
European Colonial Expansion & Its Aftermath

The Historical, Ecological and Cultural Consequences of 1492



An Interactive Online Teaching Initiative
created for

IvyMind Consulting, LLC

as a project of the

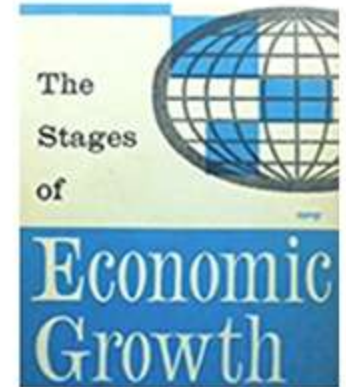
Young Scholars Online Learning Initiative

by

Timothy C. Weiskel

Research Director, Cambridge Climate Research Associates

Copyright, ©, 2017, Timothy C. Weiskel



(Themes to Think About – *After Your Essay*.)

**After European Colonialism What Comes
Next? What Will China's Role Be Now
as the New World "Leader?"**

24 August 2018

The Yale Review

☛ Ursula K. Le Guin
A Lecture on Utopias ☛
Stanley Cavell A Lecture on
Movies ☛ Octavio Paz
Poem ☛ Martin Green
Tolstoy, Keats, Shakespeare
☛ Timothy C. Weiskel
Rubbish and Racism
☛ Fiction Jincy Willett
Poetry W. Bishop, David
Citino, Grace Goldin, Peter
Cooley ☛ Reviews
Kingman Brewster, Joseph
La Palombara, Richard
Sieburth, Monroe Engel,
Barbara G. Rosencrantz,
Giles Gunn, John E. Mack,
B.H. Haggin

WINTER 1983

TIMOTHY C. WEISKEL

Rubbish and Racism: Problems of Boundary in an Ecosystem

We had fed the heart on fantasies;
The heart's grown brutal from the fare.

W. B. Yeats, *Meditations in Time of Civil War*

In an age of mounting racial tensions and in the presence of an impending environmental crisis, it may seem irresponsible for anthropologists to fly off to remote corners of the world and continue their studies of people who, even if they do survive, will have no effect upon the world's major problems. As research money becomes scarce, government agencies and foundations appear to agree that such field work is a luxury they can ill afford. Anthropologists, of course, have always maintained that their research has been intimately bound up with the total human condition, and if their peoples have been remote and their theories esoteric, this has been so only in order to offer a fresh approach to the problems we all face daily. If anthropologists have been right, then they should have something to offer concerning two of the major crises which confront us: the growth of racism and the threat of irreversible environmental pollution.

TIMOTHY C. WEISKEL

Rubbish and Racism: Problems of Boundary in an Ecosystem

We had fed the heart on fantasies;
The heart's grown brutal from the fare.

W. B. Yeats, *Meditations in Time of Civil War*

TIMOTHY C. WEISKEL

Rubbish and Racism: Problems of Boundary in an Ecosystem

We had fed the heart on fantasies;
The heart's grown brutal from the fare.

W. B. Yeats, *Meditations in Time of Civil War*

Perhaps even more important, the history of this expansion has led Western cultures and the westernized elites in Third World countries to believe in the illusion of unlimited growth. The industrial revolution and discovery of fossil energy sources further sustained the belief in infinite growth. Having expanded upon the things of nature, modern mankind has come to believe that expansion is in the nature of things. This is not so, of course, but we are only now just beginning to discover that this cherished belief is a potentially fatal illusion.

Perhaps even more important, the history of this expansion has led Western cultures and the westernized elites in Third World countries to believe in the illusion of unlimited growth. The industrial revolution and discovery of fossil energy sources further sustained the belief in infinite growth. Having expanded upon the things of nature, modern mankind has come to believe that expansion is in the nature of things. This is not so, of course, but we are only now just beginning to discover that this cherished belief is a potentially fatal illusion.

Infinite Growth on a Finite Planet Is Not Possible

Dr Tim Weiskel, Research Director, Cambridge Climate Research Associates



...not being understood in a new light as we come to understand that through its emphasis on long-distance maritime trading networks, European colonialism acted to trigger the "marginalization" of the human species, a process which is still continuing today. On all continents, in all cultures and in all national traditions humans are moving collectively from the center of continents toward the margins of continents. In an age when sea level is rising, this will prove to be increasingly problematic.

