

# Environmental Ethics and Land Management

## ENVR E-120

<http://courses.dce.harvard.edu/~envre120>

### What a Difference a Worldview Makes

Analyzing Evolving Ethical Norms Through the Shift in  
Common Cultural Assumptions Over Time

Timothy C. Weiskel

Class Session 8  
20 October 2015

Harvard University Extension School  
Fall Semester 2015



# Despite the fact that China “discovered” America

Why did Europe expand upon the rest of the world and not China (India, Africa, South America....etc.) ?

You will recall the

Three main lines of reasoning....

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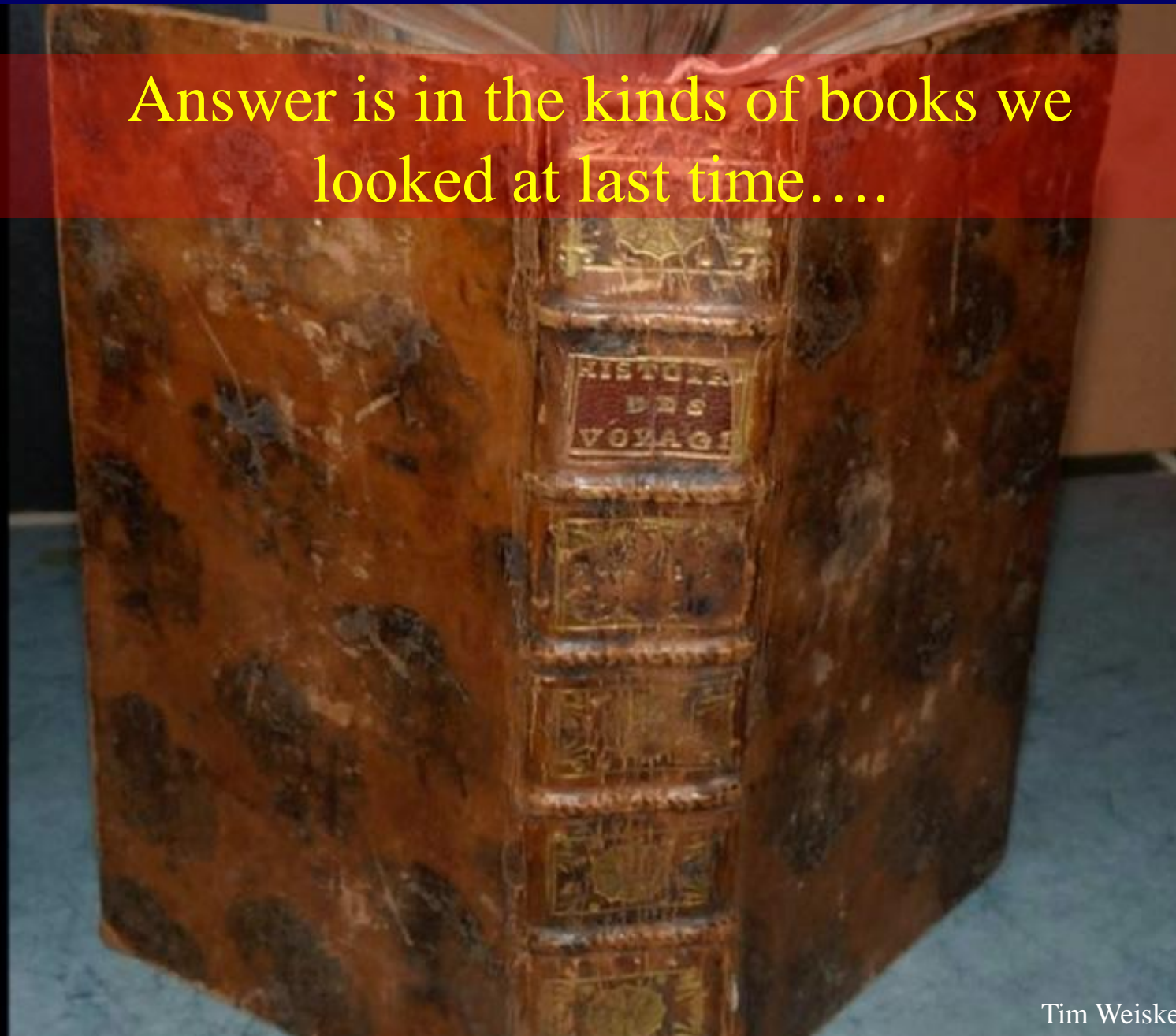
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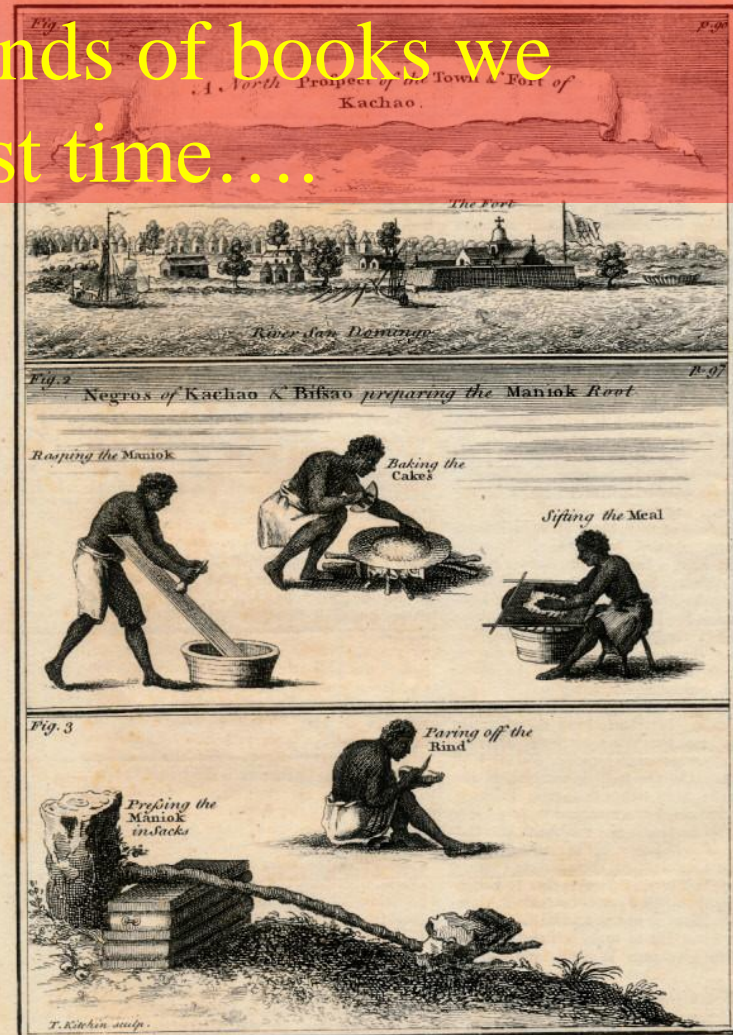


Answer is in the kinds of books we  
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Nº 43.

Plate XVI. Vol. 2.



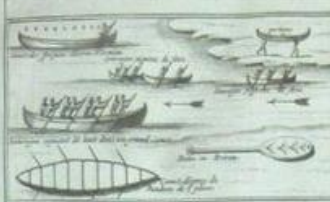






DESCRIPTION DES CASTORS & DE LEUR INDUSTRIE, DES CANOTS, HABITATIONS, HABILLEMENTS, MANIERE DE VIVRE DES SAUVAGES DU CANADA AVEC LA MANIERE DONT ILS SE MARIENT LES HIEROGLYPHES DONT ILS SE SERVENT POUR DECRIRE LEURS EXPLOITS & LA FORME DE LEURS ENTERREMENTS.

Tom. II. Pl. 23. Page 20

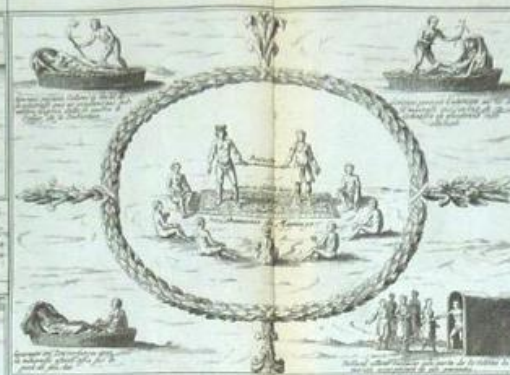


**DES CANOTS**  
Les canots sont de plusieurs manières. Le plus grand est celui qui se fait avec la queue d'un castor, et qui sert pour aller à la pêche. Les autres sont plus petits, et se font avec du bois, ou de la peau d'ours, et se servent pour aller à la guerre, ou pour aller à la chasse.



**DES CASTORS**  
Le castor est un animal qui se trouve dans les rivières, et qui se sert de sa queue pour se soutenir sur terre. Il se sert aussi de sa queue pour se soutenir dans l'eau. Il se sert de sa queue pour se soutenir sur les arbres, et pour se soutenir dans les trous qu'il se fait dans les arbres.

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**ABOUE & DIAIRES DES SAUVAGES**  
Les aboues sont des animaux qui se trouvent dans les rivières, et qui se servent de leur queue pour se soutenir sur terre. Les diaires sont des animaux qui se trouvent dans les rivières, et qui se servent de leur queue pour se soutenir dans l'eau.

**HIEROGLYPHES DES SAUVAGES**  
Les hiéroglyphes sont des signes qui se servent pour décrire les exploits des sauvages. Ils se servent de ces signes pour décrire leurs exploits, et pour décrire la forme de leurs enterrements.



**HABITS & LOGEMENTS**  
Les habits des sauvages sont faits de la peau d'ours, et de la peau de castor. Les logements des sauvages sont faits de la peau d'ours, et de la peau de castor.

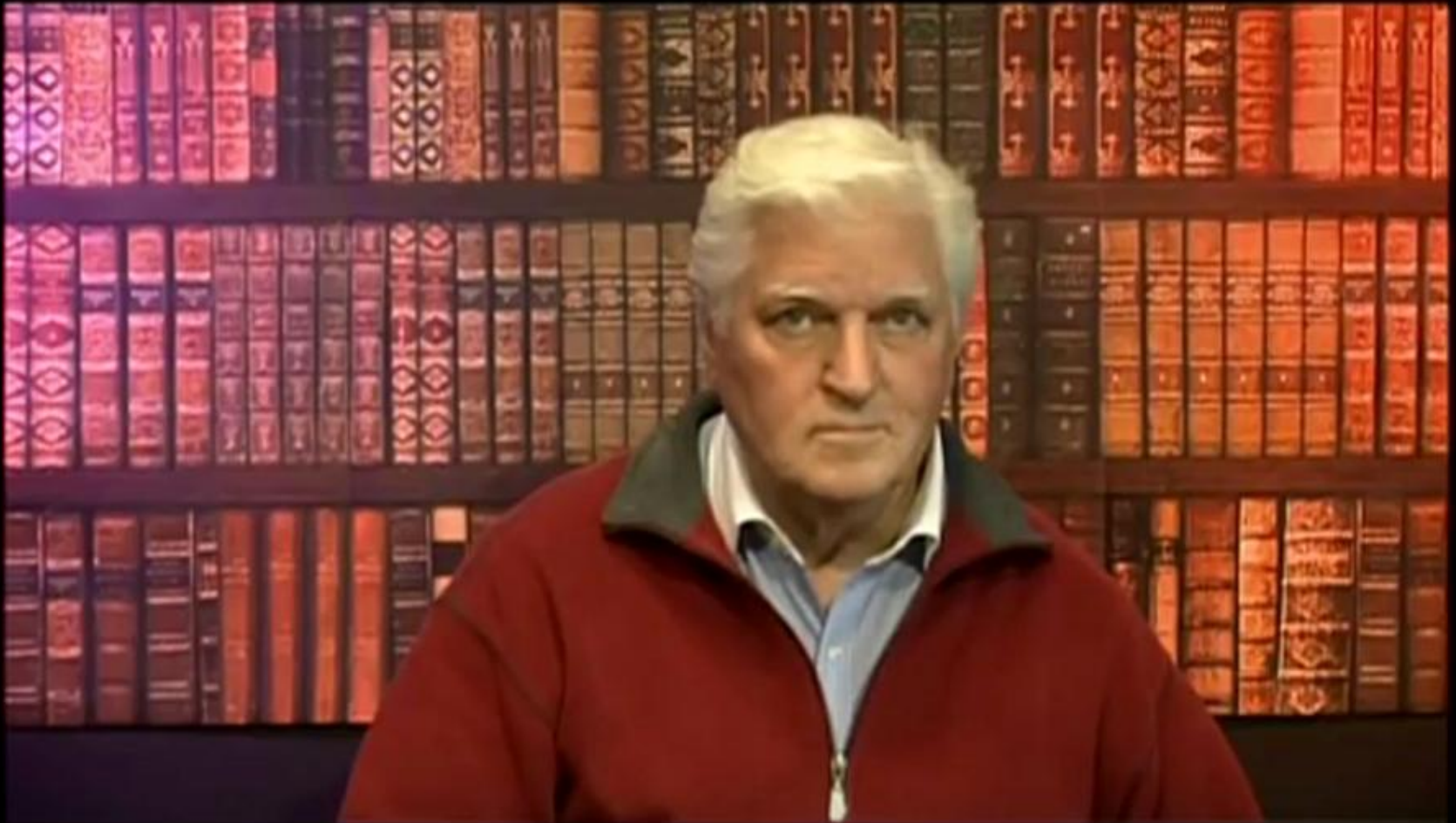


**SAUVAGES ENFERMES & MORTS**  
Les sauvages en enfermes sont ceux qui sont malades, et qui se servent de leur queue pour se soutenir sur terre. Les sauvages morts sont ceux qui sont morts, et qui se servent de leur queue pour se soutenir dans l'eau.



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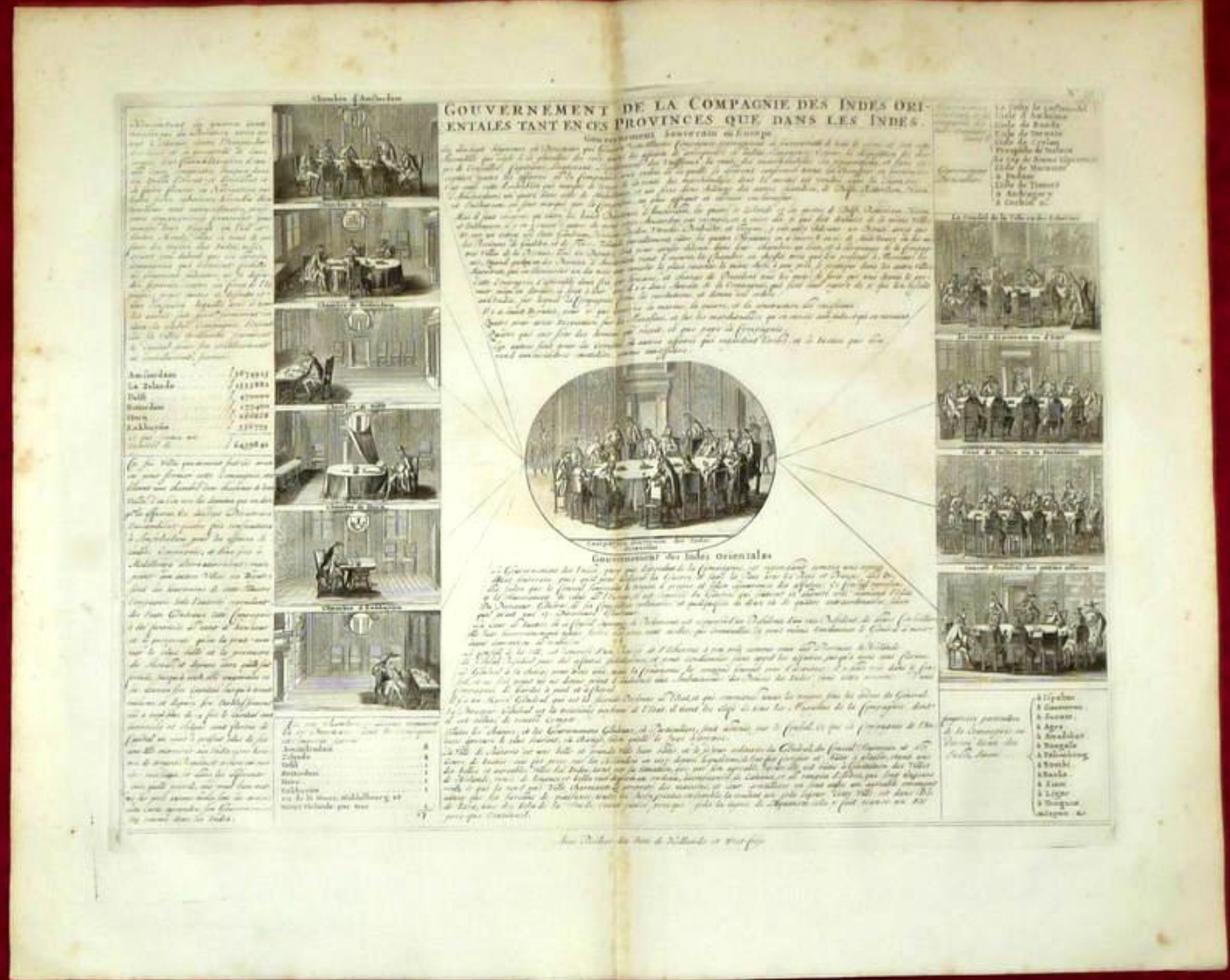
Answer is in the kinds of books we  
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Gouvernement de  
la Compagnie des  
Indes  
Orientales...

