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Necessary Voices Society Themes from The Corporation MP3 CD



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Lecture Details:

John De Graaf – Take Back Your Time - June 12, 2005

John de Graaf has been writing and producing award-winning television programs for several decades. In addition to *Affluenza* and *Escape From Affluenza*, he also produced *Running Out Of Time*, *For Earth's Sake: The Life And Times Of David Brower*, *Circle Of Plenty*, *Green Plans*, and *Genetic Time Bomb*, among others.

Based on two highly acclaimed PBS documentaries, *Affluenza* uses the metaphor of a disease to tackle a very serious subject: the damage done – to our health, our families, our communities, and our environment – by the obsessive quest for material gain. The authors show that problems like loneliness, rising debt, longer working hours, environmental pollution, family conflict and rampant commercialism are actually symptoms caused by the same “disease”: affluenza.

(This event was organized by Necessary Voices Society and the Vancouver Public Library.)

Jane Jacobs – Dark Passage Ahead: Caution – May 19, 2004

Jacobs, Jane, 1916- American-Canadian urbanologist, b. Scranton, Pa. In the 1930s she moved to New York City, where she was (1952-64) an editor of *Architectural Forum* magazine. Living in Greenwich Village, she also became active in efforts to preserve the neighborhood. Her first book, *The Death and Life of Great American Cities* (1961), proved to be one of the most influential works in the history of city planning and has been particularly important to America's New Urbanists. In it, Jacobs advocates the free and spontaneous growth of cities, condemns modernist planning, decries urban renewal's wholesale destruction of communities, and argues for high-density neighborhoods and multiple-use buildings as the foundations of vital, socially successful city living. In 1968, Jacobs and her family moved to Toronto, where she again became active in city development. Her subsequent books, largely focused on urban and regional economies, include *The Economy of Cities* (1969), *Cities and the Wealth of Nations* (1984), *Systems of Survival* (1992), and *The Nature of Economies* (2000). (This event was organized by The UBC Bookstore.)

John Ralston Saul – The Collapse of Globalism – June 11, 2005

Globalization, like many great geopolitical ideologies before it, is now officially dead. Despite the near-religious conviction with which it was originally conceived, a growing vagueness now surrounds its original promise that nation states were heading toward irrelevance, to be replaced by the power of global markets; that economics, not politics or arms, would determine the course of human events; that growth in international trade would foster prosperous markets that would, in turn, abolish poverty and change dictatorships into democracies.

Yet, contends Saul, little has transpired as predicted. The collapse of Globalism has left us struggling in a paradox ó a chaotic vacuum. Instead of surrendering or sharing sovereignty, governments and citizens are reasserting their national interests. The United States appears determined to ignore its international critics. Europe is faced with problems of immigration, racism, terrorism and renewed internal nationalism. Many of these issues call for uniquely European solutions born out of local experiences and needs. Elsewhere, the world looks for answers to African debt, the AIDS epidemic, the return of fundamentalism and terrorism, all of which perversely refuse to disappear despite the theoretical rise in global prosperity. (This event was organized by teh Vancouver International Writers and Readers Festival.)

Kathy Kelly – Spotlight on Iraq – July 14, 2003

Kathy, co-founder of Chicago-based Voices in the Wilderness, has for the past 12 years been raising awareness of the suffering of the Iraqi people under US-led sanctions on Iraq and has organized many delegations to that country. Kathy has been to Iraq 20 times since 1996 to witness the devastating effects the UN sanctions were having on Iraqi civilians. She remained in Baghdad during this past war in solidarity with the people of Iraq and to witness the cruelty and depravity of "shock and awe". Her first-hand experience in Iraq provides a counterbalance to pro-war disinformation. (This event was produced by CESAPI and endorsed by StopWar.ca.)

Murray Dobbin – Globalization's Assault on Democracy – October 8, 2002

Murray Dobbin's most recent book, *The Myth of the Good Corporate Citizen: Democracy Under The Rule of Big Business* has been described as a citizen's guide to globalization. Corporate globalization is presented to citizens everywhere as not only necessary but actually inevitable and even a natural evolution of the civilized world. But in fact no human activity is inevitable; no model of society is "natural". Indeed, globalization threatens the continued existence of civilization and reduces thousands of years of progress down to simplistic and simple-minded notions of economic efficiency. It asks us to trade community and human rights for the market place and property rights. There is a better way.