Other conceptual and intellectual legacies of the European colonial moment include the habit that Europeans acquired of thinking of the world as a continuously expanding "frontier." This was a metaphor that distorted the reality of a spherical Earth, but, nonetheless, it spawned the powerful myth of perpetual growth and the illusion that humans could effectively

Infinite Growth on a Finite Planet Is Not Possible

Dr Tim Weiskel, Research Director, Cambridge Climate Research Associates



23:00

Duration: 23min

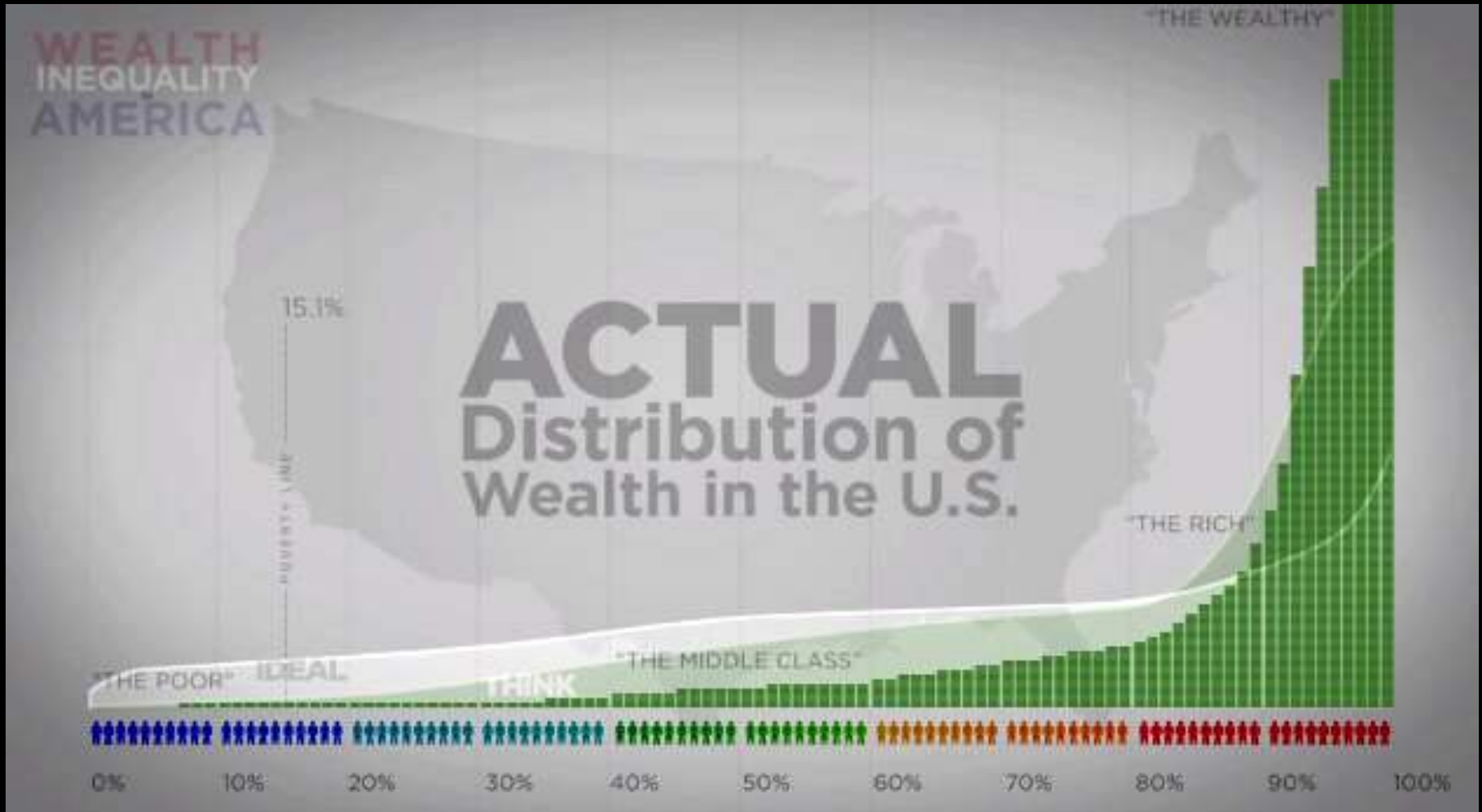
Size: MB

9 October 2017

...now being understood in a new light as we come to understand that through its emphasis on long-distance maritime trading networks, European colonialism acted to trigger the "marginalization" of the human species, a process which is still continuing today. On all continents, in all cultures and in all national traditions humans are moving collectively from the center of continents toward the margins of continents. In an age when sea level is rising, this will prove to be increasingly problematic.

Other conceptual and intellectual legacies of the European colonial moment include the habit that Europeans acquired of thinking of the world as a continuously expanding "frontier." This was a metaphor that distorted the reality of a spherical Earth, but, nonetheless, it spawned the powerful myth of perpetual growth and the illusion that humans could effectively

New circumstances...