[Government of  
the Dutch East  
India Company...  
a joint-stock  
company of  
“investors” in  
Dutch port cities.]



Biggest difference between the achievements of Columbus and Zheng He is the ways in which the cultures behind them followed up the “discoveries.” Chinese empire turned inwards; Europeans had no single empire. Instead, merchants looked “outwards” and ventured abroad for competitive commercial advantage.



# GOUVERNEMENT DE LA COMPAGNIE DES INDES ORIENTALES TANT EN CES PROVINCES QUE DANS LES INDES

Gouvernement souverain de l'Europe

*[Faint handwritten text in French, likely a historical document or charter, partially obscured by a red arrow pointing from the left margin.]*

Gouvernement  
de la  
Compagnie  
des Indes  
Orientales...



Gouvernement des Indes Orientales







Compagnie des Indes Orientales  
Gouvernement des Indes Orientales



Committees of European merchants – “Directors” - drive new world plantation economies – Not Royal Kingdoms. Tim Weiskel - 13

**GOUVERNEMENT DE LA COMPAGNIE DES INDES ORIENTALES TANT EN SES PROVINCES QUE DANS LES INDES.**

**Gouvernement souverain en Europe**

**Gouvernement des Indes orientales**

**Amsterdam** 577000  
**La Haye** 111000  
**Paris** 40000  
**Bruxelles** 27000  
**Genève** 10000  
**London** 10000  
**Stettin** 10000  
**Alger** 10000  
**Constantinople** 10000  
**Malabar** 10000  
**Surat** 10000  
**Batavia** 10000  
**Calcutta** 10000  
**Bombay** 10000  
**Madras** 10000  
**Manila** 10000  
**Macao** 10000  
**Amoy** 10000  
**Canton** 10000  
**Hankow** 10000  
**Peking** 10000  
**Tientsin** 10000  
**Shanghai** 10000  
**Yokohama** 10000  
**Manila** 10000  
**Amoy** 10000  
**Canton** 10000  
**Hankow** 10000  
**Peking** 10000  
**Tientsin** 10000  
**Shanghai** 10000  
**Yokohama** 10000

Shareholders expect continuous profit – steady return on investments. They hire company personnel to achieve this in the colonies and fire those who do not maintain the profits. Tim Weiskel - 14



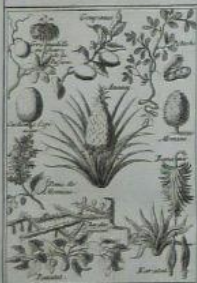


**DESCRIPTION DES PLANTES, ARBRES, ANIMAUX & POISSONS DES ILES ANTILLES.**  
 AVEC LES MOEURS DES SAUVAGES QUI S'Y TROUVENT, ET LA MANIERE DONT ON FAIT LE SUCRE. *Tom. VI. N. 17. Page 158*



**DE L'INDIGO.**

L'Indigo est une plante assez commune en divers lieux, & à la barbe dont le suc est employé pour teindre les étoffes de couleur bleue. On en fait un grand usage dans les Indes occidentales, & on en tire une grande quantité pour l'exporter dans les autres parties du monde. On le cultive dans les Antilles, & on en tire une grande quantité pour l'exporter dans les autres parties du monde. On le cultive dans les Antilles, & on en tire une grande quantité pour l'exporter dans les autres parties du monde.



**DES SAUVAGES DES ANTILLES.**

Les sauvages des Antilles sont des hommes noirs, de stature moyenne, et de caractère doux. Ils vivent en petites tribus, et se nourrissent de fruits, de racines, et de chasse. Ils ont une grande habileté pour la navigation, et ils ont découvert plusieurs îles de l'Amérique.



**DES BETES A QUATRE PIES.**

Les bêtes à quatre pieds qui se trouvent dans les Antilles sont le cheval, le mulet, le bœuf, le porc, le chien, le chat, et le singe. Elles sont employées pour le travail des champs, et pour le transport des marchandises.



**DE LA SUCRERIE.**

La culture de la canne à sucre est la principale occupation des habitants des Antilles. Elle est employée pour faire du sucre, et pour le transport dans les autres parties du monde. On la cultive dans les Antilles, et on en tire une grande quantité pour l'exporter dans les autres parties du monde.



**MENAGERIE.**

La ménagerie est une partie importante de la culture de la canne à sucre. Elle est employée pour faire du sucre, et pour le transport dans les autres parties du monde. On la cultive dans les Antilles, et on en tire une grande quantité pour l'exporter dans les autres parties du monde.



**L'AMERIQUE.**

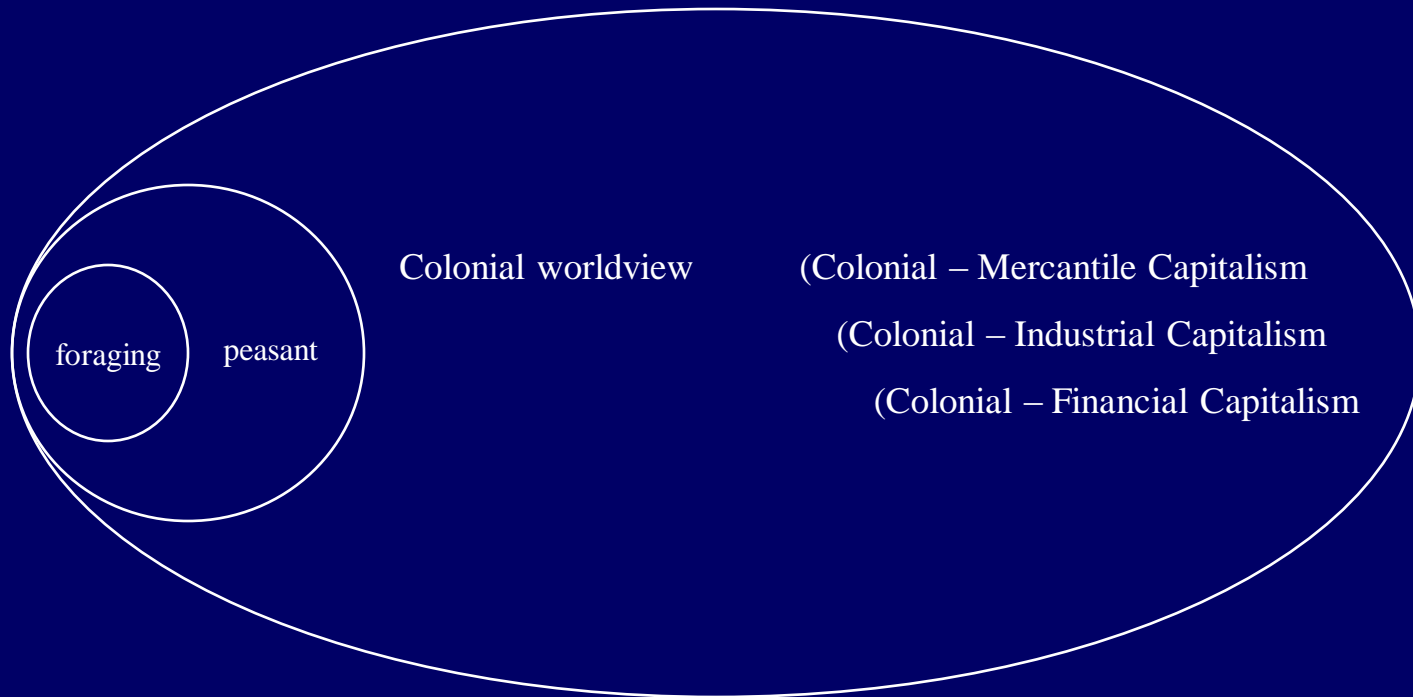
Les poissons de l'Amérique sont très variés, et ils sont très utiles pour la nourriture des habitants. On en trouve dans les rivières, les lacs, et la mer. Ils sont très appréciés pour leur goût, et pour leur valeur nutritive.



**SUCRERIE.**

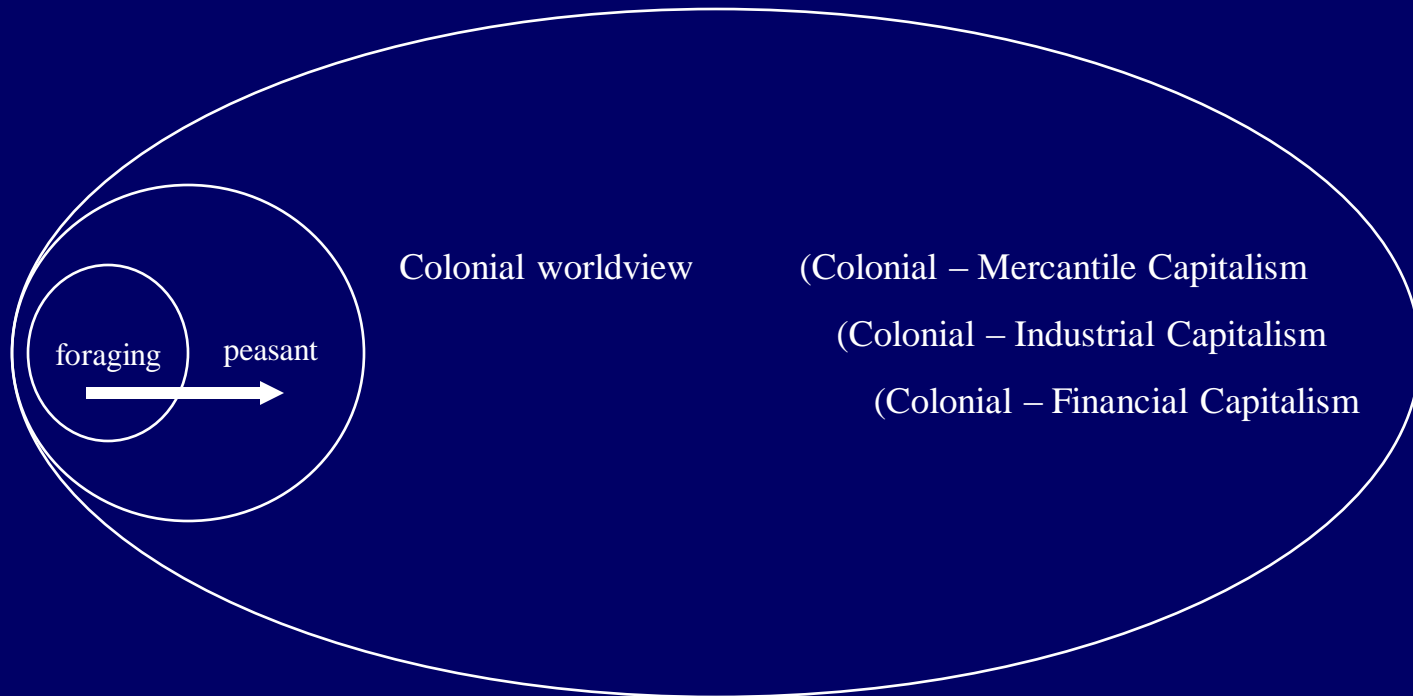
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Remember, worldviews are not so much obliterated...they are merely displaced.