Murray Dobbin has been a freelance journalist, broadcaster, and author for over thirty years. He is also a leading activist, strategist, and analyst in the anti-globalization movement and has written extensively on various trade agreements and their impact on democracy. He has been a columnist for the *Financial Post* and currently writes a column for the *Winnipeg Free Press*. He is a research associate and board member with the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives and a past executive board member of the Council of Canadians. (This event was organized by Necessary Voices Society and the Vancouver Public Library.)

Mike Hudema – Creative Resistance – November 3, 2004

Mike Hudema, author of *An Action a Day Keeps Global Capitalism Away*, was recently voted Edmonton's most effective activist. By using theatre he is able to bring light on social or environmental issues. He is a member of the edible ballot society, he occupied Deputy Prime Minister Anne McLellan's office with a hot tub, frequently slow walks in malls, and builds coal mines on front lawns. Hudema is also a law student and the former President of the University of Alberta Students' Union. Come out to this fun presentation and put a new spin on the issues you are working on. If not here, where? If not you, who? If not now, when? (This event was organized by Necessary Voices Society and the Vancouver Public Library.)

Noam Chomsky – March 20-21, 2004 – Four talks recorded in Vancouver:

The New War on Terrorism, On the Middle East, At a Peace Rally, and At a Health Conference.

In 1970, the *London Times* named Chomsky one of the thousand "makers of the twentieth century." According to Yergin, his theory "remains the foundation of linguistics today," and "his vision of a complex universe within the mind, governed by myriad rules and prohibitions and yet infinite in its creative potential, opens up vistas possibly as important as Einstein's theories." Yergin adds: "The impact of Chomsky's work may not be felt for years.... Yet this beginning has revolutionized the study of language and has redirected and redefined the broad inquiry into intelligence and how it works." Robinson calls the scholar's work "a prolonged celebration of the enormous gulf that separates man from the rest of nature. He seems overwhelmed by the intellectual powers that man contains within himself. Certainly nobody ever stated the case for those powers more emphatically, nor exemplified them more impressively in his own work. Reading Chomsky on linguistics, one repeatedly has the impression of attending to one of the more powerful thinkers who ever lived."

Chomsky has also earned a place in history for his political writings. According to Christopher Lehmann-Haupt in the *New York Times*, Chomsky "continues to challenge our assumptions long after other critics have gone to bed. He has become the foremost gadfly of our national conscience." *New Statesman* correspondent Francis Hope praises Chomsky for "a proud defensive independence, a good plain writer's hatred of expert mystification, a doctrine of resistance which runs against the melioristic and participatory current of most contemporary intellectual life." Hope concludes: "Such men are dangerous; the lack of them is disastrous."

Naomi Klein – Globalization in Our Backyard – June 28, 2001

Naomi Klein is an award-winning journalist and author of the international best-seller *No Logo: Taking Aim at the Brand Bullies*. Translated into 27 languages, *The New York Times* called *No Logo* “a movement bible.” In 2000, *The Guardian* Newspaper short-listed it for their First Book Award, and in 2001, *No Logo* won the Canadian National Business Book Award, and the French Prix Mediations.

Naomi Klein’s articles have appeared in numerous publications including *The Guardian*, *The New Statesman*, *Newsweek International*, *The New York Times*, *The Village Voice* and *Ms. Magazine*. She writes an internationally syndicated column for *The Globe and Mail* newspaper (Canada) and another for *The Nation* magazine (US). A collection of her work, entitled *Fences and Windows: Dispatches from the Front Lines of the Globalization Debate* was published in October 2002. Ms. Klein is a frequent media commentator and university guest lecturer. She’s a former Miliband Fellow at the London School of Economics and is presently the Freda Kirchway Fellow of the Nation Institute.

Paul Hellyer – The Triumph Of The Industrial Military Complex – October 22, 2001

Paul Hellyer is one of Canada’s most senior and most controversial politicians. After serving in three governments, and achieving the rank of senior minister, later designated as deputy prime minister, he resigned from the Trudeau government on a question of principle related to housing. Later he left politics only to return after the 1995 budget when he felt Canada had abandoned the road to excellence in favour of mediocrity; and when trade agreements were undermining both our independence and our democratic right to govern our own affairs. He is now fighting for both an independent Canada and the restoration of popular democracy. Hellyer and his wife Ellen have three children and five grandchildren.

