

Carbon Offsets Are Genocide

by Gregory Murphy

The true face of “carbon offsetting,” one of the carbon-emission remedies put forward by the global warming hoaxsters, is now very public: It’s slavery and genocide. Just look at the accompanying illustration from the group Climate Care, and its happy depiction of little naked black people using their muscle-power on a treadle to offset the carbon expenditures of climate-minded Westerners.

This return to barbarism was highlighted by the *Times* of London on Aug. 28, which reported that the leader of the U.K. Conservative Party, David Cameron, offsets his carbon emissions by effectively keeping black and brown people in a state of bondage. Whenever he takes a flight to a foreign destination, Cameron, a rabid environmentalist, makes a donation to a carbon-offsetting company that has devised ways to encourage people in the Third World to dump modern methods of farming in favor of using supposedly more eco-friendly manpower to plow and water their fields.

The *Times* article says that it will take a peasant treadle-pumping two hours a day for three years to offset the CO₂ from David Cameron’s recent trip to India! Cameron’s chief environmental advisor, it should be noted, is Seth Goldsmith, the nephew of malthusian Teddy Goldsmith, who believes that all industry is bad, and the fewer people in the world, the better.

The company that Cameron gives money to is Climate Care, whose website and promotional material quotes from Al Gore’s film “Inconvenient Truth.” In June of this year, Al Gore presented Climate Care’s chief award to Sunlabob, a company that makes portable solar power lamps that are rented out by the hour to families in Laos, as a way to offset the carbon emissions of Westerners who benefit from electricity.

The head of the Climate Care’s Steering Committee is population-reduction enthusiast Sir Crispin Tickell, who proudly states that he was the one who convinced then-British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher to go with a campaign against “global warming.” Some of Climate Care’s clients, who give money to remove the guilt of carbon use, are Prince Charles, Land Rover, the newspapers the *Guardian* and the *Times* of London, and the U.K. Liberal Democratic Party.



www.climatecare.org

Climate Care's website features "happy natives" pushing a treadle-pump to get water, and burning a lone solar-powered light bulb, while heating their stove with dung. Advocating methods abolished in British prisons a century ago, the group proclaims that "sometimes the best source of renewable energy is the human body itself." But not for Westerners, of course.

An Anti-Human Program

Climate Care's carbon offset program is just plain anti-human. (Just look at their website, which documents this: www.climatecare.org/projects/technologies.) Climate Care promotes the use of treadle pumps by poor families in India, so that they can get water to their land without having to use "polluting" diesel power. The treadle pumps are made of bamboo, plastic, and steel, and they work like stair-stepping machines in health clubs—except that the operators of these treadles are not in need of "shaping up." Reports from people in the region say that family members push the pedals for hours in order to draw up the groundwater necessary to irrigate their farmland.

Note that this type of pump was abolished in British prisons a century ago! It seems that what was considered an unacceptable form of punishment for British criminals in the past, is now looked upon as a positive eco-alternative to machinery for Indian peasants today.

What was once known as back-breaking labor, is transformed by Climate Care into "human energy." Climate Care celebrates on its website this fact of forcing the Indian peasants to use treadle pumps: "Sometimes the best source of renewable energy is the human body itself. With some lateral thinking, and some simple materials, energy solutions can often be found which replace fossil fuels with muscle power."

To show that muscle power is preferable to machine power, the Climate Care website features the accompanying illustration of smiling naked villagers pedalling on a treadle pump next to a small house that has an energy-efficient light bulb and a dung-burning stove made from local materials.

Climate Care has other carbon offsetting projects, like the one that involves the poor people who live near the Ranthambhore National Park, a tiger reserve. Climate Care instructs

the local residents to stop burning fire wood and instead use cow patties, because the tigers need the trees! In the world of carbon-offsetting, you see, beast comes before man.

In these scandalous schemes, we can see the iron fist that lurks within environmentalism's velvet glove. Cutting back on carbon emissions is the goal to which virtually every Western politician celebrity has committed himself. Yet, for the poorest people around the world, reducing carbon output means no machinery and reliance on every family doing more hard labor, or a return to more primitive technologies, such as collecting cow patties and burning them

in an eco-stove paid for, for example, by one of Al Gore's carbon offsets.

It is not just Climate Care that pushes such eco-slavery initiatives. Other carbon-offsetting companies have encouraged Kenyans to use dung-powered generators, and Indians to replace kerosene lamps with solar-powered lamps. Carbon-offsetting tree-planting projects in Guatemala, Ecuador, and Uganda have reportedly disrupted local communities' water supplies, led to the eviction of thousands of villagers from their land, and cheated local people out of their promised income for upkeeping these conscience-saving trees.

I wonder how many families in India or Africa are treadle-pumping away Al Gore's super-human carbon footprint, so that he can self-righteously say that he lives a "carbon-neutral" lifestyle. The very nature of carbon offsetting—where the emphasis is on paying money to "offset" one's lifestyle—is much the same as the way that wealthy people in the Middle Ages paid the Church for "Indulgences" that forgave them their sins. These offsetting indulgences highlight the "Do as I say, not as I do" attitude of Gore and his global warming followers.

Carbon offsetting shines a light on the dangerously anti-development sentiment in environmentalism. As British journalist Ross Clark points out in an article in the Aug. 11 *Spectator*, the success of carbon offsetting relies on the continuing failure of the Third World communities to develop. Clark writes: "Carbon offset schemes only work if the recipients in the Third World continue to live in very basic conditions. Once they aspire to Western fossil fuel-power lifestyles, then the scheme is undone."

If Al Gore thinks that carbon offsets are so great, maybe he should burn cow patties as fuel. And it sure looks like he could use a daily session or two on the treadle pump to fill his natural-gas-heated swimming pool.