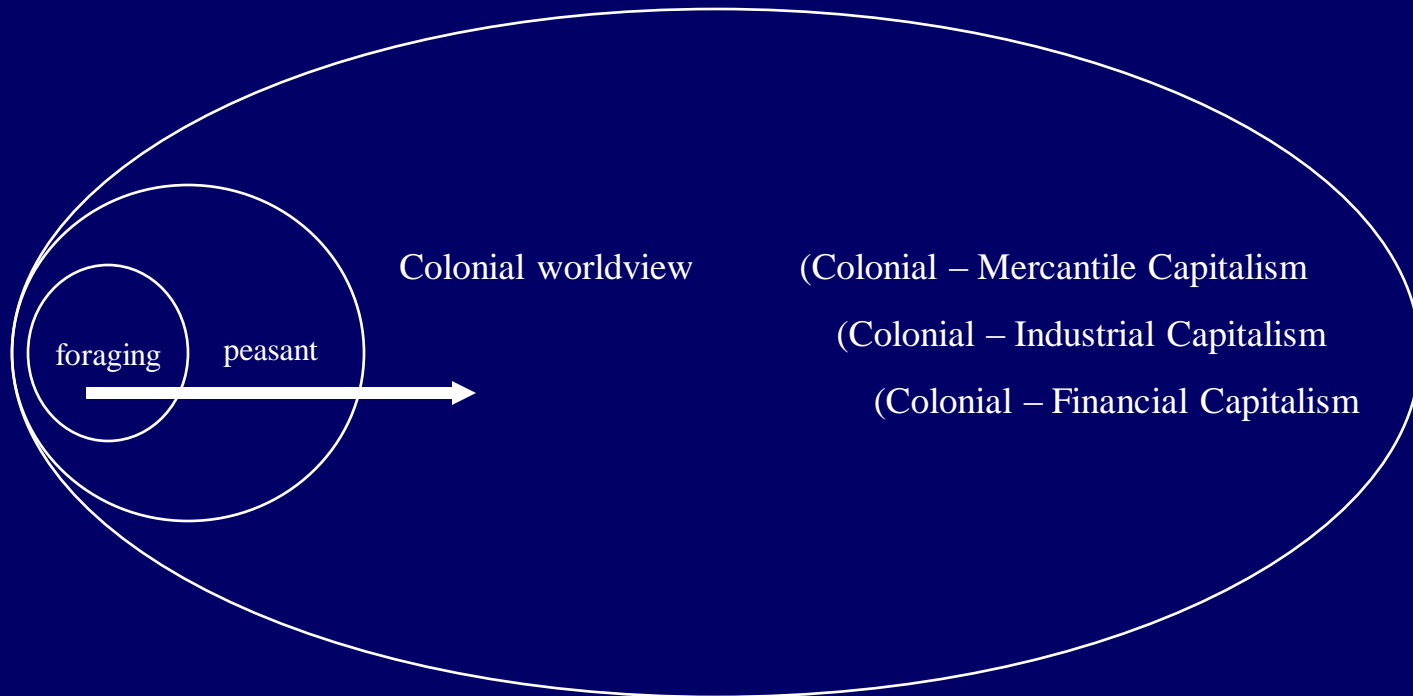




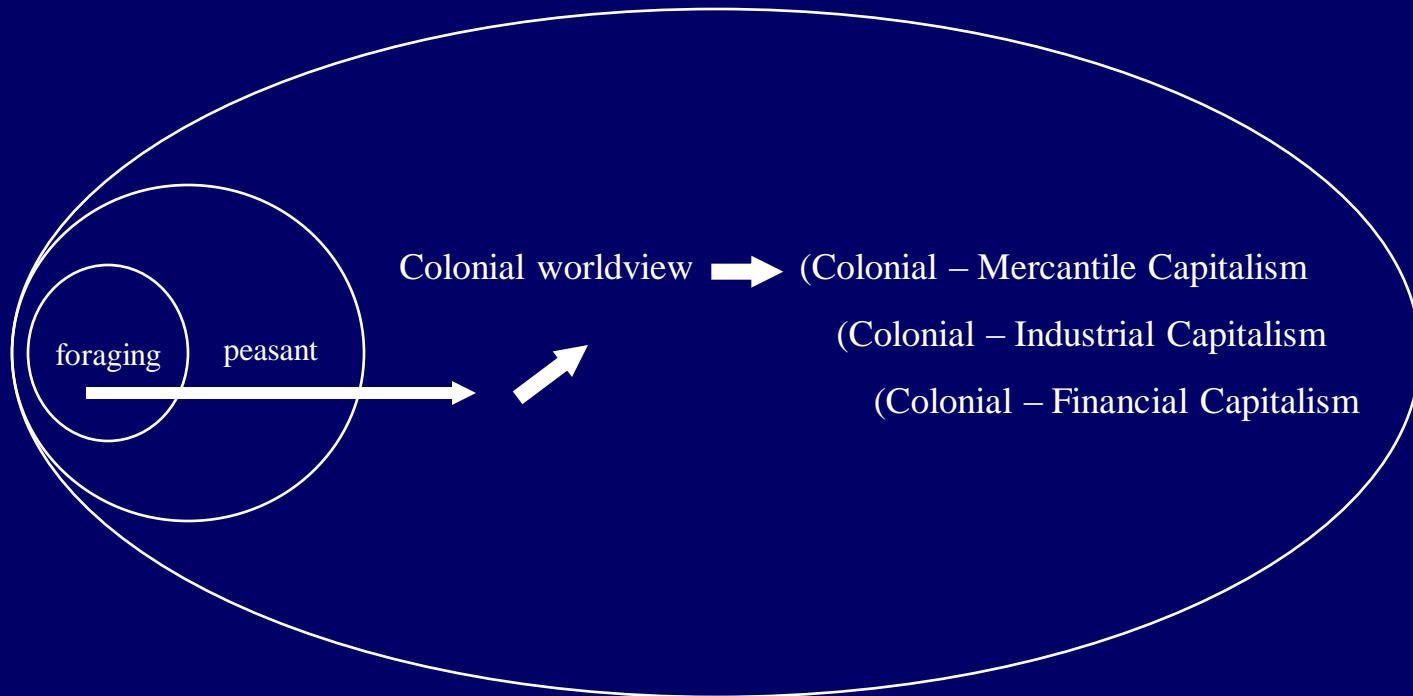
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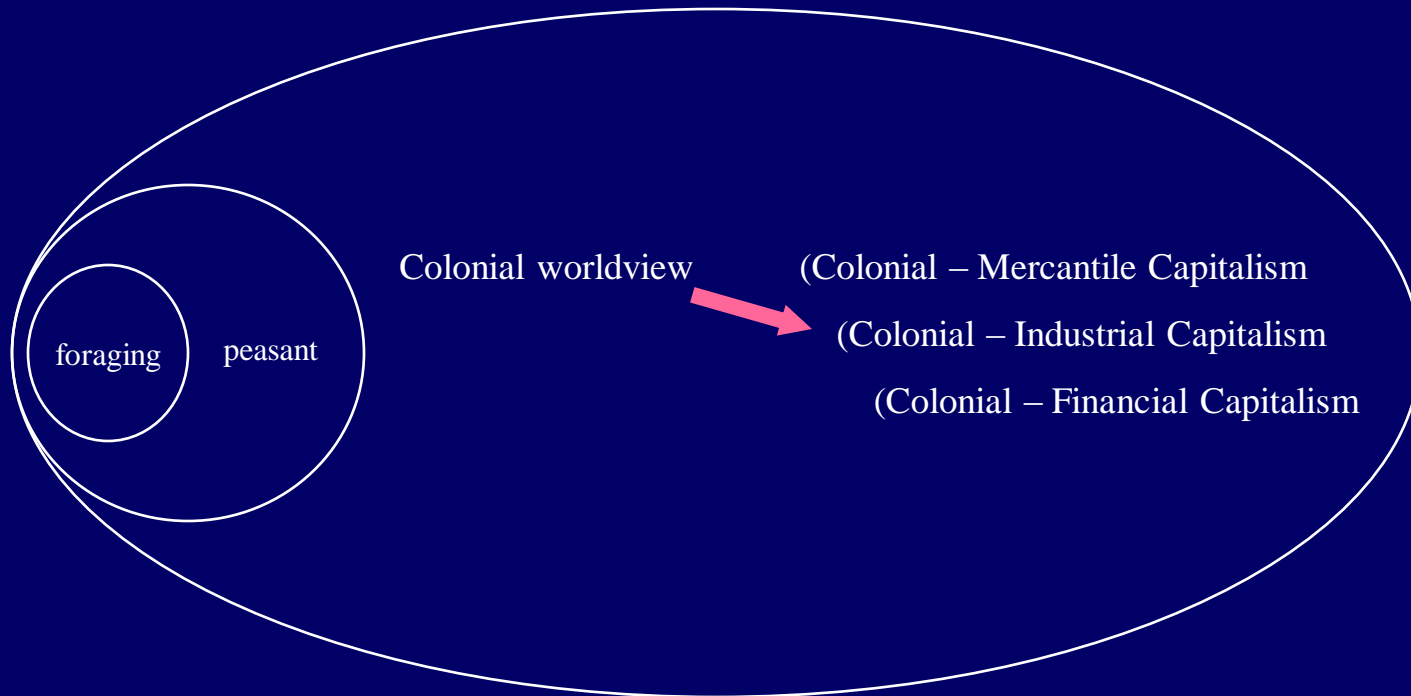


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extended

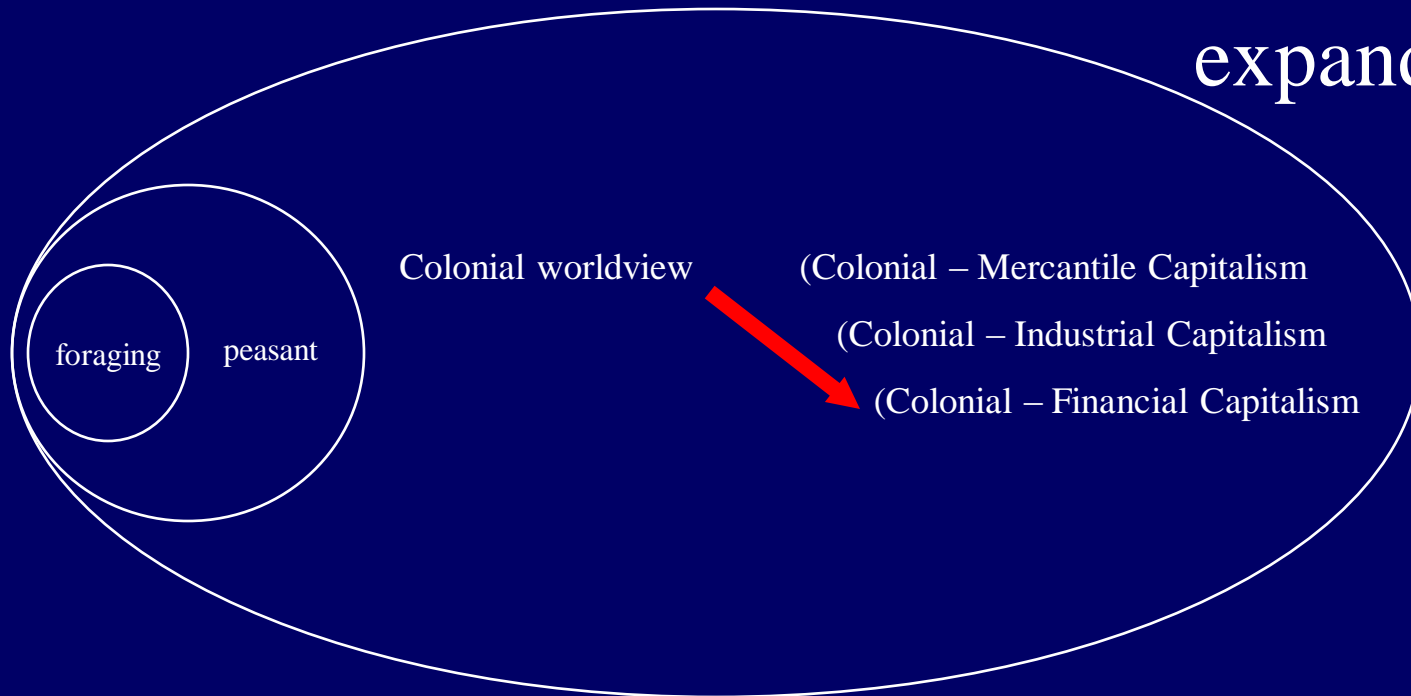




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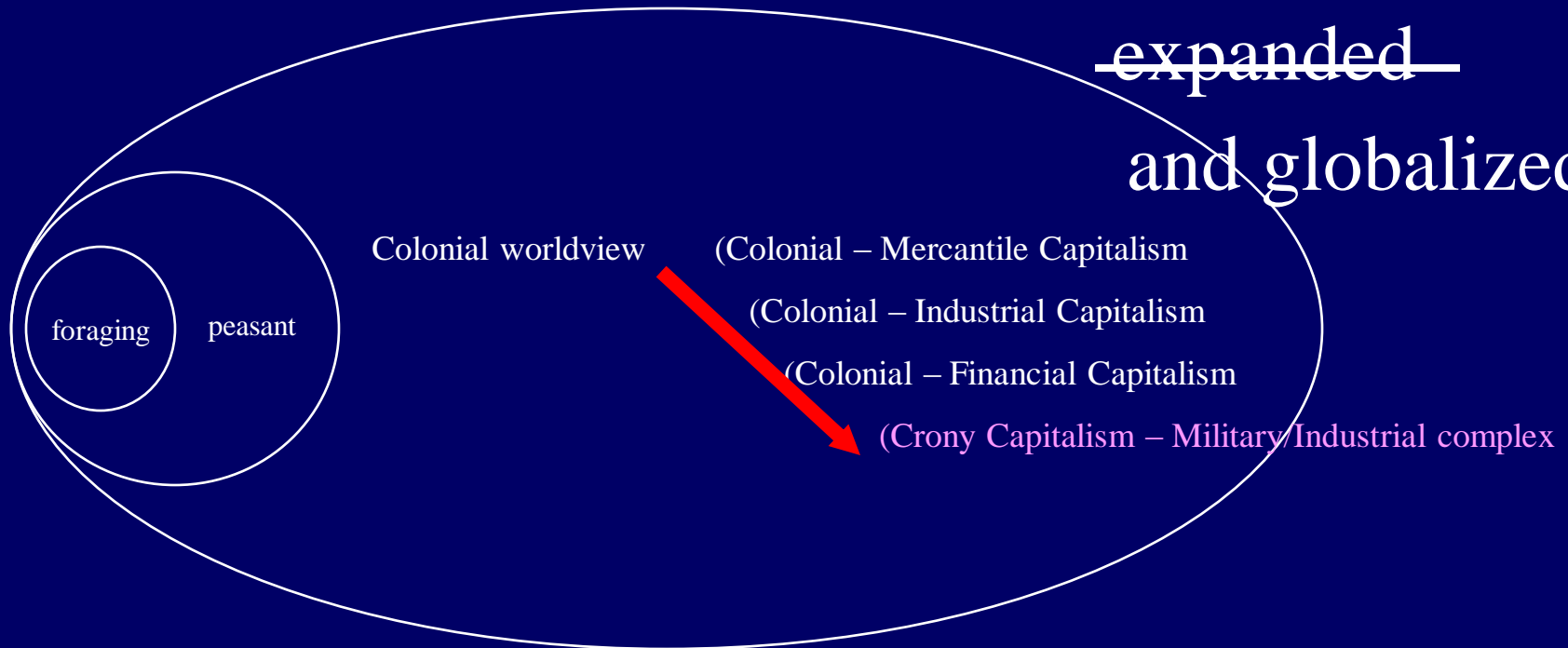


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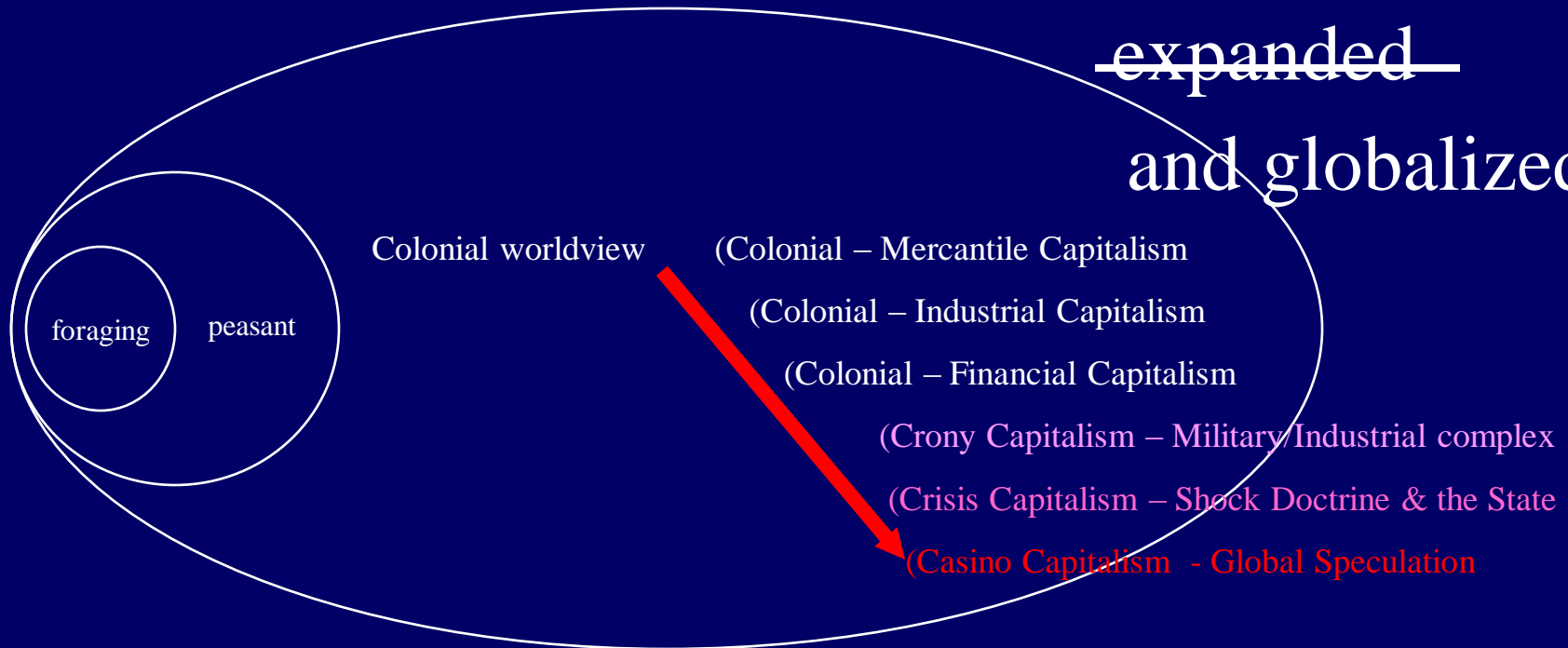


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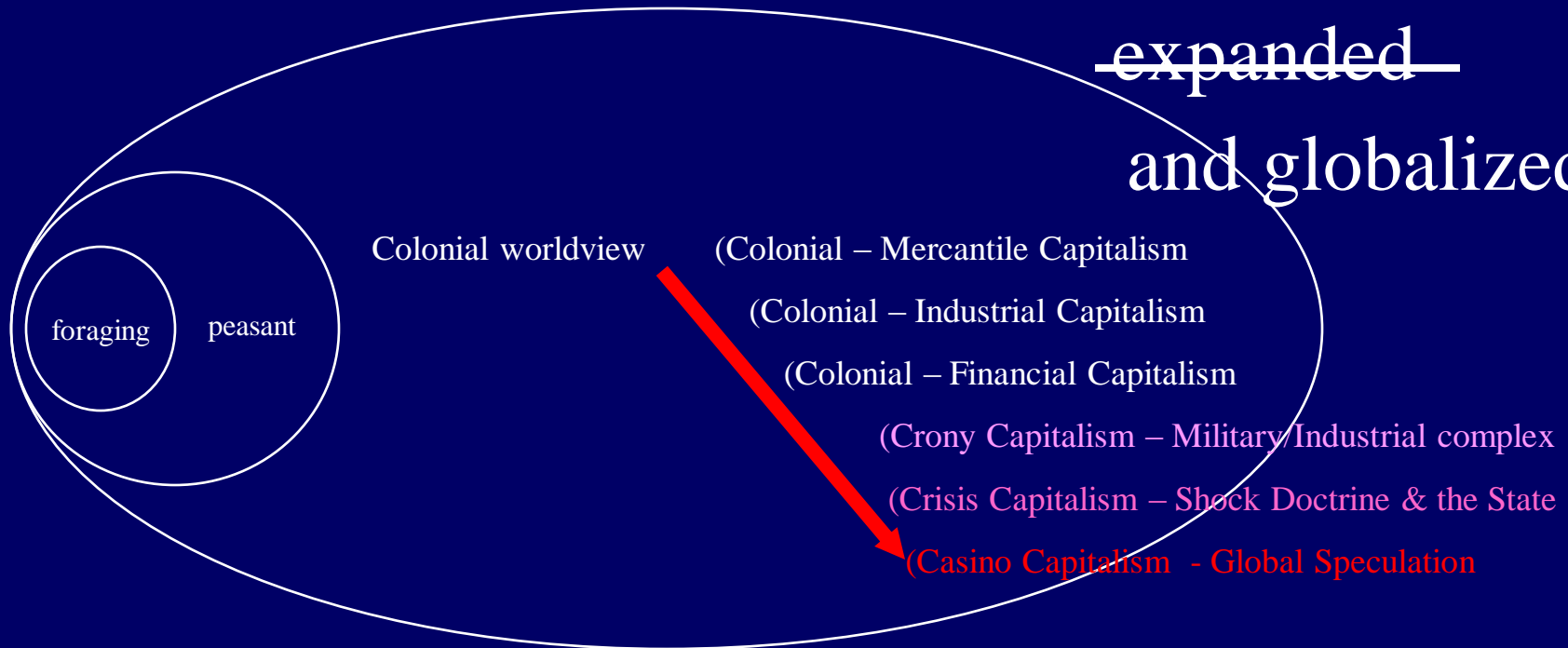


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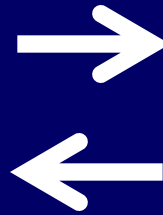
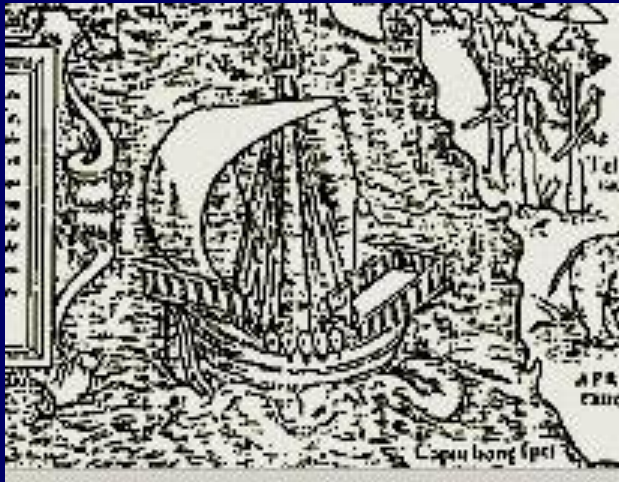


now this has become **Global Capitalism**





Europe may have been at the origin of the capitalist form of social organization but it is no longer dominant.



