [...] Nature is a stronger and longer defense against COVID. [...] Now given the recent surge, if all this vax talk was true, then how is it we are seeing such a surge with so many fewer people that are supposedly the ones that are responsible. There are only 50 million "unprotected). Something is wrong here with what we are being told."

CFACT Claims COVID And Climate Policies Are A Conspiracy To "Destroy The American Experiment." "So for whatever reason, they have a Covid and Climate alliance, along with the other chaos they crave to gain control, that is the wave we are facing. […] Be it Covid, Climate, or whatever, there are just too many common links to ignore what is an almost otherworldly design to destroy the American experiment." [CFACT, 11/29/21]

Extremist Rhetoric

CFACT Attacked President Biden's Nominees Of Color And Blamed Kamala Harris During The Black Lives Matter Protests.

CFACT Called Comptroller Of The Currency Nominee, Saule Omarova, "Biden's Most Dangerous Nominee." "President Joe Biden's nominee to be Comptroller of the Currency, Saule Omarova, has disqualified herself from confirmation because of her self-described radical views on banks and the financial system. In addition, this nominee's hostility to cryptocurrencies, including Bitcoin, will pit the federal government against the continued existence in the United States of non-government-created digital currencies." [CFACT, 11/22/21]

Craig Rucker Attacked Interior Secretary Deb Haaland And EPA Administrator Michael Regan. "I think in actuality what we're seeing by his appointments of Regan in the EPA and Haaland in the Department of Interior is the left side of the Biden administration is coming out and kind of moving the agenda for him." [The New American, 03/31/21]

CFACT Argued "Systemic Racism Is Not Racism" And That Kamala Harris Is "**Making Things Worse" And Inciting People To Riot.** "Kamala Harris and the rest of her party are just making things worse. They are literally inciting people to riot. [...] Conclusion: Systemic racism is not racism. It is not even evidence of racism. That people think it is, and are being told so, is a destructive conceptual confusion. Instead of coming together we are being torn apart." [CFACT, 09/14/20]

Big Oil And Far-Right Funders

CFACT Is Funded By Big Oil, Getting Over Half A Million From Exxon Alone Over Ten Years.

CFACT Receives Money From Groups Opposed To Regulations. "Public records show that foundations opposing regulations, including major Trump donors such as the Mercer Family Foundation, donate millions annually to such groups, including the CO2 Coalition, Heartland and the Committee for a Constructive Tomorrow, to promote the false notion that climate fears are overblown." [*E&E News*, <u>08/16/21</u>]

CFACT Received \$582,000 From Exxon Between 1998 And 2007. "Greenpeace research director Kert Davies said CFACT is "part of the original team of what we call the denial machine," noting that CFACT received \$582,000 from Exxon Mobil Corp. between 1998 and 2007." [E&E News, 03/06/09]

Peabody Energy Gave \$50,000 To CFACT From 2014 To 2016. "Peabody donated at least \$133,500 in 2014 and 2015 to ALEC. The group did not respond to a request for comment. The Committee for a Constructive Tomorrow, a conservative Washington,

D.C., advocacy group whose communications director is Marc Morano -- a noted climate skeptic -- received \$50,000 in the same two-year period." [E&E News, <u>07/05/16</u>]

Murray Energy Funded CFACT. "Murray Energy also has funded FreedomWorks, the national conservative group associated with the Tea Party; the libertarian Cato Institute; the Committee for a Constructive Tomorrow; and Judicial Watch, which has backed Mr. Trump against impeachment." [New York Times, 12/17/19]

CFACT Received Over \$7.8M From Koch-Funded Donors Trust On Top Of Tens Of Thousands From Koch Foundations.

Donors Trust Gave \$7,880,387 To CFACT From 2008 To 2017.

