

How to Talk about Climate Change

The Six Americas The Nation Is Not of One Mind!

Video by Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies

<https://climatecommunication.yale.edu/news-events/global-warmings-six-americas/>

Recent research is showing that people are more interested in climate change than one imagines. But our communities are not of one mind. And the approach one takes in discussing climate change needs to change because of the make-up of the audience. Check out the above website for an interesting cartoon and statistics.

SASSY Survey Six Americas Short Survey Yay! (Based on the Six Americas research)

Holding an event and you want to get a quick feel for the audience present? Use this quick “use of open space technology” to ask people to move to different spaces in the room according to their personal perceptions. You see who thinks what- what are the most common perceptions – and after asking four questions the facilitation ran introduce the concept of “Six Americas” and national – American – percentages.

1. How important is the issue of global warming to you personally?
 - Extremely important
 - Very important
 - Somewhat important
 - Not too important
 - Not at all important

2. How worried are you about global warming?
 - Very worried
 - Somewhat worried
 - Not very worried
 - Not at all worried

3. How much do you think global warming will harm you personally?
 - A great deal
 - A moderate amount
 - Only a little
 - Not at all
 - Don't know

4. How much do you think global warming will harm future generations of people?
 - A great deal
 - A moderate amount
 - Only a little
 - Not at all
 - Don't know

Faith Morality and the Environment January 19, 2016

<https://climatecommunication.yale.edu/publications/faith-morality-environment/>

Find button to download 42-page document as PDF.

Looking for an on-line copy of *Laudato Si'*?

<https://laudatosi.com/watch>

What Is Global Warming?

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/environment/global-warming/global-warming-overview/>

National Geographic article. Climate change 101

Six Graphics That Explain Climate Change (BBC)

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/resources/idt-5aceb360-8bc3-4741-99f0-2e4f76ca02bb>

Visualizing a Warmer World: Ten Maps of Climate Vulnerability

See the effects of changing precipitation and storm surge, ground water, land slides, etc.

<https://www.wri.org/blog/2018/02/visualizing-warmer-world-10-maps-climate-vulnerability>

This Land Is Home: A Letter from Catholic Bishops of Appalachia, captures the developing poverty, reliance on coal, dependence upon industry, divisiveness and self-defence of a region, corporate injustice and voicelessness of the poor, technological rationalization and maximization of profit, conspicuous consumption and planned obsolescence – Appalachia as a symbol of a larger pattern?

<http://www.catholicconferencewv.org/docs/ThisLandIsHome.pdf>

From the Conclusion:

In taking them up, hopefully the Church might once again be known as - a center of the Spirit, - a place where poetry dares to speak, - where the song reigns unchallenged, - where art flourishes, - where nature is welcome, - where little people and little needs come first, - where justice speaks loudly, - where in a wilderness of idolatrous destruction the great voice of God still cries out for Life.

An Ecological Examen

An Ignatian-style tool for reflection, prayer and commitment

http://www.ecologicalexamen.org/#after_section_1

An excellent devotional practice. Stages in the Examen: Gratitude – Awareness – Understanding – Conversion – Reconciliation - Prayer

A Summary follows below.... More detailed instructions are provided in the website link....

- 1. I give thanks to God for creation and for being wonderfully made.** *Where did I feel God's presence in creation today?*
- 2. I ask for the grace to see creation as God does – in all its splendor and suffering.** *Do I see the beauty of creation and hear the cries of the earth and the poor?*
- 3. I ask for the grace to look closely to see how my life choices impact creation and the poor and vulnerable.** *What challenges or joys do I experience as I recall my care for creation? How can I turn away from a throwaway culture and instead stand in solidarity with creation and the poor?*
- 4. I ask for the grace of conversion towards ecological justice and reconciliation.** *Where have I fallen short in caring for creation and my brothers and sisters? How do I ask for a conversion of heart?*
- 5. I ask for the grace to reconcile my relationship with God, creation and humanity, and to stand in solidarity through my actions.** *How can I repair my relationship with creation and make choices consistent with my desire for reconciliation with creation?*
- 6. I offer a closing prayer for the earth and the vulnerable in our society.**