Finance capital is now global and does not tolerate for long the restraints of particular nation-states.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY Harvard.edu Photo

17 Wednesday, Oct. 17, 2012 ☀ Mostly Cloudy, 56° F HARVARDgazette

## Chao family gives \$40 million to HBS

Donation will fund executive education center, endow fellowships in matriarch's honor

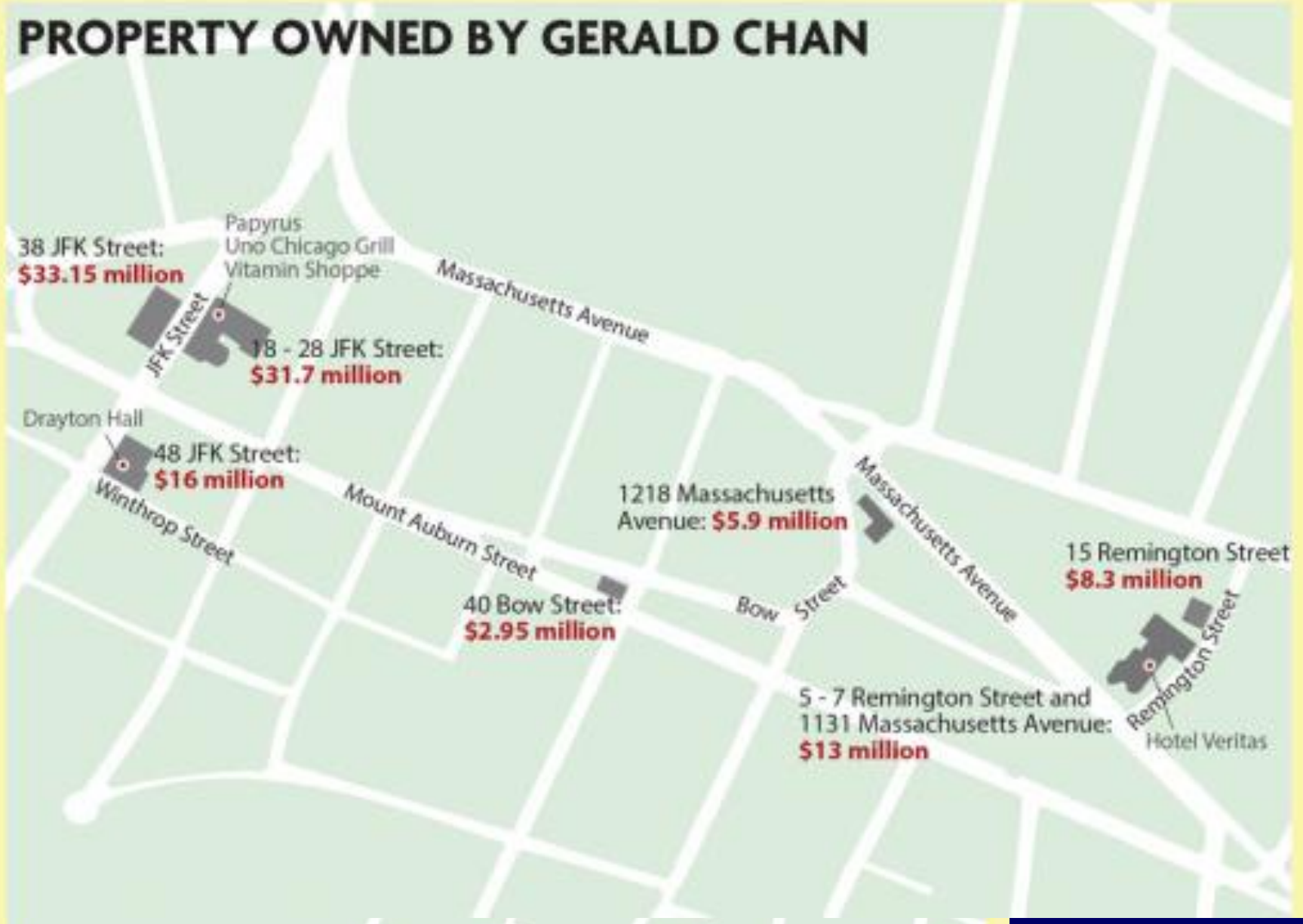


*Photos by Stephanie Mitchell/Harvard Staff Photographer*

Announcing a \$40 million gift from the James Si-Cheng Chao and Family Foundation were Angela Chao (back row, from left), Christine Chao, May Chao, and Grace Chao, Elaine Chao (front row, left), and James S.C. Chao. They are seated next to a portrait of the late family matriarch, Ruth Mulan Chu Chao.

# Hong Kong Billionaire Buys Up Harvard Square

## PROPERTY OWNED BY GERALD CHAN



# INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS TIMES

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2014 AS OF 3:16 PM EDT

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## Harvard University To Receive Record \$350M Gift From Hong Kong Billionaire Gerald Chan

By [Avaneesh Pandey](#) [@avaneeshp88](#) [a.pandey@ibtimes.com](mailto:a.pandey@ibtimes.com) on  
September 08 2014 3:42 AM





# Harvard University To Receive Record \$350M Gift From Hong Kong Billionaire Gerald Chan

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# Generating Solutions to Climate Change – Harvard

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UNIVERSITY

**“** Universities are accountable to the future. They have a special role and a special responsibility to confront the challenges of climate change and sustainability.

-President Drew Gilpin Faust

## GENERATING SOLUTIONS TO CLIMATE CHANGE

From creating new materials that revolutionize solar energy production to probing the human influences on climate change and providing analysis to policy-makers, Harvard faculty and students are playing key roles in the transition to renewable energy sources and a more sustainable future.



**260+**

courses offered on energy, sustainability, or the environment



**225**

faculty affiliated with the Harvard University Center for the Environment engaged in energy and environment-related research



**\$120 million** raised for energy and environment research since the start of The Harvard Campaign





# Divest Harvard

MOVING OUR ENDOWMENT BEYOND FOSSIL FUELS AND REINVESTING IN OUR FUTURE

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## Fast With Divest Harvard For Fossil Fuel Divestment

*Posted on September 30, 2014 by harvardjsjf*

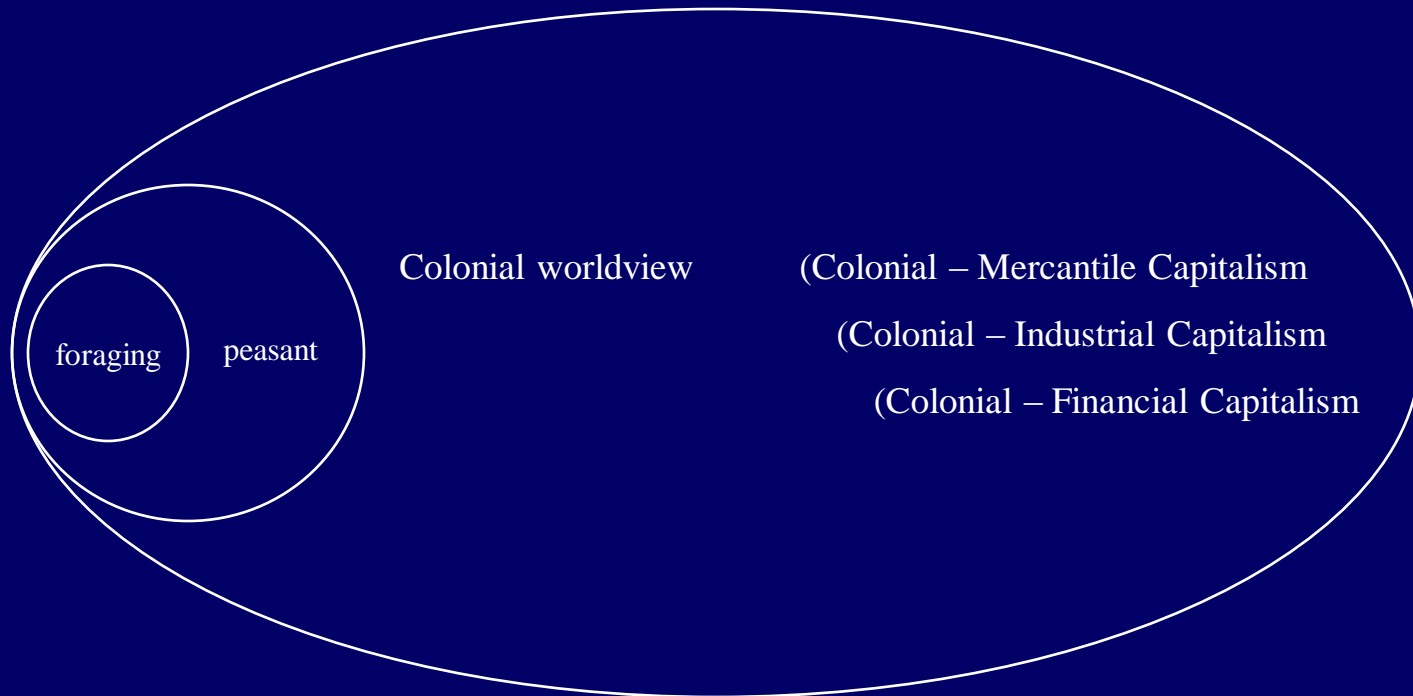
PLEASE fill out this form if you are fasting (to help us keep track!).

Official website for the fast: <http://www.divestharvardfast.com/>

**Support  
divestment by  
signing the  
resolution!**

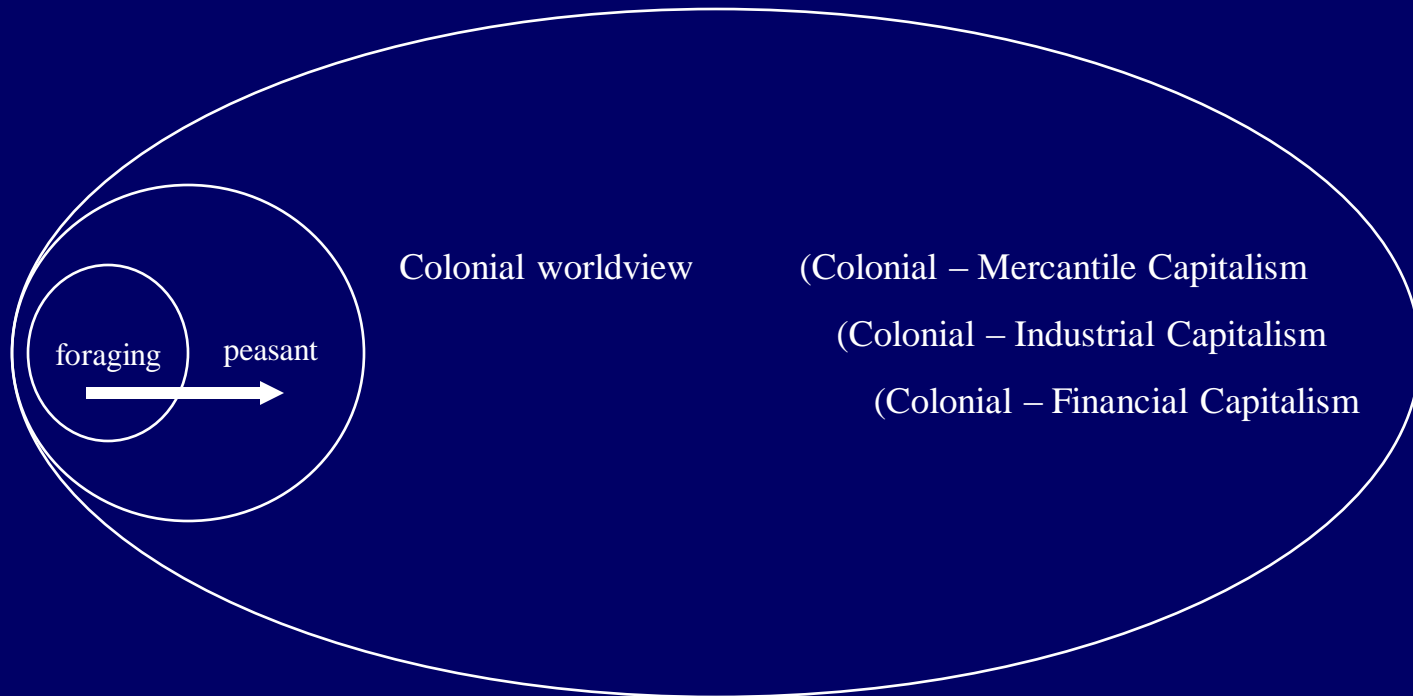


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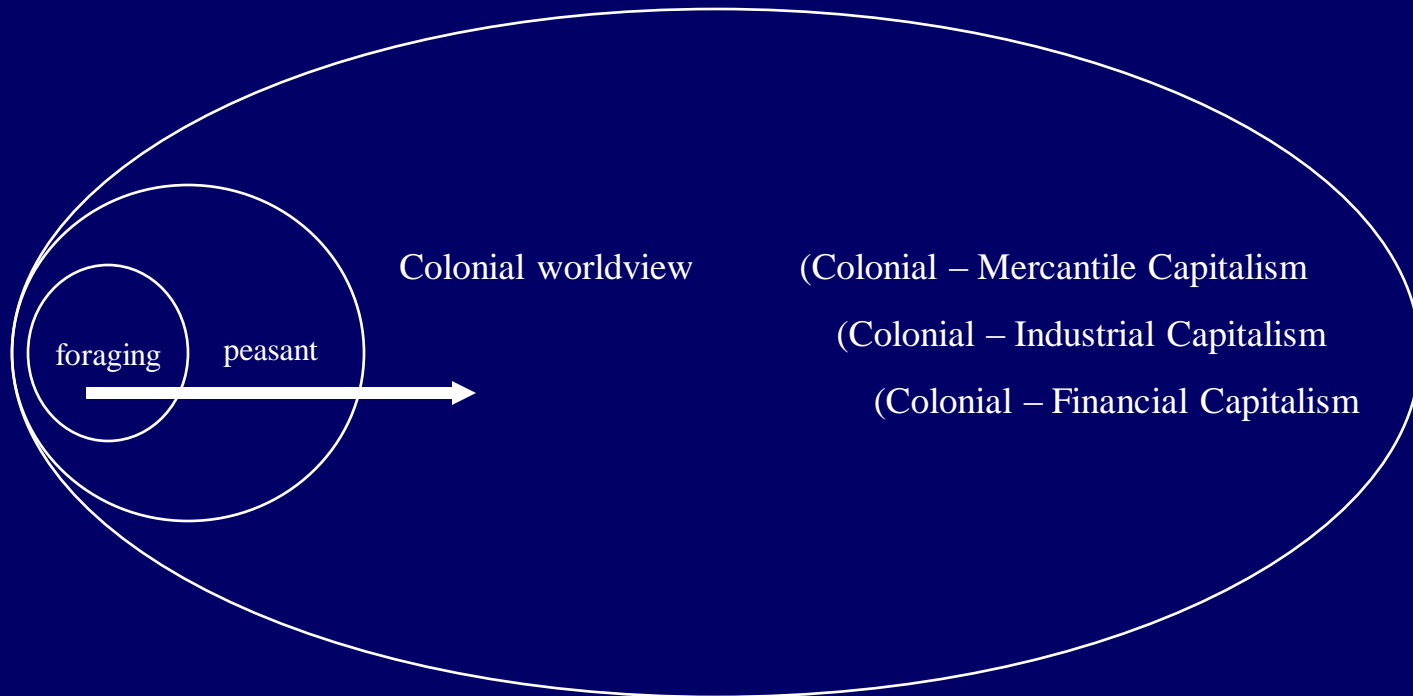




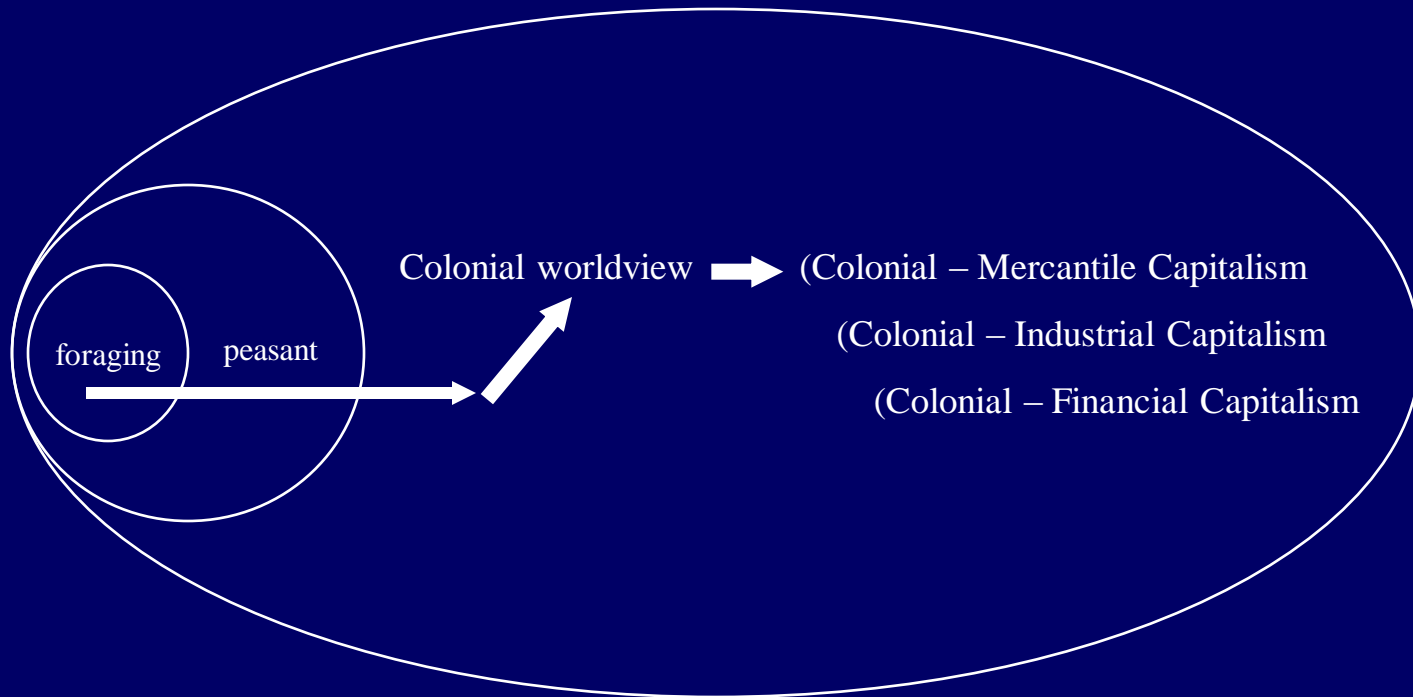
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# Elements of Mercantile Colonial Worldview

## *Implicit theories*

### **Community**

The moral community is made up of those who share in the effort to discover, conquer, exploit and dominate ‘wild’ or untamed nature.

