

Claude Buettner: Q: Could you speculate on what would be the symptoms of the beginning of Degrowth that would let us know the world economy has unfolded into this mode, planned or not?

Charles Hall: Q As far as I can tell every politician in the US (and I assume Canada) runs on a platform of "more". How can we get "less" into that political discourse?

Letitia Charbonneau: Am I wrong in thinking the wealthy, and not just the uber wealthy, would rather see the planet implode and life become unsustainable for all rather than give up their privilege, status and power?

Letitia Charbonneau: Fair vote Canda tried to get the governing party, Liberal, to agree to a non binding citizens' assembly on electoral reform and was unsuccessful. What do you suggest can be done to allow more citizens's assemblies on a variety of issues?

John Meyer: Question: Ageing will be a huge driver of degrowth albeit by accident. Have you heard people discussing the impacts of ageing on degrowth?

Raymond Leury: Q: I hear people saying that they agree we should do things like reduce emissions and reduce consumption, but when I talk to people about actual things they can do to achieve that, it usually comes down to "what's in it for me". How can we overcome that focus on me, me and me?

Art Hunter: q. do you consider conversion to driving an EV for transportation as a personal degrowth step?

Jon Legg: A great presentation ! What is your view of GDP as a factor in analyzing the our attempts to change society?

Steve Rakidzioski: Q: Are there resources that help address some fundamental questions individuals would have that could shift attitudes greatly when it comes to attaining and accumulating financial wealth to fund (1) home ownership (2) retirement (3) education (4) healthcare (in USA, etc.). These help stoke the conversation in a real way in day to day interactions with family, friends, neighbours on the notion of degrowth, limits, sufficiency, etc.

Peter MacKinnon: Q: Populations in many countries see cities as major centres of growth; therefore, how do you see cities fit into your de-growth thesis? Thanks

Paul Beckwith: China: enormous growth, developed in 20 years what Industrial Revolution in West did in 150 years. Great book: "Breakneck: China's Quest to Engineer the Future". Much of their growth is for a clean energy powered society, by 2050... to me, it seems degrowth is not a realistic paradigm, unless it is how society rebuilds after societal collapse (from war, famine, or something else...)

Paul Beckwith: Book is by Dan Wang, just published a few months ago...

Paul Beckwith: Amazing thing about the book is that you learn just as much about US as you do about China. China is an engineer state, while US is a lawyerly society. Up until Apollo launches, US was an engineer state...

John Meyer: Canada is a developer state.

Charles Hall: But older people are often wealthier

Charles Hall: Art, so you save money and then spend it (or save it) you then need energy to support your purchase or the investment the bank does with your money ...

Vlad Bunea: <https://lili.leeds.ac.uk/>

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John Meyer: Kuznets was very clear and emphatic that GDP was not to be used to form national policy or as an indicator of national health.

Charles Hall: Jon (or anyone): how many children do you have? How many grandchildren? Pensions are invested which take energy to operate...

Vlad Bunea: A large databate with resources:
<https://explore.degrowth.net/>

Paul Beckwith: 1990: 500,000 cars in China
2024: 435 million

Highways

High speed trains: Tracks longer than rest of world combined

Bridges

Subways: Shanghai added subway track equal to NYC in 10 years, in 2025 51 Chinese cities have subway lines, 11 of which are longer than NYC

Ports: Shanghai moved more containers in 2022 than all U.S. ports combined

Nuclear plants: first in 1991, by 2025 55 nuclear plants versus 54 in U.S., 31 under construction now

Housing: urban population city greater than NYC plus Boston built every year

Cement: from 2018 to 2019 China produced 4.4 billion tons of cement, nearly equal to amount of cement the U.S. produced over entire 20th century

Saba Thackurdeen (she/elle): Thanks so much Vlad and CACOR ! I very much enjoyed this presentation. See you next time !

Peter MacKinnon: C: China is already in population degrowth.

Peter MacKinnon: Despite dropping the One Child dictum