- **Donors Trust Gave \$10,000 To CFACT In 2017.** [Donors Trust, 2017 Form 990, 11/15/18]
- **Donors Trust Gave \$6,000 To CFACT In 2015.** [ProPublica, Donors Trust, 2015 Form 990, <u>11/14/16</u>]
- **Donors Trust Gave \$300,000 To CFACT In 2013.** [ProPublica, Donors Trust, 2013 Form 990, <u>11/07/14</u>]
- **Donors Trust Gave \$3,694,210 To CFACT In 2012.** [ProPublica, Donors Trust, 2012 Form 990, <u>11/14/13</u>]
- **Donors Trust Gave \$1,189,730 To CFACT In 2011.** [ProPublica, Donors Trust, 2011 Form 990, <u>11/14/12</u>]
- **Donors Trust Gave \$1,280,753 To CFACT In 2010.** [ProPublica, Donors Trust, 2010 Form 990, <u>11/14/11</u>]
- **Donors Trust Gave \$904,194 To CFACT In 2009.** [ProPublica, Donors Trust, 2009 Form 990, <u>08/13/10</u>]
- **Donors Trust Gave \$495,500 To CFACT In 2008.** [ProPublica, Donors Trust, 2008 Form 990, <u>05/12/09</u>]

CFACT Is Heavily Funded By Donors Trust, Receiving Nearly Half Its Budget From Donors Trust In 2010. "Some of the groups on the Donors Trust list would have struggled to exist without being bankrolled by anonymous donors. The support helped the Committee for a Constructive Tomorrow (Cfact), expand from \$600,000 to \$3m annual operation. In 2010, Cfact received nearly half of its budget from those anonymous donors, the records show." [*The Guardian*, 02/14/13]

Donors Trust Is The "Dark-Money ATM Of The Right," Funding Attacks On Climate Science While Shielding Its Donors From Public Scrutiny. "Over the past decade, it has funded the right's assault on labor unions, climate scientists, public schools, economic regulations, and the very premise of activist government. [...] It is the dark-money ATM of the right. [...] Donors Trust allows wealthy contributors who want to donate millions to the most important causes on the right to do so anonymously, essentially scrubbing the identity of those underwriting conservative and libertarian organizations. [...] The group has funded much of the climate-change denier movement — bankrolling, for instance, the Heartland Institute, a torchbearer in the denier movement. (It recently compared those who believe in climate change to terrorists.)" [Mother Jones, 02/05/13]

• Donors Trust Receives Money From The Kochs. "Donors Trust is not the source of the money it hands out. Some 200 right-of-center funders who've given at least \$10,000 fill the group's coffers. Charities bankrolled by Charles and David Koch, the DeVoses, and the Bradleys, among other conservative benefactors, have given to Donors Trust. And other recipients of Donors Trust money include the Heritage Foundation, Grover Norquist's Americans for Tax Reform, the NRA's Freedom Action Foundation, the Cato Institute, the American Enterprise Institute, the Federalist Society, and the Americans for Prosperity Foundation, chaired (PDF) by none other than David Koch. [...] The Knowledge and Progress Fund, a charity bankrolled by Charles Koch, gave \$2 million in 2010." [Mother Jones, 02/05/13]

CFACT Received \$13,876 From The Charles Koch Foundation In 2015. [Charles Koch Foundation, 2015 Form 990-PF, <u>11/15/16</u>]

CFACT Received \$8,500 From The Charles Koch Foundation In 2016. [Charles Koch Foundation, 2016 Form 990-PF, <u>11/14/17</u>]

CFACT Received \$10,500 From The Charles Koch Institute In 2015. [Charles Koch Institute, 2015 Form 990, <u>11/10/16</u>]

Christina Norman Is The Director Of Development At CFACT And A Graduate Of The Koch Associate Program. "In college, Christina was the President of her CFACT Collegians chapter. Following college she worked for CFACT as a field director for our Collegians program and as a Development Officer. She graduated in 2010 from the Koch Associate Program." [CFACT.org accessed 3/3/22]

CFACT Is Funded By The Sarah Scaife Foundation, The Legacy Foundation Of Richard Mellon Scaife, The "Funding Father Of The Right."

CFACT Received Funding From The Sarah Scaife Foundation. "The Sarah Scaife Foundation now funnels millions to groups that oppose environmental regulations and

that attack climate science. That includes more than \$3 million in its most recent filing, including to Cato, CEI, the CO2 Coalition, FreedomWorks, the Committee for a Constructive Tomorrow, and the Energy and Environmental Legal Institute, according to tax filings." [E&E News, 06/26/20]