### **System**

The system consists of various moral communities which are also engaged in this competition or which are destined to be subdued by it. All of this is played out in a vastly expanded natural world of plentiful resources that are there simply for the appropriation.

### **Authority**

Authority is vested in competing sovereignties which settle disputes by treaty, alliance or warfare. Nothing like the authority of power.

### **Change**

Change occurs through the invention of new sailing techniques, manufacturing technology and willful innovation. Change is good -- and necessary – for competitive survival of rival trading powers. Growth for the sake of growth is good – stored as “money” .

### **Agency**

The “Lord helps those who help themselves.” Explorers, discoverers and innovators are valued as agents of change.

### **Time**

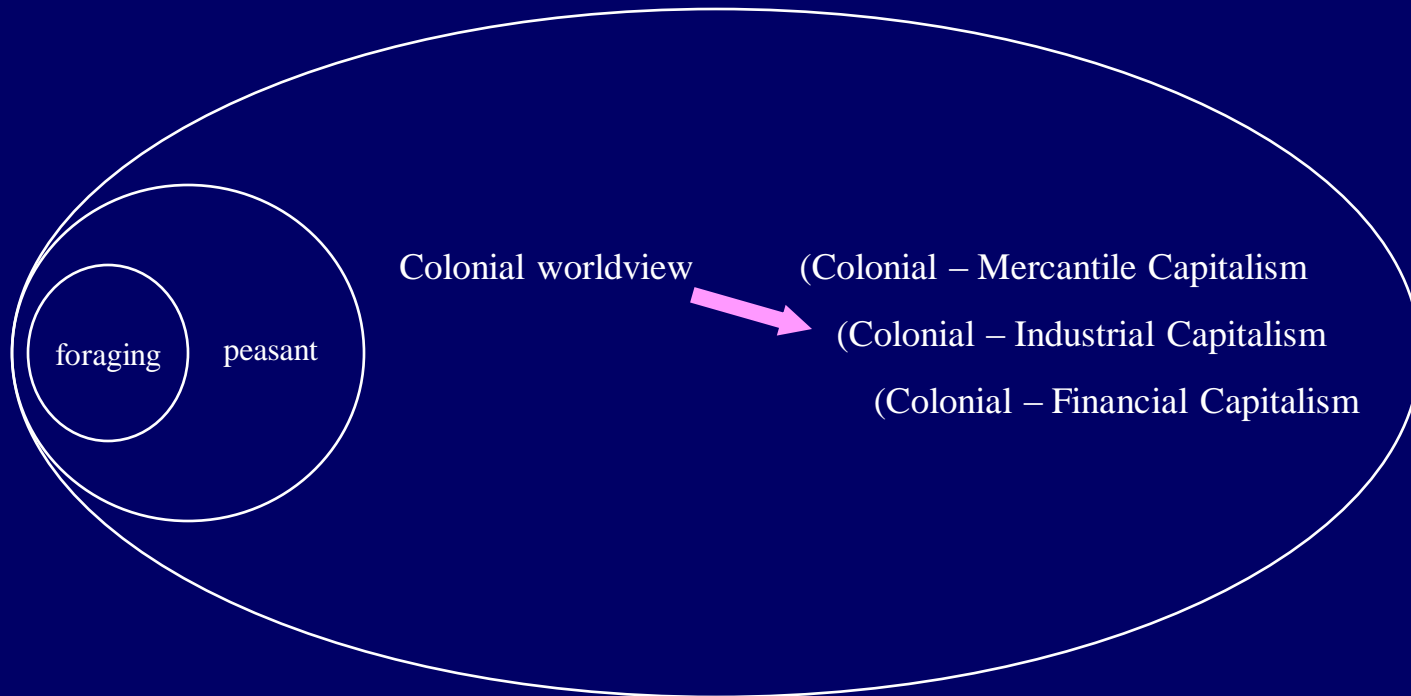
The focus is neither upon the past nor the remote future, but upon the present and the immediate future in which plans for growth, innovation and measurable expansion can be realized. The “New World” is a “New Heaven and a New Earth” -- Messianic, utopian communities abound.





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extended



# Industrial Capital Worldview

## *Implicit theories*

## *Colonial (Industrial) Worldview*

### **Community**

The moral community is made up of those who work to develop industrial processes with new labor-saving devices. Entrepreneurs

### **System**

The system consists of various other industrial entrepreneurs engaged in competition. Natural world is a resource base for industrial processes. Plants, animals and minerals are “raw materials.”

### **Authority**

Authority is vested in nation-states under elected governments or constitutional monarchies whose role is to facilitate industrial development

### **Change**

Change occurs through the invention of manufacturing technology through invention and the application of science for willful innovation. Change is good -- and necessary – for competitive survival of rival industrial powers. Growth for the sake of growth is a goal .

### **Agency**

The state and the entrepreneurial classes need to act together. The state should act to facilitate and “free up” the potential for industrial growth.

### **Time**

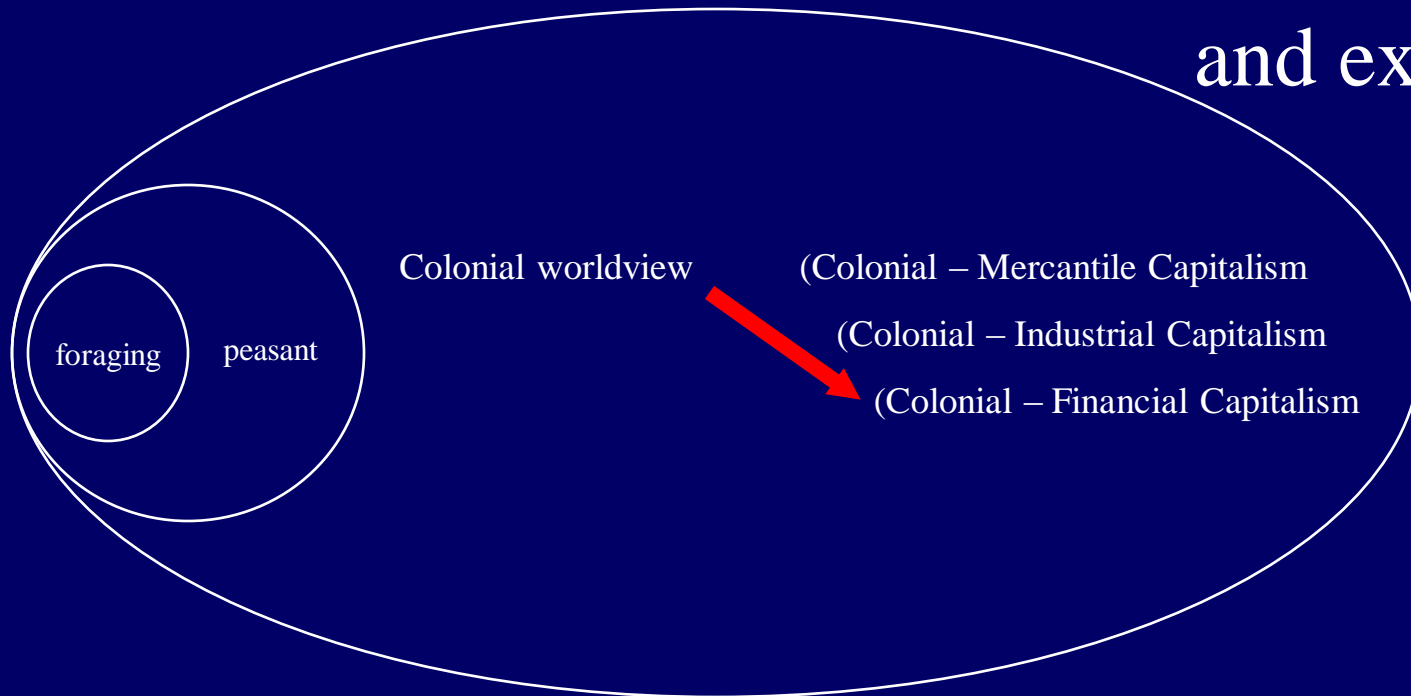
The focus is upon the immediate future in which plans for growth, innovation and measurable expansion can be realized. The preindustrial past becomes “outdated.” The system moves toward the “new” and innovative. The “modern” is “good” the “old-fashioned” is simply discarded, bypassed or ignored



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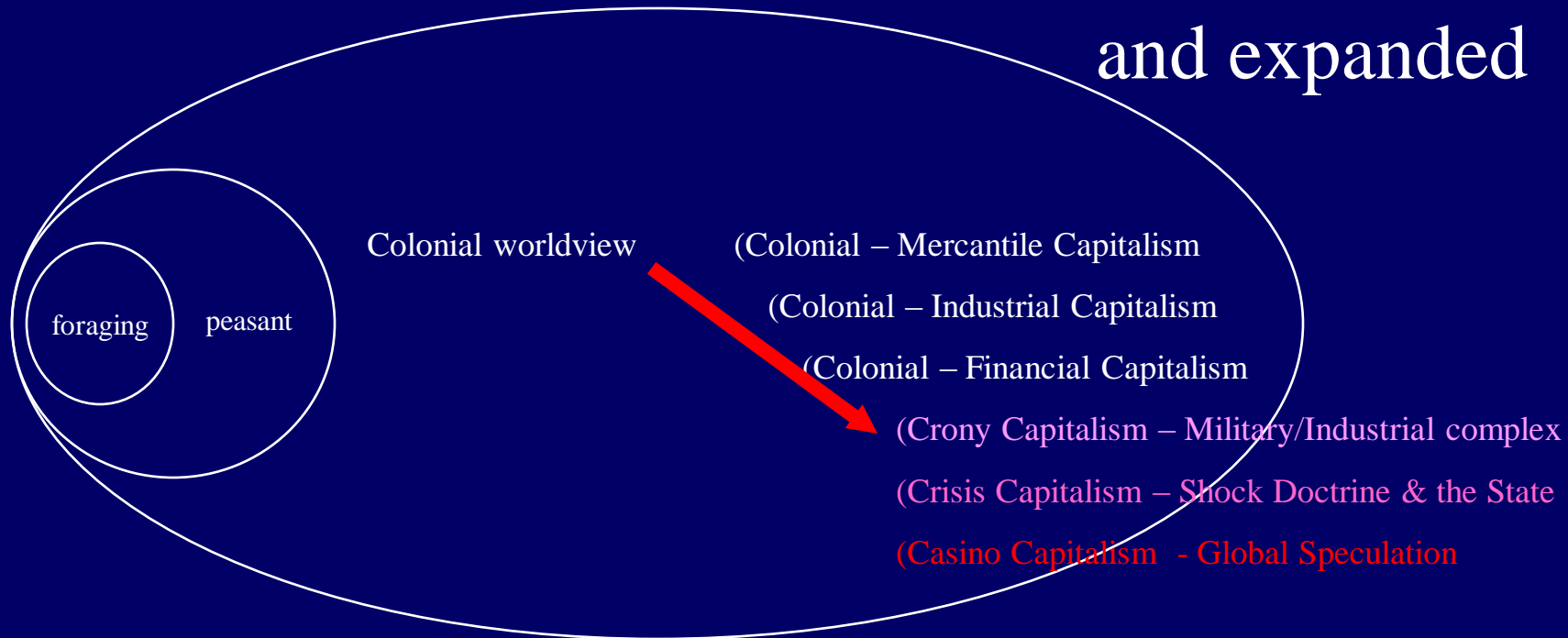
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# Finance Capital Worldview

## *Implicit theories*

### **Community**

## *Colonial (Financial Crony) Capitalism Worldview*

The moral community is made up of those who can mobilize political leaders to finance the systematic “privatization” of government functions.

### **System**

The system consists of investors engaged in differential strategies of investment throughout the world. The world as a whole is available as a theater for profitable investment. Financial resources knit the system as a whole together.

### **Authority**

Authority is vested in trans-national and multinational alliances and agreements that work to facilitate the unimpeded movement of capital

### **Change**

Change occurs through the identification and investment in new ideas.. Change is good and has become essential for competitive survival of rival financial groups. Growth is both good and necessary.

### **Agency**

The government contractor is the agent of change in the system. The state should act to “free up” resources of the state and divert government spending toward preferred contractors who are the real agents of change.

### **Time**

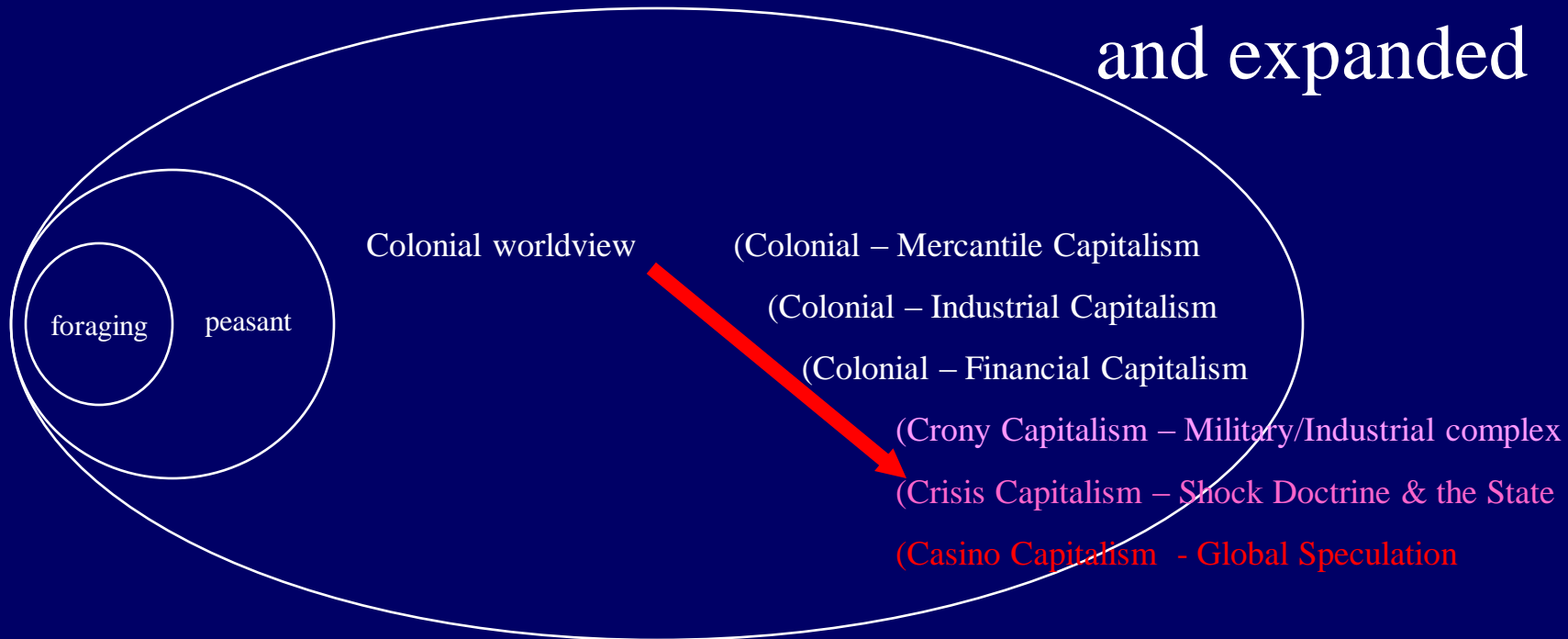
The focus is upon the next election for the relevant cronies to be “elected” to keep the system diverting public money toward private contractors. Capital “investments” are made in two year increments for whatever political alliances work best to preserve the diversion.