Hellyer is convinced that the New World Order being promoted by George Bush is really the establishment of U.S. hegemony on a global basis. The world is being groomed to accept U.S. values, U.S. laws and the dominance of U.S. multinational corporations and international banks. In effect the industrial military complex that General Eisenhower warned about more than 50 years ago has an iron grasp on the U.S. administration and is attempted to extend that on a global basis. This does not augur well, either for the independence of small and medium powers, or for the hopes of the majority of people who yearn for a better life. Unfettered globalized capitalism, U.S.-style, has to be resisted for the benefit of all mankind. (This event was produced by The Vancouver Public Library and Necessary Voices Society.)

Richard Heinberg – The Party’s Over: War, Oil And The Fate Of Industrial Society – May 20, 2003 (Use the talk visual)

The world is about to run out of cheap oil and change dramatically. Within the next few years, global production will peak. Thereafter, even if industrial societies begin to switch to alternative energy sources, they will have less net energy each year to do all the work essential to the survival of complex societies. We are entering a new era, as different from the industrial era as the latter was from medieval times.

In *The Party’s Over*, Richard Heinberg places this momentous transition in historical context, showing how industrialism arose from the harnessing of fossil fuels, how competition to control access to oil shaped the geopolitics of the 20th century, and how contention for dwindling energy resources in the 21st century will lead to resource wars in the Middle East, Central Asia, and South America. He describes the likely impacts of oil depletion, and all of the energy alternatives. Predicting chaos unless the U.S. – the world’s foremost oil consumer – is willing to join with other countries to implement a global program of resource conservation and sharing, he also recommends a “managed collapse” that might make way for a slower-paced, low-energy, sustainable society in the future.

Scott Ritter – Weapons of Mass Destruction – October 4, 2002

As a chief weapons inspector for the United Nations Special Commission in Iraq, Scott Ritter was labeled a hero by some, a maverick by others, and a spy by the Iraqi government. In charge of searching out weapons of mass destruction within Iraq, Ritter was on the front lines of the ongoing battle against arms proliferation. His experience in enemy territory served as the basis for his book *Endgame*, which explored the shortcomings of American foreign policy in the Persian Gulf region and alternative approaches to handling the Iraqi crisis.

Ritter went back to Iraq in 2000 for a different reason. He filmed a documentary, *In Shifting Sands: The Truth of UNSCOM and the Disarming of Iraq*, which focuses on the disarmament of Iraq and its implications for U.S. foreign policy. The documentary gives an eye-opening view of America from the international community's perspective, while presenting an unwavering hard line on issues of international justice and global security.

Frontier Justice: Weapons of Mass Destruction and the Bushwhacking of America is Ritter's latest book. A compelling and impassioned critique of the Bush Administration's foreign policy, especially in regard to the war in Iraq and the search for weapons of mass destruction, the book offers strategies for repairing American democracy and restoring our credibility abroad. (This event was organized by Stopwar.ca.)

Stefano Zamagni and Joseph Stiglitz – Globalization and Its Discontents – June 27, 2005

Globalization has emerged as the dominant issue of our time. The fourth annual public dialogue of the Bologna Summer Program brings together two outstanding thinkers to address the crisis and possibilities attending globalization, and to explore a new economic vision that addresses globalization from a progressive and humane perspective.

Joseph Stiglitz is the Nobel Prize winner in Economics 2001 and University Professor at Columbia University. Stefano Zamagni is the Director of the Program for Co-operative Economics and Professor of Economics at the University of Bologna. (This event was organized by Vancity and SFU.)

Vandana Shiva – Privatization of Water – July 2001

Dr. Vandana Shiva is trained as a Physicist and did her Ph.D. on the subject *Hidden Variables and Non-locality in Quantum Theory* from the University of Western Ontario. She later shifted to inter-disciplinary research in science, technology and environmental policy, which she carried out at the Indian Institute of Science and the Indian Institute of Management in Bangalore.

In 1982, she founded an independent institute, the Research Foundation for Science, Technology and Ecology in Dehra Dun dedicated to high quality and independent research to address the most significant ecological and social issues of our times, in close partnership with local communities and social movements. In 1991, she founded Navdanya, a national movement to protect the diversity and integrity of living resources, especially native seeds. (This event was organized by The Council of Canadians.)

Walden Bello – Iraq, the U.S., and the Challenges to the Global Peace Movement – March 18, 2005

Walden Bello is executive director of Focus on the Global South and professor of sociology and public administration at the University of the Philippines. Bello has contributed to numerous books critiquing globalization. His most recent book is *The Future In The Balance* available from Food First Press. Other Books by or with contributions by Walden Bello include: *Dark Victory: The US And Global Poverty* (Pluto Press 1999); *Globalize This* (Common Courage 2000); *Corporations are going to eat your mama* (Common Courage 2000); *Views From the South* (Food First 2001). (This event was organized by Stopwar.ca.)