- Formerly Called The Allegheny Foundation, The Sarah Scaife Foundation Is A Right-Wing Donor Group Founded By The Late Richard Mellon Scaife. "Long overshadowed by founder Richard Mellon Scaife's national, ideological philanthropy, the 60-year-old Allegheny Foundation had \$67.2 million in assets, and made \$2.1 million in mostly local grants in the year before his death. Based Downtown and considered a minor player in Pittsburgh charity, it would annually give to some three dozen human services, arts, educational, preservationist and conservative groups." [Post-Gazette, 1/15/17]
- The Sarah Scaife Foundation Is Part Of The Legacy Of Richard Mellon Scaife, The "Funding Father Of The Right." "His biggest contribution has been to help fund the creation of the modern conservative movement in America. [...] His money has established or sustained activist think tanks that have created and marketed conservative ideas from welfare reform to enhanced missile defense; public interest law firms that have won important court cases on affirmative action, property rights and how to conduct the national census; organizations and publications that have nurtured conservatism on American campuses; academic institutions that have employed and promoted the work of conservative intellectuals; watchdog groups that have critiqued and harassed media organizations, and many more." [Washington Post, 05/02/99]

Spreading Disinformation About Climate Science

CFACT Runs College Chapters In An Attempt To Indoctrinate Students To Reject Climate Science

CFACT Runs College Chapters Under The Brand Collegians For A Constructive Tomorrow To Spread Climate Disinformation To Students. "Another climate denial group, the Committee for a Constructive Tomorrow, has college chapters called Collegians for a Constructive Tomorrow. The group has hosted prominent researchers who have pushed debunked and misleading climate claims for years. One of its goals is to "educate students that the science behind climate change is not 'settled,' and at the very least, that both sides of the debate should be presented and debated in classrooms and the public eye."" [E&E News, 08/16/21]

CFACT Campus Branch Runs A Pro-Fracking Campaign. "The process of hydraulic fracturing, commonly referred to as "fracking," has been demonized by the media and Hollywood elite. Some students take this propaganda to heart, like those who attacked CFACT at Temple University over the subject. The FRACK U campaign aims to cut

through this propaganda to explain that fracking has been the free market key to the natural gas revolution in America." [CFACT Campus, accessed 03/03/22]

CFACT's Campus Branch Runs A Campaign To "Save Our Species" Through Property Rights. "This campaign will engage the passion all students have for preserving species for generations to come, but through property rights, not government mandates." [CFACT Campus, accessed <u>03/03/22</u>]

CFACT Runs A Website, The Climate Depot, And Produces Movies To Spread Climate Disinformation

CFACT Runs The Climate Depot, A Website Dedicated To Spreading Climate Disinformation. [Climate Depot, accessed <u>03/01/22</u>]

- Headline: UN IPCC Report: Climate misinformation is a major problem in the US - 'Created polarization in public & policy domains' [Climate Depot, 02/28/22]
- Headline: Is Biden's energy policy trying to 'make Russia Great Again?'
 Watch: Morano on Fox & Friends on Biden's energy policy & reflects on working for Rush Limbaugh [Climate Depot, 02/17/22]
- Headline: Media's Recent Sea Level Rise Claims Fall Short The Data Doesn't Support It [Climate Depot, 02/21/22]

CFACT Produced An Anti-Climate Science Documentary In 2016. "Fathom Events and SpectiCast are giving a major push to the anti-global warming documentary "Climate Hustle," with plans for showings at nearly 400 theaters on May 2. Variety has learned exclusively that former Alaska governor and vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin is participating in the event. The screening of the documentary, produced by Committee for a Constructive Tomorrow and Marc Morano's ClimateDepot.com, will be followed by a panel discussion featuring Palin, with opening remarks by Rep. Lamar Smith (R-Texas), chairman of the House Committee on Science, Space and Technology." [Variety, 04/11/16]

• CFACT Passed Out Their Latest Climate Denial Movie At COP26. "CFACT exploited that opportunity by having a couple of our young activists hand out copies of our Climate Hustle 2 to conference attendees. The film was produced by CFACT and released in theaters last year. Narrated by actor Kevin Sorbo, Climate Hustle 2 exposes the unscientific hype and radical political agenda of the worldwide climate change industry." [CFACT, 11/03/21, archived 11/03/21]

Working With Oil-Funded Groups To Fight Climate Policy

CFACT Works Hand In Hand With The Oil-Funded Heartland Institute And Competitive Enterprise Institute To Shape Public Debate On Climate Change.