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# Finance Capital Worldview

## *Implicit theories*

### **Community**

The moral community is made up of those can be counted upon to respond to the “crisis” at hand (financial, terrorist, security, etc.)

### **System**

The system consists of citizens who are told and obediently accept the definition of “crisis” forwarded by the dominant investing classes and their allies in the State apparatus of governance.

### **Authority**

Authority is effectively vested in a consortium or rough coalition of major banks and the national treasury who proposed programs in response to the real or perceived threats to investments.

### **Change**

Change occurs through the identification of the next “crisis” that will rock the investing class (the Savings and Loan Crisis, the Dot.Com Crisis, the Asian Economic Crisis, the Housing crisis, etc.). Identifying the cause of the crisis in the system suggests how it should be changed to protect the dominant interests of those the system serves.

### **Agency**

The Federal Reserve Chairman, the Treasury Secretary and a handful of advisors are the agents to implement whatever changes are necessary to maintain the system-wide profitability for its dominant members.

### **Time**

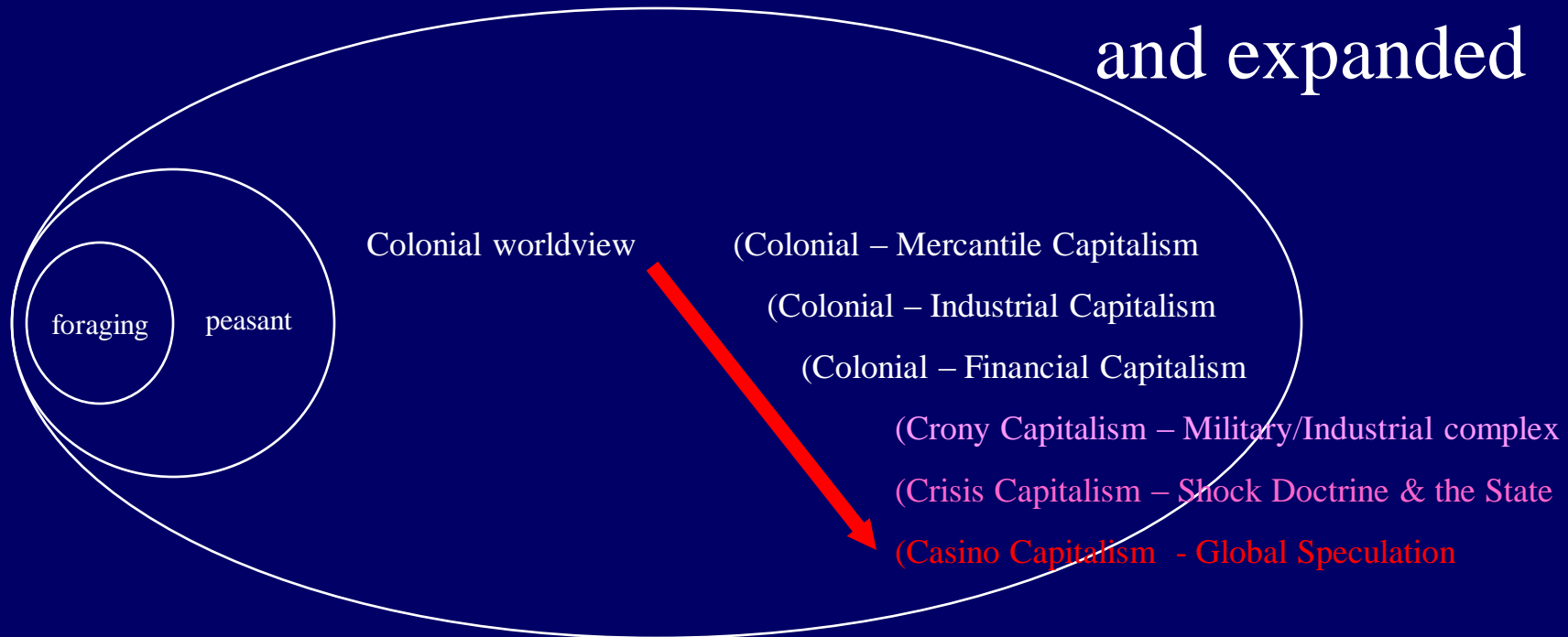
The focus is upon the next “boom” designed to “stimulate” further investments and re-activate “growth.” Times of “growth” are thought to be “normal.” Times of diminished economic activity are overcome by the next “boom” cycle. Life is one great long series of boom-bust cycles.



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# Finance Capital Worldview

## *Implicit theories*

## *Colonial (Financial Casino) Capitalism Worldview*

### **Community**

The moral community is made up of “high end” investors seeking maximum return on capital invested in a wide range of investment opportunities around the world.

### **System**

The system consists of large banks and wealthy speculators – the world’s 1%. The world as a whole is available as a theater for profitable investment. Financial resources knit the system as a whole together for the private and increasing benefit of the 1% -- largely ignoring the needs of the 99%.

### **Authority**

Authority is vested in loose consortia of banks and financial institutions in constant and intimate dialogue with nation-state “regulators” who virtually never prosecute for fraud.

### **Change**

Change occurs through the identification and rapid investment in profitable opportunities around the world and in currency trading itself driven by rumors, “confidence,” symbols of “strength” that are thought to assure higher rates of return to invested capital. OR change emerges from public outrage – sometimes on the street.

### **Agency**

Large Banks and currency speculators are the agents of change in the system. The State acts as an agent of transforming conditions within any one country to make the country “attractive” to speculative investment from large banks and holders of capital that wish to “risk” for short-term but massive profits.

### **Time**

The focus is upon the next round of currency fluctuations. Large amounts of capital are involved in “advancing” or “withdrawing” assurances of payment and debts so that the entire system keeps going only minute to minute consensus which is subject to “collapse” at any moment. Whole countries can be ruined in a matter of hours – currency collapse, run on banks, general strike, etc.



# Big Remaining Question:

What would a Sustainable  
Worldview look like?

*Implicit theories*

**Community**

**System**

**Authority**

**Change**

**Agency**

**Time**





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Harvard Extension School  
ENVR-E120 - Fall Semester 2011

## Environmental Ethics and Land Management

Introduction to the Ethics of Sustainability  
<http://courses.dce.harvard.edu/~envre120>

[Timothy C. Weiskel](#)

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[Live Video Feed & Class Chatroom](#)

Wednesdays, 5:30-7:30

[Week 9](#)

[Week 8](#)

[Week 7](#)

## Class Research Resources and Assignments

### Week 5

*Our Historical Context: Colonialism, Imperialism and Sprawl*

[Video of Class Session](#) | [Slides of Class Session](#)

[Video of Class Discussion Session](#) | [Slides for Discussion Session](#)

[Week's Assigned Readings](#)

[Supplementary Videos](#)

In addition to these slides from the class lecture, please view the substantial supplementary information on the role of ["exceptionalist" religious belief](#) and how it is manifest in the present White House and in the current political campaign. In viewing this material, ask yourselves:

*How are people -- equipped with this worldview -- likely to view the environment and humankind's role within the ecosystem?*

"It may not be improper to characterize as ecological imperialism the elaboration of a world organization that is centered in industrial societies and degrades the ecosystems of the agrarian societies it absorbs. Ecological imperialism is in some ways similar to economic imperialism. In both there is a flow of energy and material from the less organized system to the more organized one, and both may also be masked by the same euphemisms, among which "progress" and "development" are prominent.





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### Class Research Resources and Assignments

Week 5

## Attributes of Evolving Cultural Worldviews

Implicit Assumptions of [Foraging Society's Worldview](#)

Implicit Assumptions of the [Neolithic or Peasant Worldview](#)

Implicit Assumptions of the [Colonial Worldview](#)

Implicit Assumptions of the Colonial [\(Mercantilile Capitalist\) Worldview](#)

Implicit Assumptions of the Colonial [\(Industrial Capitalist\) Worldview](#)

Implicit Assumptions of the Colonial [\(Financial Capitalist\) Worldview](#)

Worksheets for analyzing implicit cultural theories  
[Weiskel's "Cheat Sheet" of Implied Theories](#)  
[Downloadable .XLS version - right click and "Save As"]





## Naomi Klein – The Shock Doctrine: The Rise of Disaster Capitalism

Posted on [October 23, 2013](#) | [Leave a comment](#) | [Edit](#)



## Naomi Klein: This Changes Everything – Capitalism vs. The Climate | Cambridge Forum

Posted on [October 20, 2014](#) | [Leave a comment](#) | [Edit](#)



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Specific Skills – to be *learned* and *practiced* in this course  
Analyzing worldviews: **we will need to earn how to:**

**Identify** moral and ethical arguments forwarded in the realms of environment and public policy.

**Analyze** these arguments.

**Evaluate** these arguments (that is, make judgments about relative merit).

**Formulate** your own arguments in response to the available logic in reference to specific problems.

**Articulate** your moral argument effectively.

and

**Persuade** those who remain unconvinced.



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## Remember...

A **Worldview** is a set of assumed cultural values experienced collectively over time in a specific ecosystem.

“Weiskel’s cheat sheet” can help you identify the embedded cultural values.

You will need to understand how the *ecology of a particular culture* came to be experienced over time by its participants.

So, history is crucial to understanding where values came from, how they became “believable” and why people are still attached to them.



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## Consider the conflicting values expressed....

..... in our different understandings of particular historical episodes....

The importance of “Columbus day” was one example....

There are many others,

## Consider the Modoc War...



# The Modoc War



The particular details of this war are not disputed. BUT the understanding of what happened is vastly different, depending upon the worldviews of those who remember it.

<http://environmentaljusticetv.wordpress.com/2013/10/23/ore>

Tim Weiskel 53





⋮

# What is the worldview underlying this corporation's actions?



<http://environmentaljusticetv.wordpress.com/2013/10/23/bechtel-history/>



Given the worldview of particular individuals, consider the sense of “mission” (entitlement and empowerment) that derives from “The Jesus Factor.”



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## Summary of Progression in Colonial Worldview

Social systems dominated by a mercantile, industrial and, finally, a financial capital view the world in similar ways. In each stage of capitalist consciousness there is:



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- a common assumption that **growth is good & *growth is normal***; **infinite growth** is both **possible** and **desirable**.



## Summary of Progression in Colonial Worldview

- Social systems dominated by a mercantile, industrial and, finally, a financial capital view the world in similar ways. In each stage of capitalist consciousness there is:
- a common assumption that **growth is good & *growth is normal***; **infinite growth** is both **possible** and **desirable**.
  - ***a hastening of the theory of time*** -- that is, a “shortening” of the effective time frame within things are expected to happen (time is money, we cannot “waste” it, etc. Time is thought to be that phenomena which by being expended generates growth *automatically* through returns to capital – ie. “interest”).





## Over all Colonial Worldview - Summary

Further, there is in this evolution of worldviews:

- *a removal of the locus of power over decision making* from the physical bases of ecosystemic dependence. Economy and moneyed wealth thought to be *autonomous*. Money generates interest automatically – “spontaneously,” all on its own.



## Over all Colonial Worldview - Summary

Further, there is in this evolution of worldviews:

- *a removal of the locus of power over decision making* from the physical bases of ecosystemic dependence. Economy and moneyed wealth thought to be *autonomous*. Money generates interest automatically – “spontaneously,” all on its own.
- *a collapse of consciousness from system → to sector → to “virtual” reality*. (stock market paper “investments,” etc.) Movement to specialized concerns, generalized indifference and post-literate consciousness.



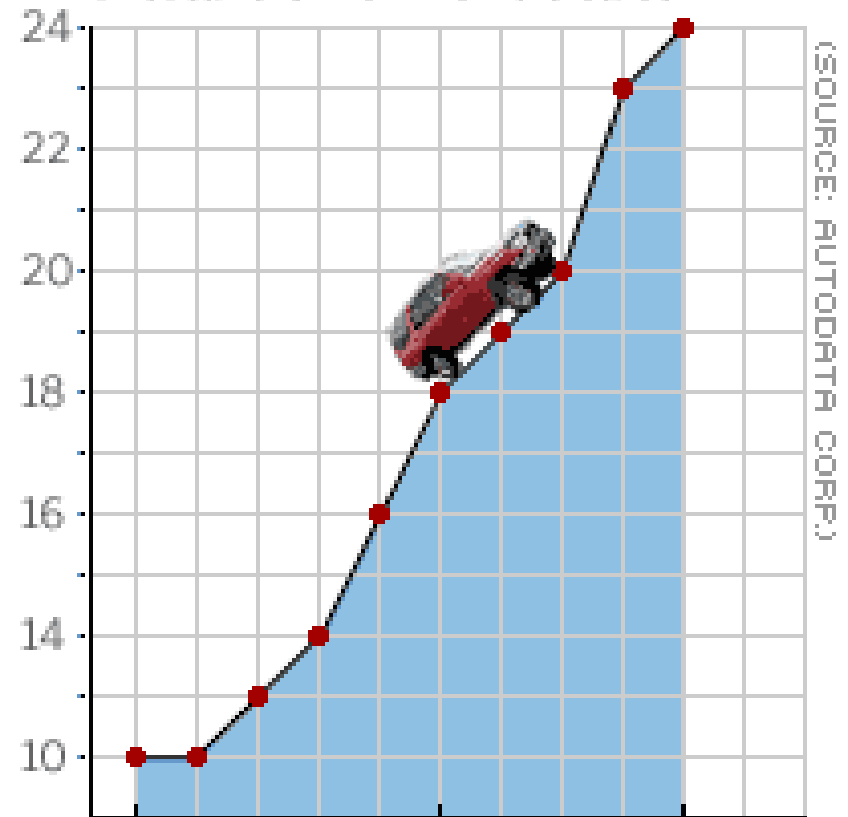
The 1990s saw an enormous boom in SUV sales and a boom in suburban sprawl – all made possible through a continuously expanding economy.

Our President became famous for his encapsulation of the issue:  
*“It’s the economy, stupid”*.

Under President Clinton the U.S. economy enjoyed the longest sustained period of continuous growth in U.S. history...

## SUV Sales

Sport/utility vehicle sales as a % of total U.S. new vehicle sales



(SOURCE: AUTODATA CORP.)

\* YTD sales for 1st 10 months/year.

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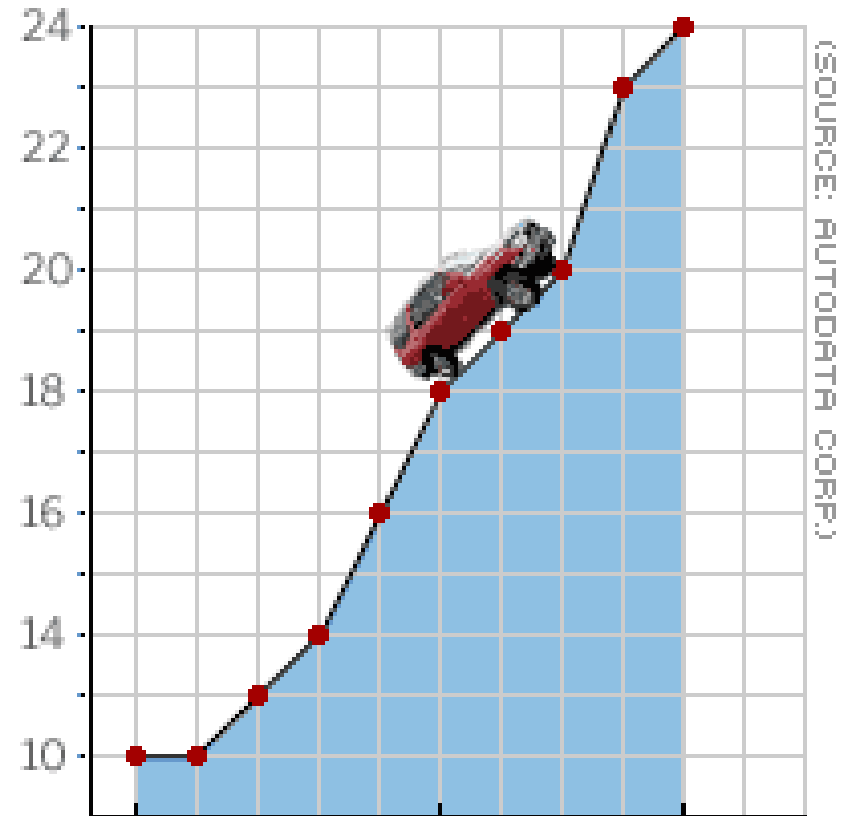
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**BUT !**

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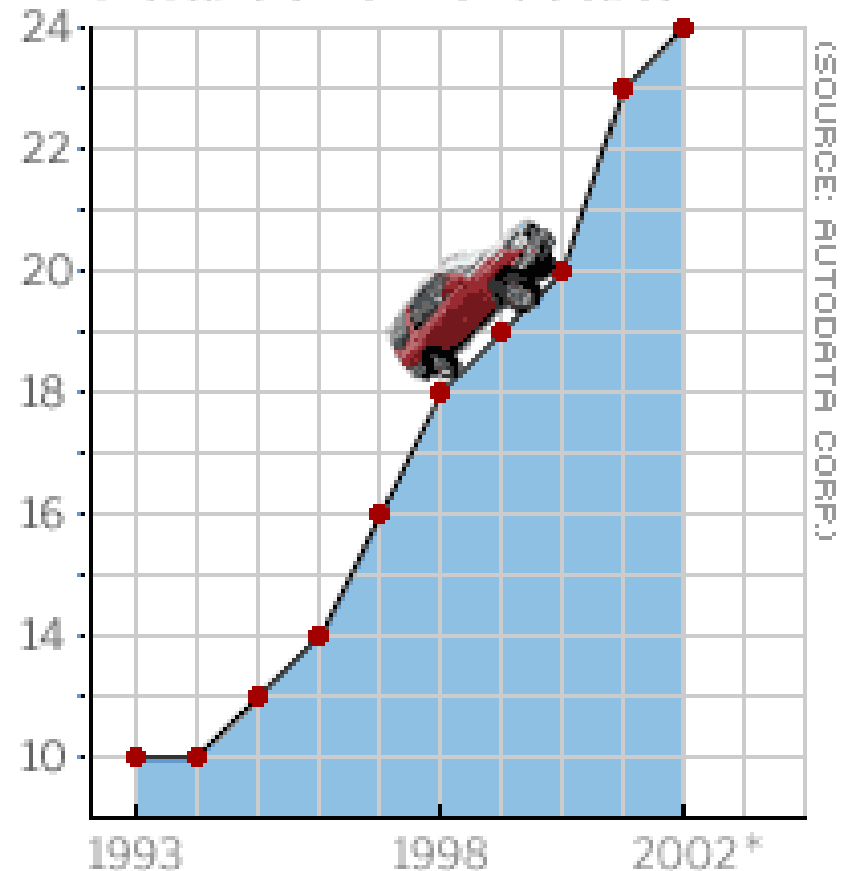
**BUT**

...we had a growing economy based on a non-renewable?

