

Comments on *An Inconvenient Truth*

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What Al Gore did

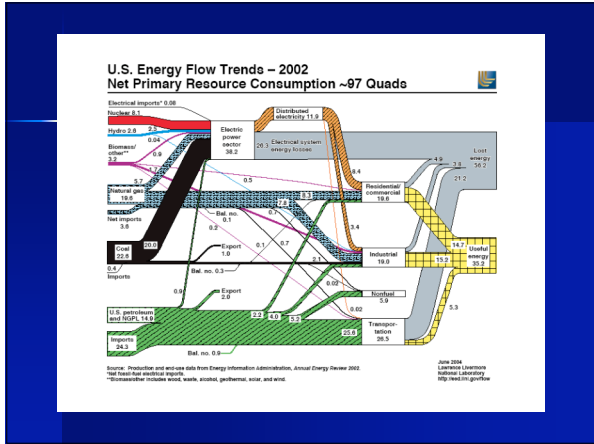
- Objective: bring US into Kyoto Protocol of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change
- Make science accessible
- Moral issue, too; not just science
- Psychology of taking difficult action

Context now different

- IPCC new report: human cause of climate change more certain
- Rapidity of change dramatic
- Department of Defense: climate change is matter of national security
- *Massachusetts vs. EPA* (2007)
- New Congress, new President (2009)

Gore's solutions

- Energy efficiency
- Lifestyle changes
- Speak out
- My reactions
 - Energy efficiency = No. 1 but not sufficient
 - New energy supplies needed
 - No new energy source is harmless
 - Need to compare old and new sources
 - Choice will not be entirely science



The challenge of reducing CO₂

SOURCE	CURRENT (Quads, 2007)	80% LESS CARBON (Quads)
Fossil fuels	86.2	17.2
Nuclear	8.4	8.4
Renewable	6.8	6.8
TOTAL	101.4	32.4

- ### What to think about
- Can we reduce fossil fuels?
 - Technology (for efficiency)
 - Economics
 - Policy
 - Politics, values, morals, psychology
 - Copenhagen: renewal of Kyoto Protocol?
 - If we reduce fossil fuels, what new supplies?
 - Nuclear
 - Renewable

- ### Hidden Elephants
- Methane (CH₄)
 - Population growth
 - 1% per year
 - About 3,000,000 new people in US