According To The Director Of Energy And Environmental Policy At The Competitive Enterprise Institute, CFACT Works With CEI And The Heartland Institute To Shape Public Debate, Noting CFACT "Does The Activism." "Ebell joked about how some Cooler Heads members worked to shape public debate. "I'd say, Heartland does the science, CFACT [the Committee for a Constructive Tomorrow] does the activism, and unfortunately it is left to CEI to do the politics in Washington, D.C.," Ebell said, according to a video of the event." [Washington Post, 09/05/17]

 Myron Ebell Is The Director Of Energy And Environmental Policy At The Competitive Enterprise Institute. "Ebell, a 64-year-old veteran of Washington's policy wars, is director of energy and environmental policy for a libertarian nonprofit organization called the Competitive Enterprise Institute (CEI), which helped start the Cooler Heads Coalition in 1997." [Washington Post, 09/05/17]

Ebell Credits CEI And Its Peers With Getting Trump To Withdrawal From The Paris Climate Accords. "It was all part of a wave that crested with Trump's rejection on June 1 of the Paris agreement, a landmark accord by nearly 200 countries in 2015 to limit greenhouse gasses that contribute to global warming. "He made the decision. We helped create the circumstances," Ebell told The Washington Post. "When you are persistent, good things can happen."" [Washington Post, 09/05/17]

CFACT Sponsored The Heartland Institute's 14th International Conference On Climate Change. "Prominent skeptical climate scientists, experts, authors, and activists gathered from around the world, to attend the Heartland Institute's 14th International Conference on Climate Change (ICCC) in Las Vegas, Nevada. CFACT co-sponsored the event, and was proud to have several CFACT experts participate in panels and discussions. A showing of CFACT's groundbreaking Climate Hustle 2 film also filled a room of conference attendees." [CFACT, 10/18/21]

 Heartland Institute's International Conference On Climate Change Is The "Largest Annual Gathering" Of Climate Deniers. "The ICCC is the largest annual gathering of those skeptical of a so-called "climate crisis."" [CFACT, 10/18/21]

Fossil Fuel Firms Are "Generous Donors" To The Competitive Enterprise Institute. "Lawson Bader, CEI's new president, said the list shows his group has "a pretty diverse group of supporters." The fact that fossil fuel firms -- and a number of rail companies that transport coal and oil -- rank as generous donors makes sense, Bader said, because CEI has "been working on energy and environmental issues longer than other" Washington groups." [Washington Post, 06/20/13]

The Heartland Institute Receives Funding From Big Oil. "Hundreds of millions of dollars from corporations such as ExxonMobil and wealthy individuals such as the billionaires Charles and David Koch have supported the development of a sprawling network, which includes Heartland and other think tanks, advocacy groups and political operatives." [Inside Climate News, 12/22/17]

CFACT Signed Onto Letter With Right Wing Groups And Oil Industry Associations To Fight Climate Efforts And Complain About Perceived Attacks On Free Speech.

CFACT Signed A Letter To Senate Democrats Complaining About Free Speech And Claiming The Senators Have "An Enemies List Of Intellectual Foes You Wish To Isolate." "We, the undersigned, have long since known that you have a list—an enemies list of intellectual foes you wish to isolate. But our policy differences are not why we write. We write today with grave concern over political leadership in a time of deep national division. We write at a time when free speech and association are more important than ever in our national experiment. How will we, together, solve problems if we cannot speak? How can you lead when you refuse to listen?" [Heartland Institute, 07/12/12, archived 07/14/16]

• Cosigners Included Americans For Tax Reform, The American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), The Competitive Enterprise Institute, The Heartland Institute, And The Heritage Foundation. [Heartland Institute, 07/12/12, archived 07/14/16]

CFACT Signed A Letter Calling For The Trump Administration To Fully Withdrawal From The Paris Climate Accords. "We, the undersigned, write in enthusiastic support of your campaign commitments to withdraw fully from the Paris Climate Treaty and to stop all taxpayer funding of UN global warming programs." [CEI, 05/08/17, archived 05/12/17]

• Cosigners Included The American Energy Alliance, Americans For Prosperity, Americans For Tax Reform, The American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), The Competitive Enterprise Institute, The Heartland Institute, And The Heritage Foundation. [CEI, 05/08/17, archived 05/12/17]

CFACT Was Involved In Multiple Astroturfing Efforts To Fight Clean Energy And Climate Science.

