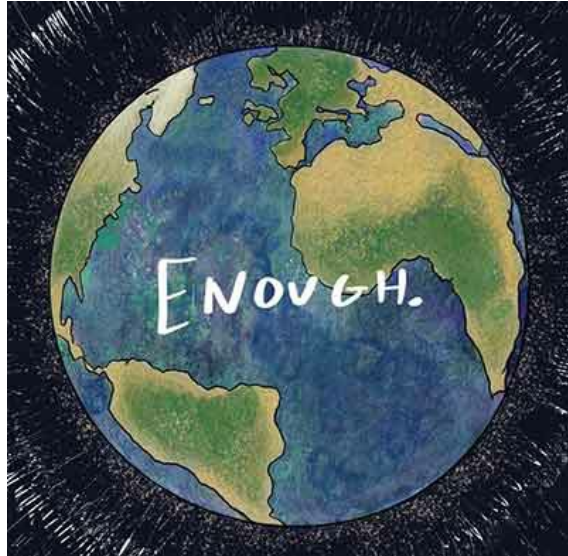


Greetings!

## Enough!



### How much is enough? What is too much? Is there enough for all?

The current issue of YES! magazine, especially the lead article, addresses these questions and explores topics such as universal basic services, everyone's fair share of energy, housing, food and water, and what limitations we must put on resource use.

**“The rapid phaseout of fossil fuels is urgent** to avert ever-increasing climate crises and must be managed in a way that sustains lives and livelihoods worldwide, including in regions that already lack sufficient supplies of energy. That will be possible only if economically stressed communities around the world can acquire resources for building renewable energy capacity sufficient to meet every household's needs. It also means high consumption societies must practice an unprecedented degree of collective restraint of resource use.“

An even more challenging and critical question is:  
**Can we continue to grow on a finite planet?**  
See below for perspective on this.



**Stories, insights  
and action for a  
world that works  
for all of us**

~ ~ ~

*Justice is what love  
looks like in public.*

Cornel West

~ ~ ~

### **Favorite Resources**

[Yes! magazine](#)

[The Optimist Daily](#)

[350.org](#)

[Climate Reality](#)

[Project](#)

[The Small Planet](#)

[Institute](#)

[Local Futures](#)

[Network of Spiritual](#)

[Progressives](#)

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[Desert Rose Press](#)

[VirginiaMudd.com](#)

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### **It's all here. How to build a life-supporting economy**

#### **The “Story of Stuff” film: the big picture**

The "Story of Stuff" is a clear, blunt, simple and often humorous presentation by Annie Leonard which lays out the problem with



our economic system and shows us the big picture of our destructive economic system. If this film doesn't make you rethink how we run our lives I don't know what will! It is worth spending the 21 minutes you feel you don't have!

**She graphically unfolds the story we've bought into for several decades;** namely that our main value and purpose as human beings is to consume stuff. We have believed that growing the economy is the number one priority for our being here on Earth. The big problem is that this linear system of extraction of natural resources and exploitation of labor to make cheap goods for the profit of a few does not work on a finite planet. She presents a staggering collection of shocking facts about the exploitation of resources and people, the pollution that results from our production, and the trash created by all the stuff. *Read this astonishing statement made by retail analyst Victor Lebow in 1955, and reckon with the fact that this is exactly what we've done for 65 years!*

**“Our enormously productive economy demands that we make consumption our way of life, that we convert the buying and use of goods into rituals, that we seek our spiritual satisfaction and our ego satisfaction in consumption. We need things consumed, burned up, worn out, replaced and discarded at an ever-increasing rate.”** —Victor Lebow



### Stepping Out of the Consumer Culture

As we reckon with the multiple crises we are dealing with in our world, one imperative is that we have to become more conscious and careful about what and how we consume. The conundrum is that we have been raised on the "mother's milk" of the consumption of stuff as the one thing that will nourish us, physically, emotionally and spiritually. As someone has said, "Consumerism is the most successful religion on the planet."

**The first step to leave behind this consumer habit** is to take a close look at the harmful effects this has on all life on Earth, and to imagine another, more fulfilling way of life. We need to abandon GDP as our primary measure of progress. There are other ways to measure our prosperity like the [Genuine Progress Indicator](#) which takes into account environmental and social factors in measuring the true health of a nation's economy.

**In an engrossing series of short meditations on the economy**, consumerism and beyond, Fr. Richard Rohr (the Center for Action and Contemplation) writes on "The Economy, Old and New," "Moral Capitalism," "Departing Our Consumer Culture," and "The Gift of Sufficiency." [Read his meditations here.](#)



**“We face a defining choice.** We can hold the course with an economy that grows GDP to provide a few with the opportunity to make a killing as they prepare to escape to outer space. Or we can embrace the current opportunity to transition to an ecological civilization, with a living economy dedicated to supporting us all in making a secure and fulfilling living on a thriving living Earth.”  
David Korten in ["When Less is More."](#)

## Good Information, Stories & Resources



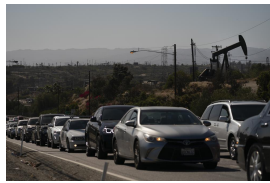
**China will not longer support coal-fired power project abroad**  
President Xi Jinping announced that China

*“will not finance or build new coal-fired power projects abroad.”* Beijing is by far the largest source of financing for coal plants globally, and the decision sends a clear signal to the rest of the world that the end of the fossil fuel era is now in



**Big Picture Activism**  
[In this 8 minute video](#) Local Futures asks: *Why does our food get flown*

sight. This is a big step. [Read the article here.](#)



### Los Angeles County votes to phase out oil and gas drilling

Over 1,600 active and idle oil and gas wells in the county could be

shuttered. . . Companies have been drilling for oil in Los Angeles since the late-1890s. "I think the writing is on the wall and hopefully there is this sense that something good has to be done with this land. And we're in this era where we shouldn't be relying so much on fossil fuel."

[Read here.](#)



### UN declares access to a clean environment a human right

The vote passed by the Human Rights Council with overwhelming support. "This has life-changing potential in a world where the global environmental crisis causes more than nine million premature deaths every year," [Here's the article.](#)

*around the world and back again? Why is the gap between rich and poor widening to obscene levels? They explain how nation states are allowing corporations to run the show. There is nothing evolutionary or inevitable about our current system; it's man-made. And if enough of us come together, we can change it. [Watch.](#)*



### Listen to our youth

The U.N. Climate Change Conference

2021 (COP26) will be held in Scotland Oct. 31 - Nov. 13. On Sept. 29, at the Youth4Climate Conference, activists Greta Thunberg of Norway and Vanessa Nakate of Uganda demand action from our leaders. We must too.

[Watch their presentations.](#)

And read Greta's interview with NBC's

Al Roker on Climate Promises vs. Actions. "30 years of blah blah blah."

[Read it here.](#)

## Wisdom for Our Time



"Ultimately, we have just one moral duty: to reclaim large areas of peace in ourselves, more and more peace, and to reflect it toward others. And the more peace there is in us, the more peace there will also be in our troubled world. —Etty Hillseum

## Two Too Fun Videos



[Baby goats](#) and [a clever dog](#) bring you videos to brighten your day!

*Have a thankful, healthy and active month!*

*Virginia / Gibi*



## My Column

**"How much is enough, and the joy of being"**

Read an article I wrote for our Raventalk newsletter in the Spring of 2000.

