

ISSUES AND ACTIONS

April 2009



UN Millennium Goals

1. Eradicate extreme poverty & hunger
2. Achieve universal primary education
3. Promote gender equality and empower women
4. Reduce child mortality
5. Improve maternal health
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
7. Ensure environmental sustainability
8. Develop a global partnership for development

The Glory of God is in Nature! Now I will remind you of the works of the Lord and describe the things I have seen... Everything completes the goodness of something else. Could anyone ever see enough of this splendor?"

(GNT Sirach 42: 15, 25)

Earth Day 2009

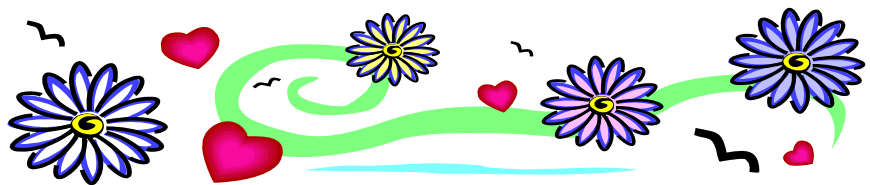


April 22 will mark the beginning of the **Green Generation Campaign!** This two-year initiative will culminate with the 40th anniversary of Earth Day in 2010. With negotiations for a new global climate agreement coming up in December, Earth Day 2009 must be a day of action and civic participation, to defend the Green Generation's core principles:

- A carbon-free future based on renewable energy that will end our common dependency on fossil fuels, including coal.
- An individual's commitment to responsible, sustainable consumption.
- Creation of a new green economy that lifts people out of poverty by creating millions of quality **green jobs** and transforms the global education system into a green one.

EARTH DAY 2009: THE GREEN GENERATION

www.earthday.net/greengeneration



Generation We: How the Millennial Generation is Taking Over America and Changing the World

by Eric Greenberg with Karl Weber

A Unique and Powerful Generation Comes of Age. A new generation is about to seize the reins of history: the Millennial generation. Born between 1978 and 2000, the Millennials currently include 95 million young people up to 30 years of age – the biggest, most diverse age cohort in the history of the nation. In 2016, they will be 100 million strong and positioned to dominate the American political scene for 30 to 40 years.

A Different World View The world view of the Millennial generation is shaped by two overriding dynamics that set this generation apart from those that have come before them:



A commitment to the common good over individual gain; an ethos that reaches across traditional divisions such as race, ideology, and partisanship. The Millennials are not a “Generation Me” but rather a “Generation We.” They are strongly progressive, socially tolerant, environmentally conscious, peace-loving, and poised to lead the biggest leftward shift in recent American history. They volunteer in record numbers and declare themselves ready to sacrifice their self-

interest for the greater good. They do not fit neatly into any classic ideological category and are clearly eager to establish a new paradigm.

Project FREE: A Millennial Agenda The agenda begins with Project FREE, a concept that earned overwhelming support from the Millennials who participated in the Greenberg research (GMS). The idea is to create a major technological and scientific project to invent new sources of non-fossil-fuel energy, free from carbon emissions, based on hydrogen, fusion or other means. ... We need to invent our way out of the energy mess, and soon. The task is daunting. But it is not the first time the United States has faced a seemingly impossible technological challenge. In 1962, John F. Kennedy successfully set the startling goal of sending a man to the moon and returning him safely to Earth within a decade. Project FREE’s ultimate goal... is to take Americans “off the grid”: to end our dependence on centralized energy in favor of power sources generated at the point of consumption – the car, home, business, or factory – thereby liberating us from the limiting factors introduced long – distance transmission and its regulatory roadblocks.

Project Free isn’t the only item of importance on the Millennial agenda. Others include:

- Restore and protect the environment – not only through energy innovation, but also through fair, firm market-based rules and systems that will reduce air and water pollution and protect our planet’s diversity.
- Provide quality nutrition and health care for all.
- Provide quality education to people of every class.
- Balance the national budget and eliminating the national debt.



- Eliminate structural trade imbalances, rebuilding the industrial base and restoring job security.
- Develop and implement a sustainable strategy for planetary economic development.
- Restore civil rights, freedom of expression and individual privacy.

These agenda items are all future-orientated, aimed at getting America back on the path of progress, so that the Millennials can pass along an improved nation and world to their own children -- something every generation aspires to do.

To see this article in its entirety, go to www.earthday.net/earthday2009

There is Hope



As Bill Rickard stated in his article *Emerging Hope*, “something enormous and hopeful and creative may be emerging and throughout the world... A shift in consciousness up the cultural spiral, accompanied by the spiritual will to evolve for the sake of the whole, is beginning to emerge... Forward thinking persons are showing the way to a more harmonious future.”

A Reminder to SAVE THE DATE June 20, 2009

Modern Day Slavery – Human Trafficking: An informational day to raise our awareness of human trafficking, and discuss ways to support survivors of human trafficking, sponsored by Sisters of the Holy Family and the Dominican Sisters of Mission San Jose.



...to set the captives free.
Isaiah 61

Prepared by the Peace and Justice Committee