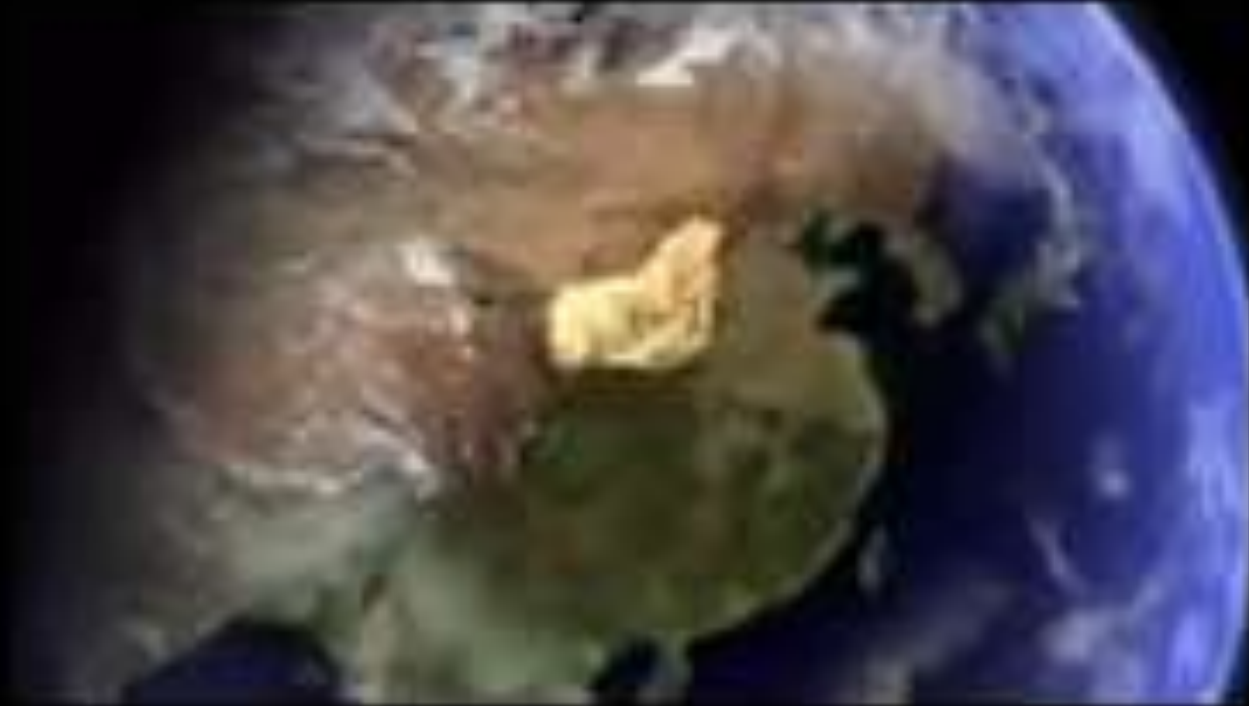


“Climate Apartheid”: South African Climate Activist Kumi Naidoo Slams Inequality at U.N. Summit

Posted on [November 14, 2017](#) | [Leave a comment](#) | [Edit](#)



Overcoming the “colonial” destruction of topsoil...



Eco-restoration on the Loess Plateau

Hope in a Changing Climate—John Liu at Geography of Hope

Posted on [April 9, 2016](#) | [Leave a comment](#) | [Edit](#)



18 Green China Rising – Executive Cut (English)

Posted on [December 2, 2017](#) | [Leave a comment](#) | [Edit](#)



<https://youtu.be/MAqjcpGwFB4?t=2m12s>

Heading Beyond the Point-of-No-Return: National Carbon Policies, “Hothouse Earth” and the Crying Need for Global Leadership



Big Remaining Question:
Can other world leaders from India and China provide the *global leadership* that is now required to save civilization from the predicted “hothouse Earth” climate catastrophe?



PNAS
Proceedings of the
National Academy of Sciences
of the United States of America

Home Articles Front Matter News Podcasts

NEW RESEARCH IN Physical Sciences

Trajectories of the Earth System in the Anthropocene

PNAS August 6, 2018. 201810141; published ahead of print August 6, 2018. <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1810141115>

European Colonial Expansion & Its Aftermath

The Historical, Ecological and Cultural Consequences of 1492



An Interactive Online Teaching Initiative
created for

IvyMind Consulting, LLC

as a project of the

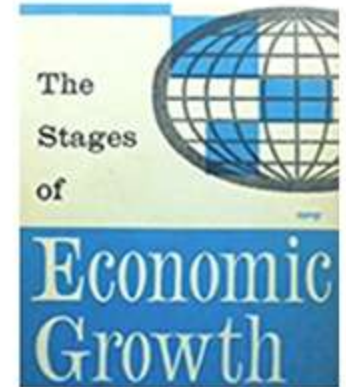
Young Scholars Online Learning Initiative

by

Timothy C. Weiskel

Research Director, Cambridge Climate Research Associates

Copyright, ©, 2017, Timothy C. Weiskel



(Themes to Think About – *After Your Essay*.)

**After European Colonialism What Comes
Next? **What Will China's Role Be Now
as the New World "Leader?"****

24 August 2018