Interview Details:

David Suzuki - Interviewed by Thomas Hicks after the Seattle WTO Protests

David T. Suzuki PhD, Chair of the David Suzuki Foundation, is an award-winning scientist, environmentalist and broadcaster.

David has received consistently high acclaim for his thirty years of award-winning work in broadcasting, explaining the complexities of science in a compelling, easily understood way. He is well known to millions as the host of the CBC's popular science television series, *The Nature of Things*.

Necessary Voices MP3 CDs and DVD-Roms:

NVS is pleased to offer the following MP3 CDs & DVD-Roms for sale at \$10.00.

Great Canadians - Features talks by David Suzuki, John Ralston Saul, Stephen Lewis, Naomi Klein, Victor Chan, Rex Weyler, Ed Broadbent, Jean Swanson, Heather Menzies, Dr. Patricia Baird, Craig Kielburger, Paul Hellyer, Mel Hurtig, Murray Dobbin, Richard Bocking, and Mark Kingwell.

Themes From The Corporation - Features talks by Joel Bakan, Noam Chomsky, Harry Glasbeek, Shari Graydon, Jammel Jaffer, Mark Kingwell, Naomi Klein, Brewster Kneen, Gabor Mate, Linda McQuaig, Richard Swift, Stefano Zamagni, two panel discussions on the Pharmaceutical and Biotech Industries, and X Minus One 'Tunnel Under the World'.

The Politics of Food - Features talks and interviews by Vandana Shiva, John Robbins, Howard Lyman, Eric Markus, Michael Ableman, Dan Jason, Sam Graci, David Holmgren, Brewster Kneen, Jim Fulton, Daniel Pauly, Dennis Brown, Spring Gillard and Jim Merkel.

MP3 DVD-Rom - This disk contains all the recordings contained on the MP3 CDs and more. For a complete list of recordings visit the society's store website at <http://www.necessaryvoices.org>.

Necessary Voices Audio CDs:

NVS is pleased to offer the following regular audio CDs of public lectures for sale at \$10.00.

1. Victor Chan - The Dalai Lama and Mind Science - January 19, 2005
2. Gabor Mate - I need a Fix: Living in a Culture of Addiction - October 19, 2004
3. John De Graaf - Take Back Your Time - June 12, 2005
4. Jane Jacobs - Dark Passage Ahead: Caution - May 19, 2004
5. John Ralston Saul - The Collapse of Globalism - June 11, 2005
6. Mike Hudema - Creative Resistance - November 3, 2004
7. Scott Ritter - Weapons of Mass Destruction - October 4, 2002
8. Sam Graci - Get on the Path to Phenomenal Health
9. Stefano Zamagni and Joseph Stiglitz - Globalization and Its Discontents - June 27, 2005 - 2 CDs -
10. Holly Dressel - Living Like A Bee: Making Money Without Hurting The Flowers - February 20, 2003
11. Dennis Brown - Salmon Wars: The Battle for the West Coast Salmon Fishery - September 7, 2005
12. David Holmgren - Permaculture Strategies in a World of Declining Fossil Fuel - September 10, 2005
13. In Plain Sight - A Panel Discussion - June 15, 2005
14. Anarchy - Allan Antliff and Mark Leier
15. Wobllies - Paul Buhle and Mark Leier
16. Ethics, Public Policy, and the Pharmaceutical Industry with Arthur Schafer, Robert Evans, Colleen Fuller and Thomas Perry.
17. Who Own Your Genes? with Ed Levy, Brewster Kneen and Patrick Rebstein
18. Lisa Price - Feminist Framework
19. Rex Weyler - Greenpeace
20. Heather Menzie - No Time
21. Mark Kingwell - Philosophy, Boredom and the Meaning of Life
22. Eli Jaxon-Bear - Sudden Awakening
23. Betty Krawczyk - Trial of an Environmental Activist
24. Murray Dobbin - Globalization's Assault on Democracy
25. Murray Dobbin - Paul Martin: CEO For Canada?
26. Joel Bakan - The Corporation
27. Richard Bocking - Canada's Water for Sale?
28. Robert Fuller - Overcoming the Abuse of Rank
29. Percy Schmeiser - Why We Need A GM Free Canada