CFACT Was A Part Of An Astroturfing Effort To Oppose Wind Energy Projects. "This time the disputed document is a 10-page strategy memo appearing to detail an expensive and ambitious campaign targeting the wind energy industry. The memo, circulated by the watchdog group the Checks and Balances Project, calls for opponents of wind power to engage in messaging and media outreach efforts that "appear as a 'groundswell' among grass roots." [...] Checks and Balances Project co-director Gabe

Elsner said it was discussed at a meeting of wind energy opponents held in Washington in early February, which was convened by Droz. Participants at that meeting included staffers from national right-leaning organizations like the Committee for a Constructive Tomorrow, the Competitive Enterprise Institute and American Legislative Exchange Council, as well as state-based anti-wind groups like Illinois Wind Watch." [*E&E News*, 05/09/12]

Cooler Heads Coalition Works On Astroturfed Anti-Climate Science Campaigns Funded By Big Oil And The Chemical Industry. "This astroturf group calls global warming science "scare stories" and funds the Web site Globalwarming.org, with a bi-weekly update called "May Cooler Heads Prevail." Consumer Alert's networking project, the National Consumer Coalition, formed the so-called Cooler Heads Coalition in May, "to dispel the myths of global warming." Cooler Heads is run by a vice president from the Competitive Enterprise Institute, a longtime sponsor of the Wise Use movement. Funded by: American Cyanamid, Chemical Manufacturers Association, Chevron, Monsanto, Philip Morris, and other big corporations." [Mother Jones, 12/04/97]

• Craig Rucker Is A Member Of CEI's Cooler Heads Coalition. "Rucker's organization is a member of the Cooler Heads Coalition, an umbrella organization operated by the Competitive Enterprise Institute, a nonprofit that prides itself on its opposition to environmentalists." [New Yorker, 04/29/14]

<u>Leadership: Co-Founder Craig Rucker</u>

Craig Rucker Is The President And Co-Founder Of CFACT. [CFACT, accessed 03/02/22]

Craig Rucker Worked With Former Rep. Matt Shea, An Extremist Who "Planned, Engaged In And Promoted" Three Armed Attacks Against The US, Including The Bundy Militia Occupation.

Craig Rucker Spoke With Former Rep. Matt Shea On Patriot Radio In May 2020. [Facebook, Patriot Radio, <u>05/20/20</u>]

A Report Found That Matt Shea "Planned, Engaged In And Promoted A Total Of Three Armed Conflicts Of Political Violence Against The United States" Over Three Years. ""Representative Shea, as a leader in the Patriot Movement, planned, engaged in and promoted a total of three armed conflicts of political violence against the United States Government in three states outside the state of Washington over a three-year period," according to the report released Thursday. "In one conflict Representative Shea led covert strategic pre-planning in advance of the conflict."" [Seattle Times, 12/19/19]

• Matt Shea Planned And Participated In The Ammon Bundy-Led Armed Takeover Of Malheur National Wildlife Refuge. "State Rep. Matt Shea planned and participated in domestic terrorism against the United States before and during the armed takeover at Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, an investigation commissioned by the Washington state House found. The 108-page report found that beginning in November 2015, Shea, working with militia leader Ammon Bundy, helped "in the planning and preparation" of the Malheur takeover, a six-week conflict in which dozens of armed protesters occupied the refuge in rural Eastern Oregon. The standoff ended after one protester was shot and killed and dozens were arrested." [Seattle Times, 12/19/19]

CFACT's Leader Craig Rucker Falsely Claims There is No Consensus On Climate Change, Calling It A Hoax As Recently As 2021.

Craig Rucker Falsely Claimed There Is "No Consensus On Climate Change." ""We think there is no consensus on climate change and there should not be a treaty from Copenhagen based on a lack of consensus," he said." [The Telegraph, 12/09/09]

Craig Rucker Claims Global Warming Is A Conspiracy Concocted By Scientists. "To me, it seems abundantly clear that the proponents of global warming have been cooking the science to produce the results they wanted. They've suppressed data, colluded, stifled debate, threatened scientific journals that published opposing viewpoints and placed climate propaganda ahead of climate science." [Copenhagen National Journal, 12/09/09, archived 07/14/11]

Craig Rucker Spoke At An October 2021 Event About "Why Climate Change Is A Hoax." "Craig Rucker of CFACT and Climatedepot.com on "Why climate change is a hoax" [Facebook, 10/12/21]

Craig Rucker Denied That Restrictive Voter Laws Are Racist And Promoted Claims Of Election Fraud In 2020.

Craig Rucker Retweeted A Post Denying That Restrictive Voter Laws Are Racist.