(Who was really stupid?)

## SUV Sales

Sport/utility vehicle sales as a % of total U.S. new vehicle sales



\* YTD sales for 1st 10 months/year.



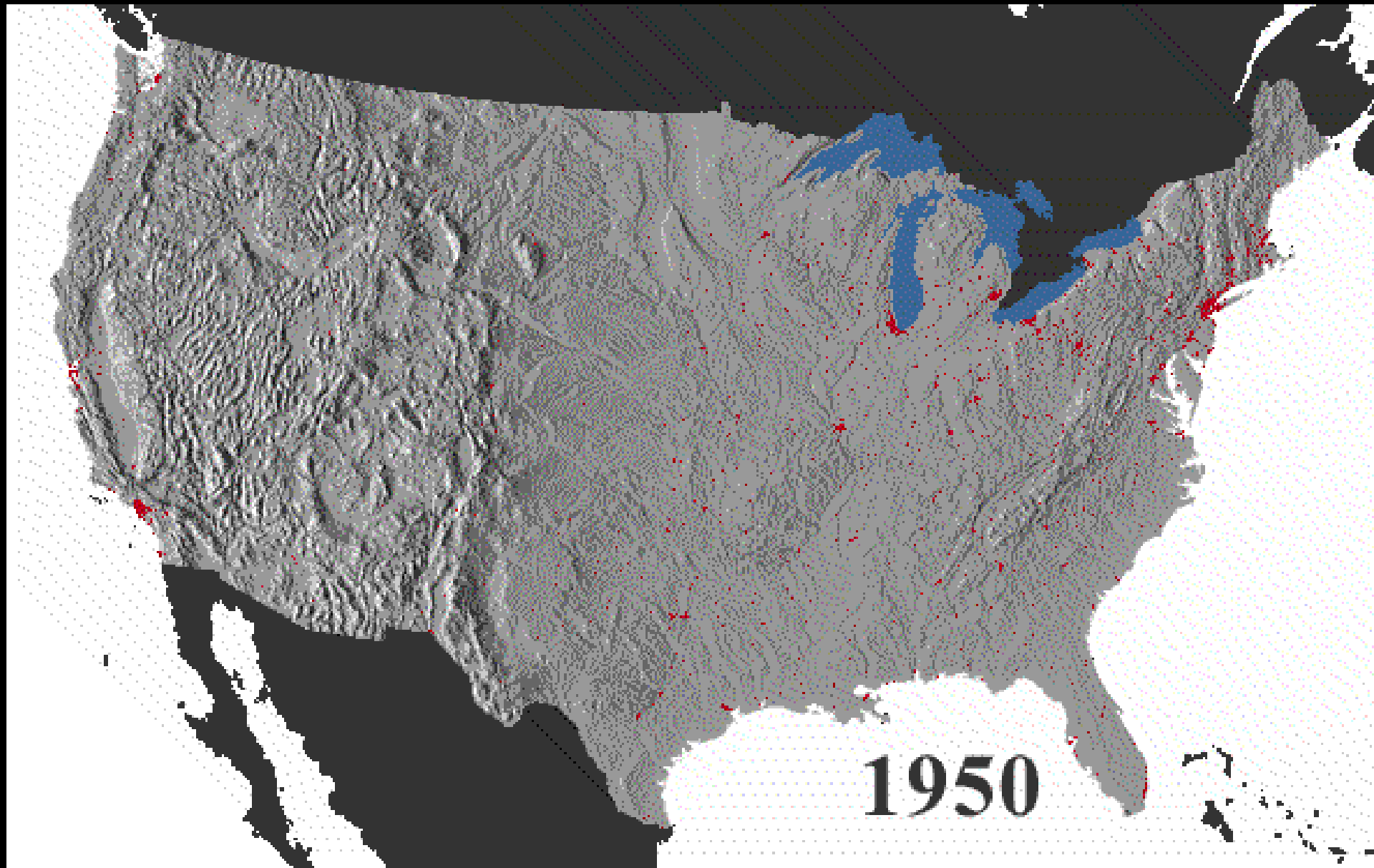


***THE TARGET:***

**2.700.000**

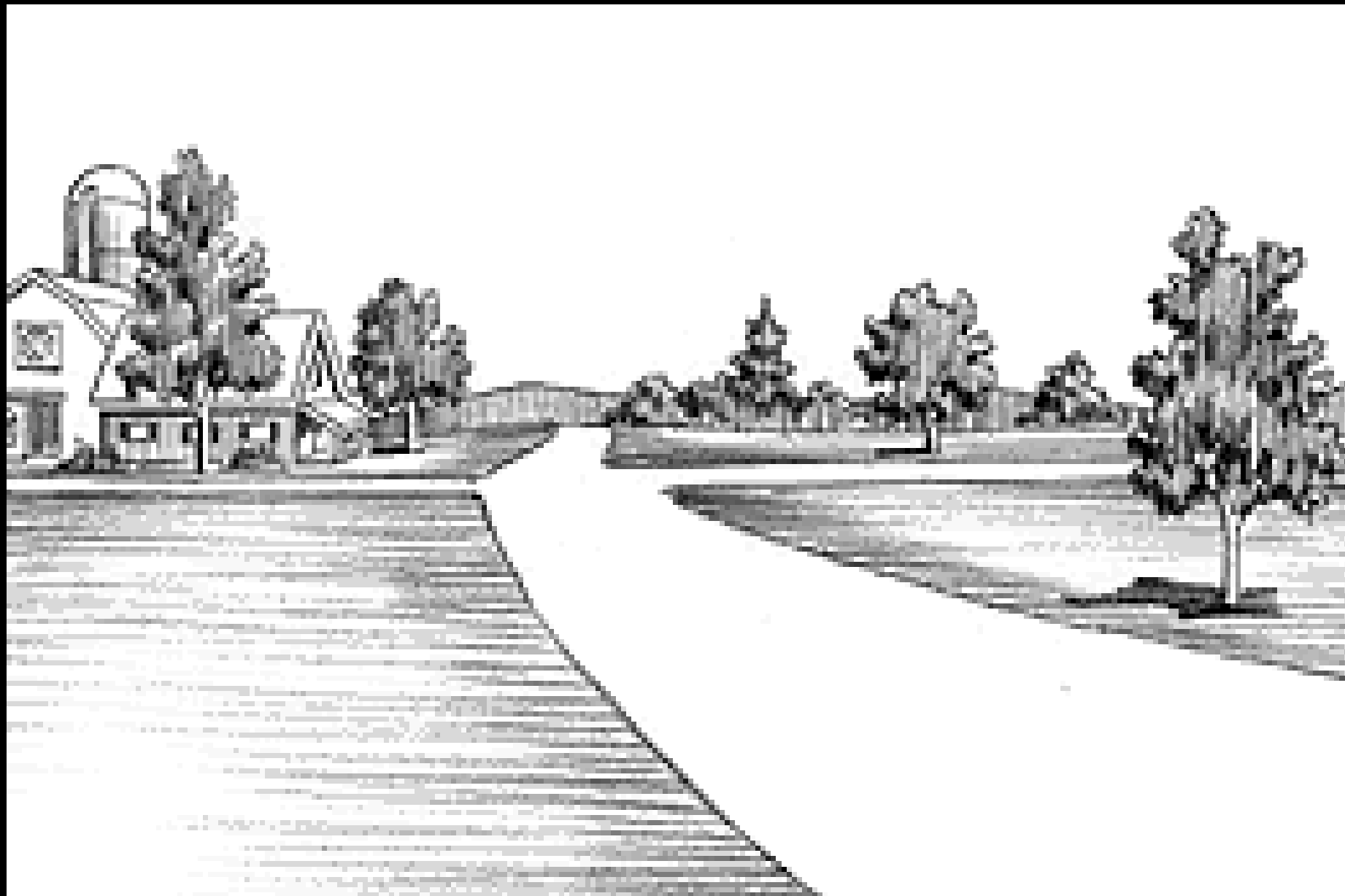
**HOMES AND APARTMENTS**

*by the end of 1947*



1950

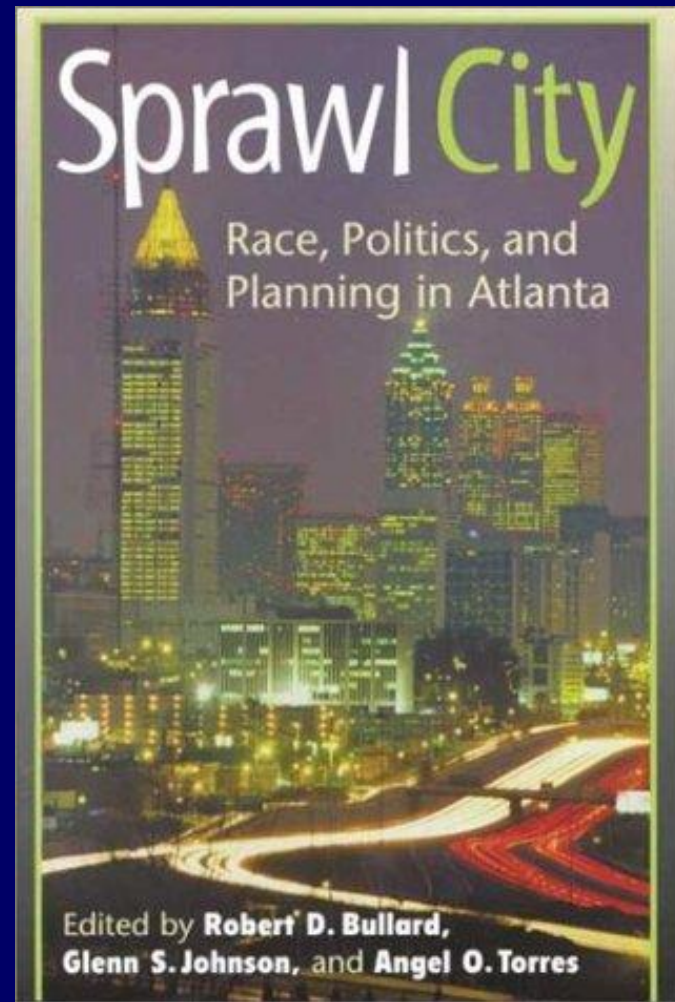




## Sprawl and the ‘Colonial’ worldview...

Atlanta has been identified as the “poster-child” of sprawl.

Sierra Club calls it the most sprawl-threatened city in the United States. \*





# Atlanta Sprawl



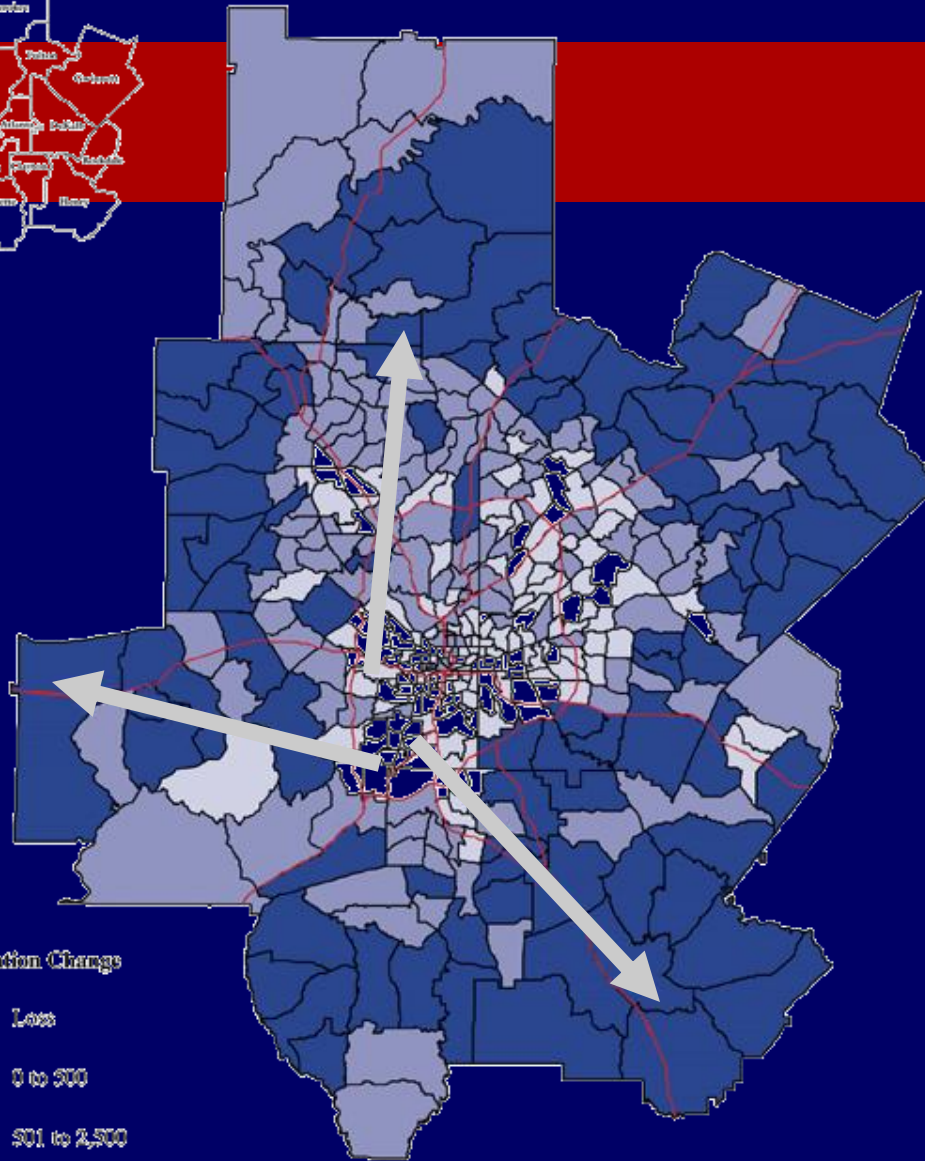
The counties around Atlanta have experienced phenomenal growth.

National urban policy groups have focused on the region and its problems. \*

Even farmers have had their say. \*



# Population Change 1990-2000



## Population Change

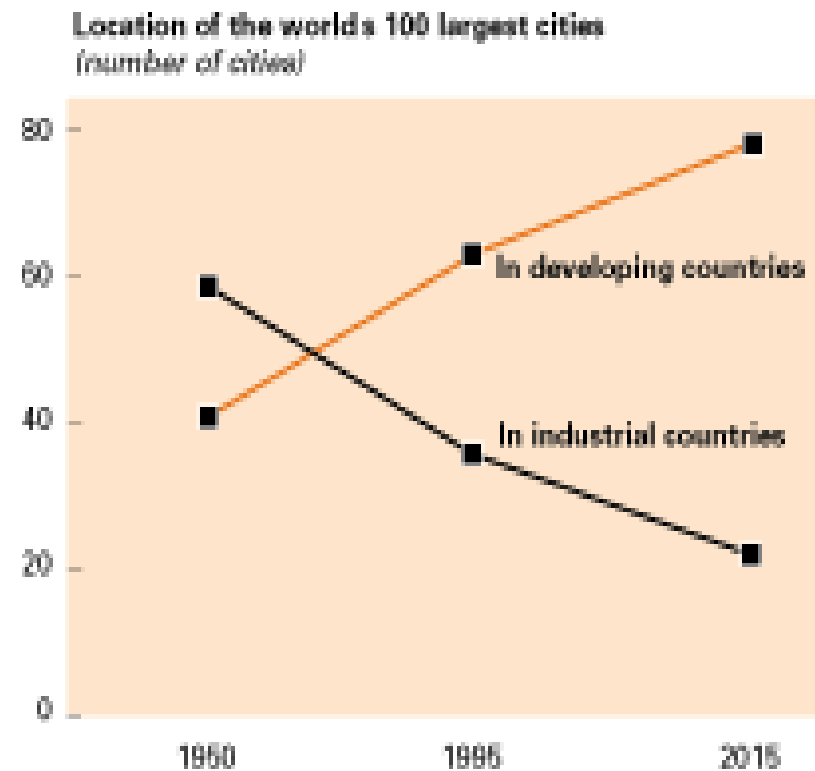
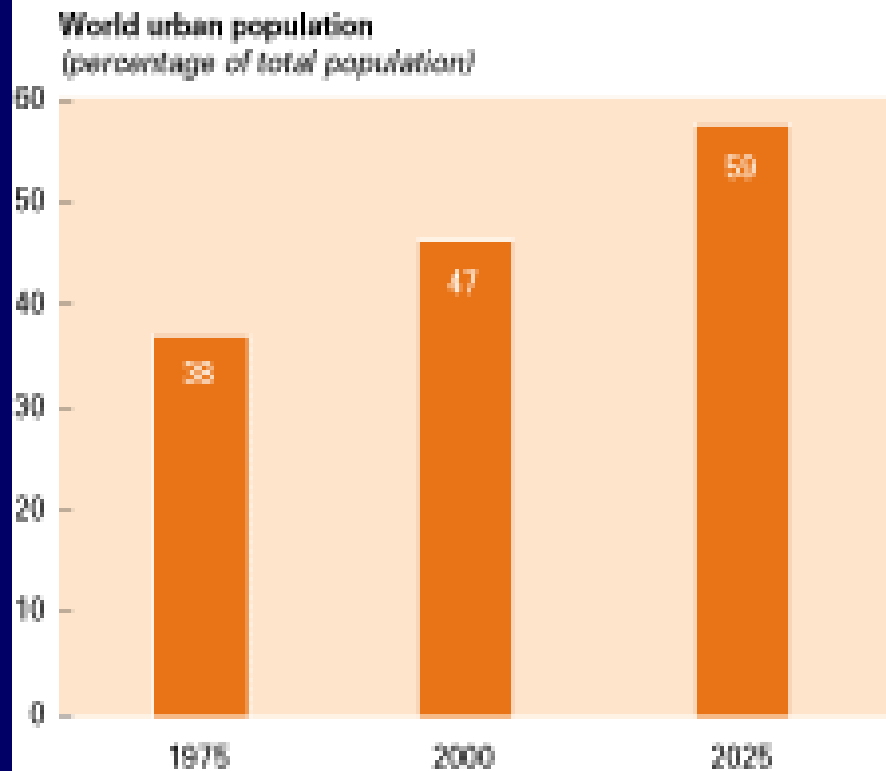


Atlanta has experienced “white flight,” as the more affluent leave the “core” and move to the sprawling “periphery.”



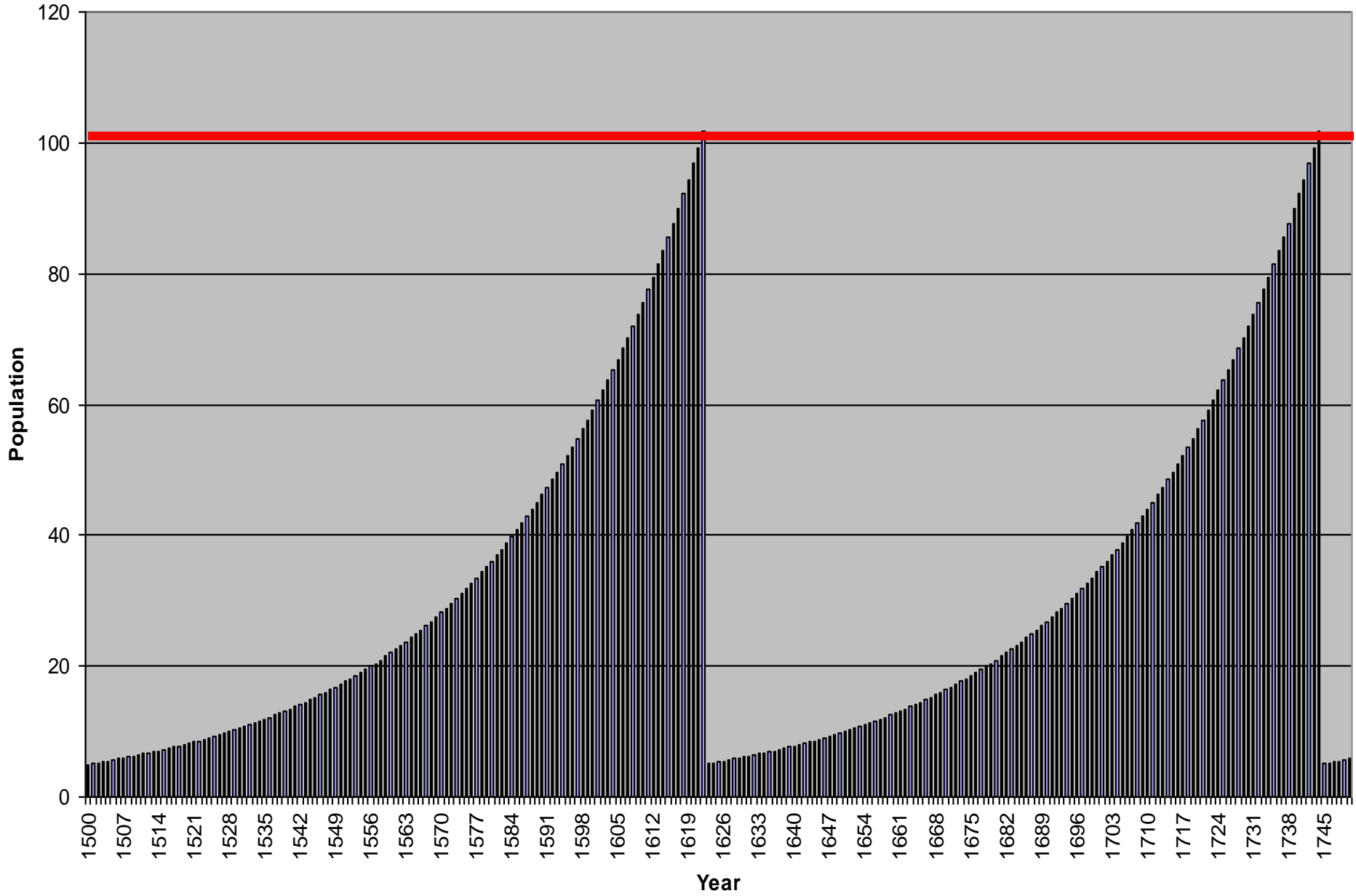
# Problems, Issues and Perspectives

**Figure 7**  
**Urban population is growing—primarily in developing countries**



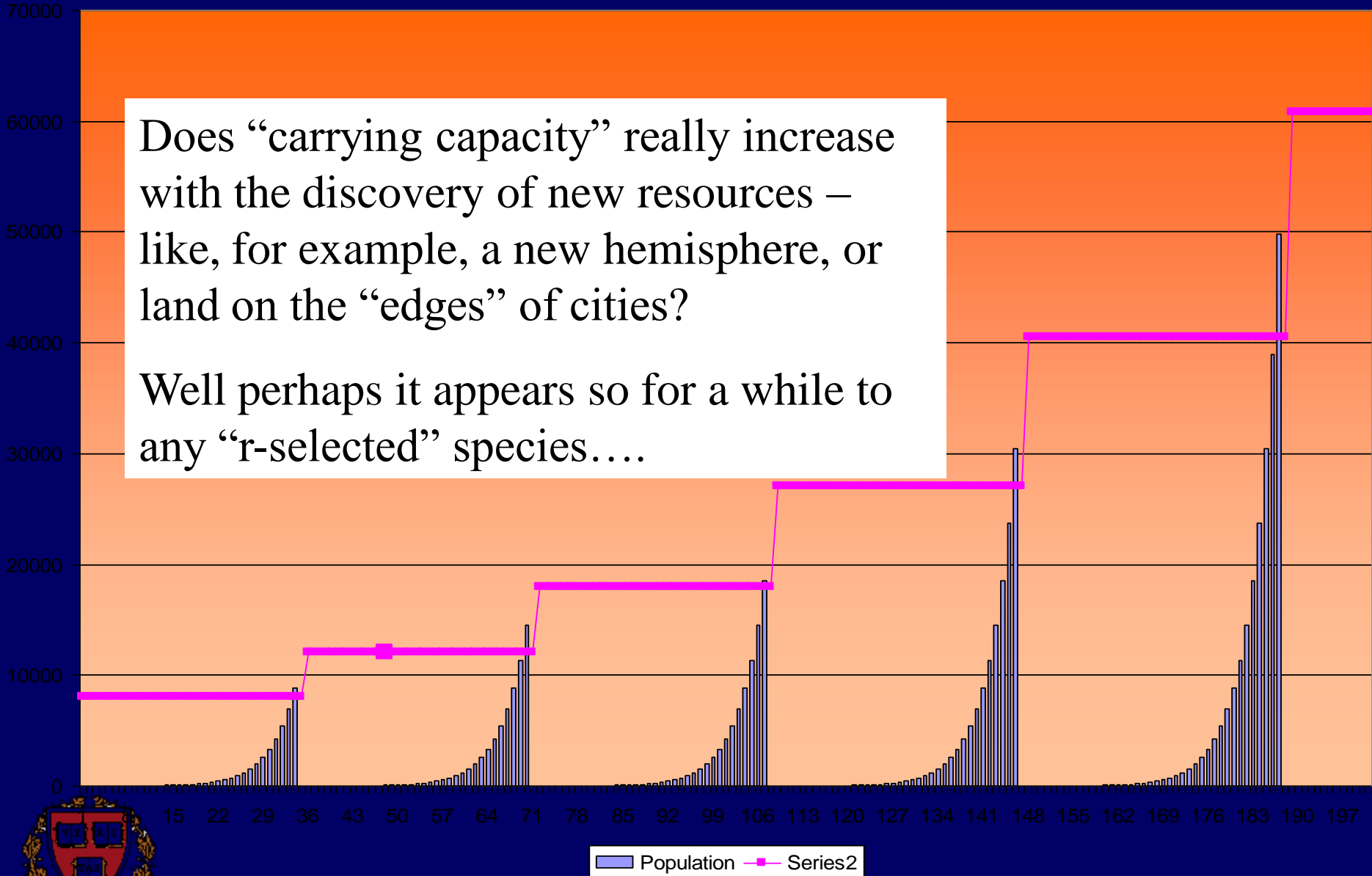
Source: United Nations Department of International Economics and Social Affairs, *World Urbanization Prospects*, 1998.

# Growth of r-Selected Species



Does “carrying capacity” really increase with the discovery of new resources – like, for example, a new hemisphere, or land on the “edges” of cities?

Well perhaps it appears so for a while to any “r-selected” species....







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# Harvard Extension School ENVR-E120 - Fall Semester 2009 Environmental Ethics and Land Management

Introduction to the Ethics of Sustainability  
<http://courses.dce.harvard.edu/~emre120>

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## The Sprawling of America: Inner City Blues

A documentary on land use, examines the social, political, and economic causes of sprawl and urban decline.

[Great Lakes Television, Christopher M. Cook, Producer.](#)  
Copyright, C, 2001 The Regents of the University of Michigan



## Atlanta is not alone in America...

In fact, space science is now making available the technology that make careful urban comparisons possible. \* \*

Detroit also provides a classic case study of sprawl *and* its link to racism....

These two simultaneous aspects of sprawl need to be kept in clear focus:

1) the *expansion outward* from the city center to “new” and “virgin” housing tracts \*

and 2) the *disinvestment in the city* center left behind. \*

We are likely to see “The End of Suburbia” in the relatively near future...



# The END of SUBURBIA

Oil Depletion and The Collapse  
of The American Dream



*"We're literally stuck up a cul-de-sac  
in a cement SUV without a fill-up"*

*- James Howard Kunstler*

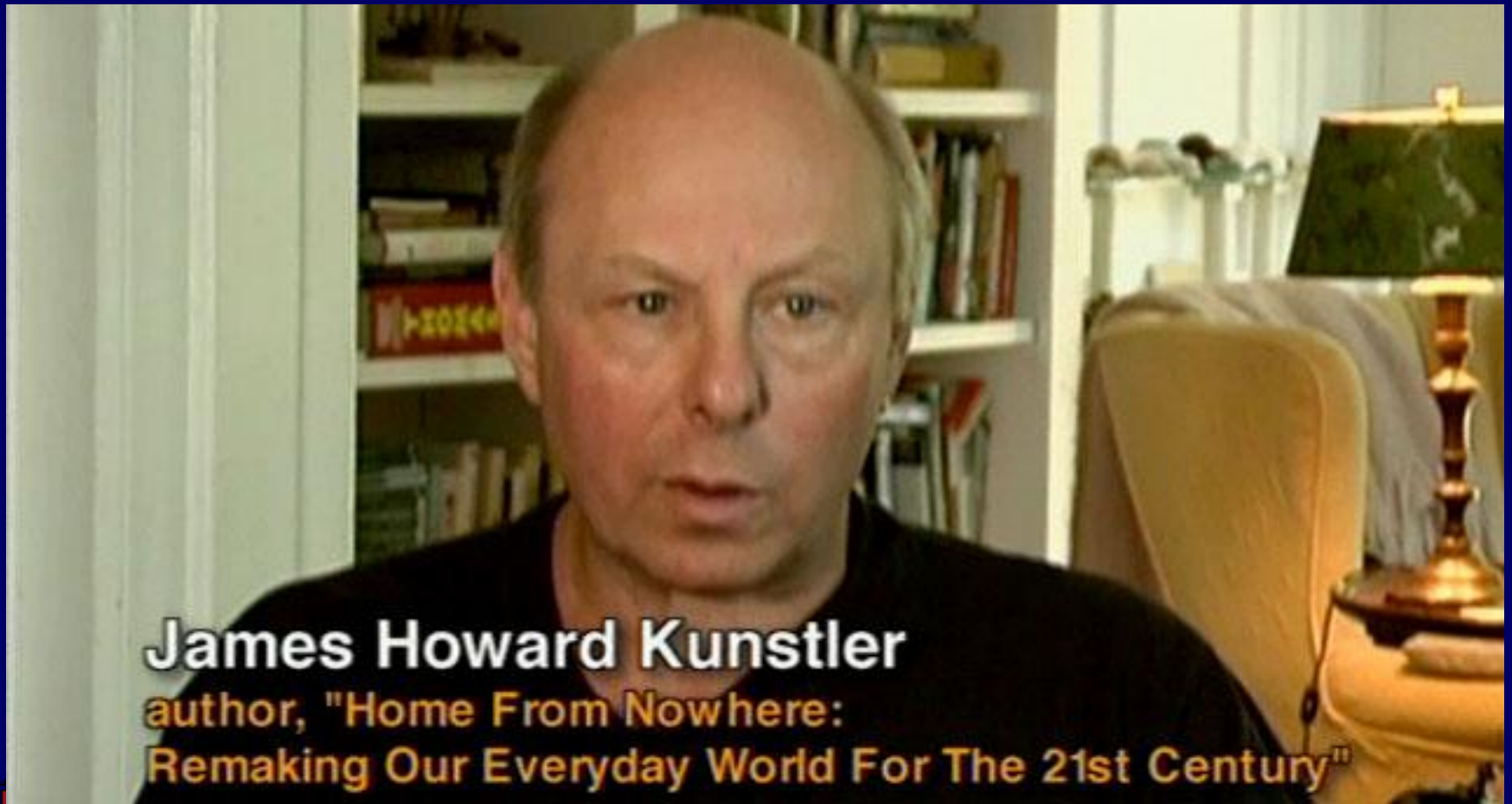
Perhaps not the  
end of the  
world....

...but the end  
of the world as  
we know it. \*

See min: [3:24...](#)



James Kunstler has put it bluntly...





America suburban culture can only be sustained by a constant flow of “artificially cheap” oil... at first available in the U.S., but increasingly obtained from the former European colonies in the Middle East – the client states of Iran, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, etc.





The endless pursuit of oil has been accomplished through a long succession military coups and the financial or military subversion of opponents. Saddam Hussein came to power initially in Iraq with U.S. support. He was removed when he appeared to be hindrance for steady oil supplies.

Cheap Oil.... → Cheap Food



# Environmental Ethics and Land Management

## ENVR E-120

<http://courses.dce.harvard.edu/~envre120>

### What a Difference a Worldview Makes

Analyzing Evolving Ethical Norms Through the Shift in  
Common Cultural Assumptions Over Time

Timothy C. Weiskel

Class Session 8  
20 October 2015

Harvard University Extension School  
Fall Semester 2015