[Twitter, @CJRucker, <u>07/5/21</u>]

Craig Rucker Shared Multiple Tweet Claiming Donald Trump Won The 2020 Election.

Leadership: Communications Director Marc Morano

Marc Morano Is CFACT's Director Of Communications And The Executive Editor Of Climate Depot. "He currently serves as executive editor and chief correspondent for CFACT's award-winning ClimateDepot.com, a news and information service he founded in 2009" [CFACT, accessed <u>03/01/22</u>]

Marc Morano Was A Senior Aide And Climate Researcher For Senator James Inhofe. "Marc Morano, former Communications Director for the Senate Environment & Public Works Committee and senior aide, speechwriter, and climate researcher for Senator James Inhofe (R-OK), will become the executive editor and chief correspondent for ClimateDepot.com, a pioneering climate and eco-news center." [Climate Depot, 04/06/09, archived 05/01/17]

Morano Spreads Misinformation About Climate Policies, Called For Climate Scientists To Be "Publicly Flogged," And Tried To Use Youth Activist Greta Thunberg's Autism To Attack Her.

Marc Morano Attacked Myriad Pro-Climate Policies. "When you expand the concept of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative's regional cap-and-trade program to a national carbon tax, the cost-benefit analysis continues to fail." [Duluth News Tribune, 08/23/21]

Marc Morano Called For Climate Scientists To Be Publicly Flogged. "Morano, for his part, is unapologetic in his efforts to knock climate science down a notch. He doesn't wish anyone harm. But he sees opportunity. "I seriously believe we should kick them while they're down," he said. "They deserve to be publicly flogged."" [Scientific American, 03/01/10]

Marc Morano Attacked Then-16-Year-Old Activist Greta Thunberg For Her Autism. "Morano's blog describes Thunberg as an 'autistic prophet.' In his Twitter feed, Morano retweets criticisms of her that center on her autism. 'She hasn't been called a mascot. Which; is really what she is. She'll get a Nobel Prize and a wanna-be Ph.d. from Harvard. For being autistic and not going to school,' wrote one follower retweeted by Morano." [E&E News, 08/09/19]

On January 6th, 2021, Marc Morano Called For Attacks On State Capitals Throughout The Country, Saying "Striking Fear In Politicians Is Not A Bad Thing."

Marc Morano Called For More Mass Protests In State Capitols On January 6th. "What's needed next is mass protests to storm state Capitols and the CDC to end Covid lockdowns.omce and for all." [Twitter, @ClimateDepot, <u>01/06/21</u>]

Marc Morano Praised The Insurrection, Saying "Striking Fear In Politicians Is Not A Bad Thing" And The Protests Were About "Lockdowns And Tyrannical

Government." "Many of my colleagues on the right are horrified by the Capitol under siege, but I am failing to muster outrage at the protesters. This is way beyond Trump. It's about lockdowns and tyrannical government. Striking fear in politicians is not a bad thing." [Twitter, @ClimateDepot, 01/06/21]

Marc Morano Called For Insurrectionists To Be Pardoned On January 6^{th} . "Trump will have to expand his pardon list by at least several hundred today." [Twitter, @ClimateDepot, 01/06/21]

Leadership: Senior Advisor Paul Dreissen

CFACT's Senior Advisor Paul Dreissen Called Efforts To Combat Climate Change "Suicidal."

Paul Dreissen is a Senior Advisor at CFACT and a Founding Member of Climate Exit (Clexit). "Paul Driessen is a Senior Policy Advisor for the Committee for a Constructive Tomorrow (CFACT) and maintains associations with a range of organizations devoted to the denial of man-made climate change including the Heartland Institute, the Center for the Defense of Free Enterprise (CDFE), the Atlas Economic Research Foundation (now Atlas Network), and others. He is a founding member of Climate Exit (Clexit), a group that contends that "'the world must abandon this suicidal Global Warming crusade.'" [Desmog.com accessed 3/3/2022]

• **He is an Environmentalist Turned Skeptic.** "A former member of the Sierra Club and Zero Population Growth, he abandoned their cause when he recognized that the environmental movement had become intolerant in its views, inflexible in its demands, unwilling to recognize our tremendous strides in protecting the environment, and insensitive to the needs of billions of people who lack the food, electricity, safe water, healthcare and other basic necessities that we take for granted." [Heartland Institute, accessed 3/4/2022]