

# SEPS: Who Said Academics Are Hopelessly Timid or Hopelessly Globalist?

Stuart H. Hurlbert

San Diego State University

## Scientists and Environmentalists for Population Stabilization

- Demographics 101
- Silence of the Scientists
- A New Strategy: Exhibitor Booths
- CAPS: First Boots-on-the-Ground
- SEPS is Born
- Our Principles
- Booth Operations in 2013
- Membership & The Future

*Invited presentation, Progressives for Immigration Reform Annual Meeting  
September 29, 2013, Arlington, Virginia*

# Overpopulation

is fundamentally caused by large family sizes among the poor people of the world...

Africans



Mean family size = 4.9  
(TFR)

# Overpopulation

is fundamentally caused by large family sizes among the poor people of the world...and some of the less responsible socio-economic groups in the U.S.

Africans



Mean family size =  
(TFR)

4.9

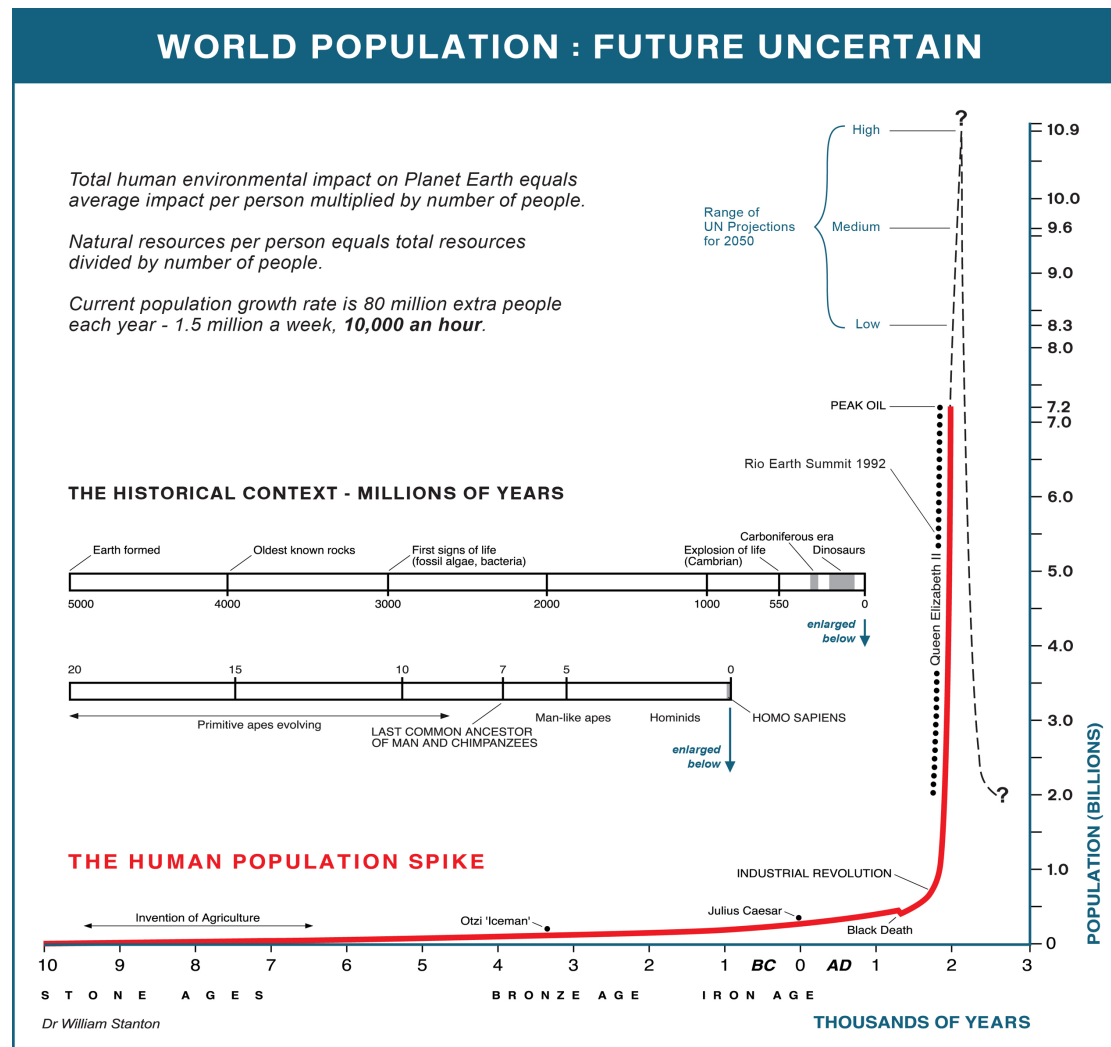
Republican  
Presidential Candidates



5.7

# The Human Population Spike

courtesy of Population Matters

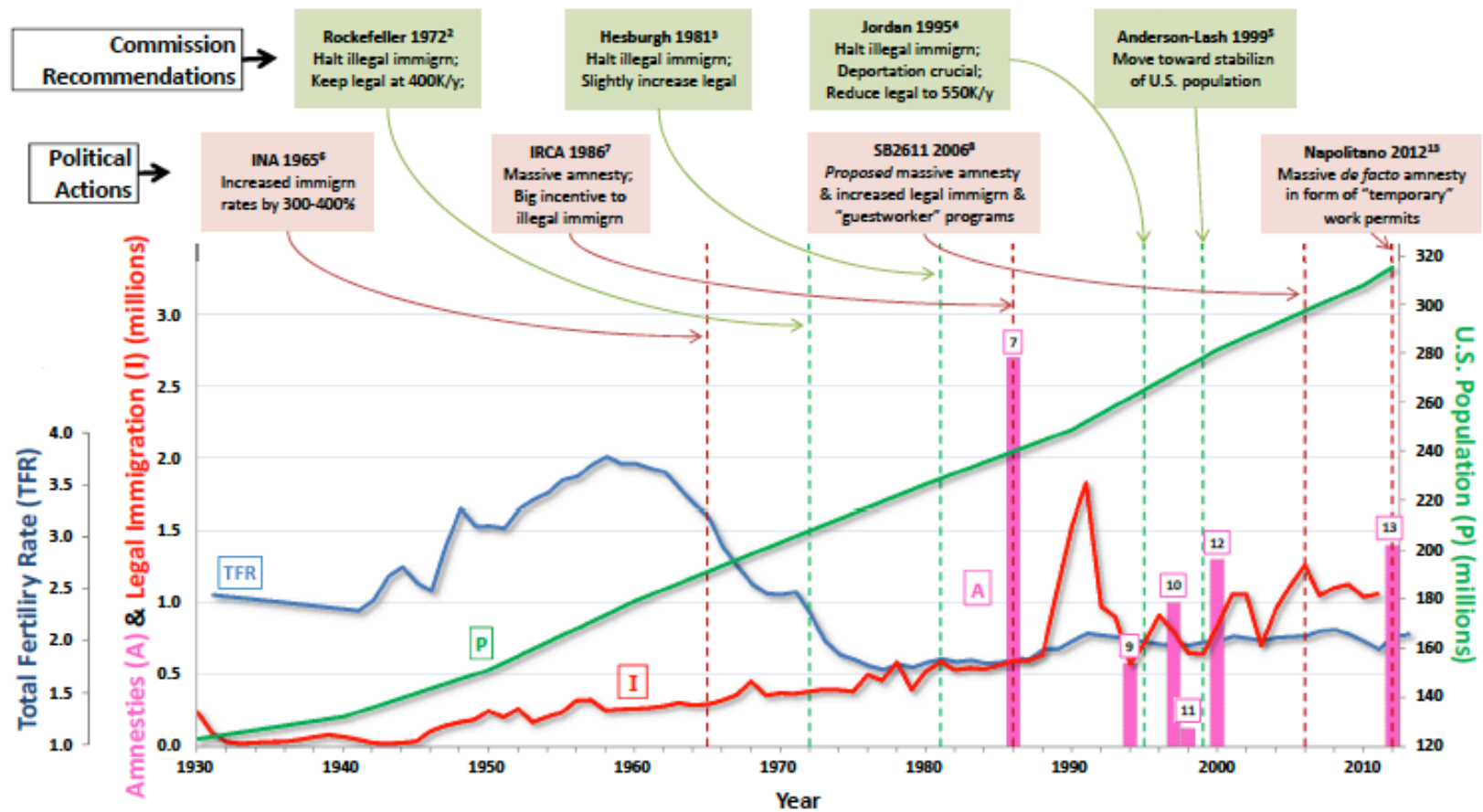




# Lesson 2

## Historical Trajectory of U.S. Population (1930-2012)

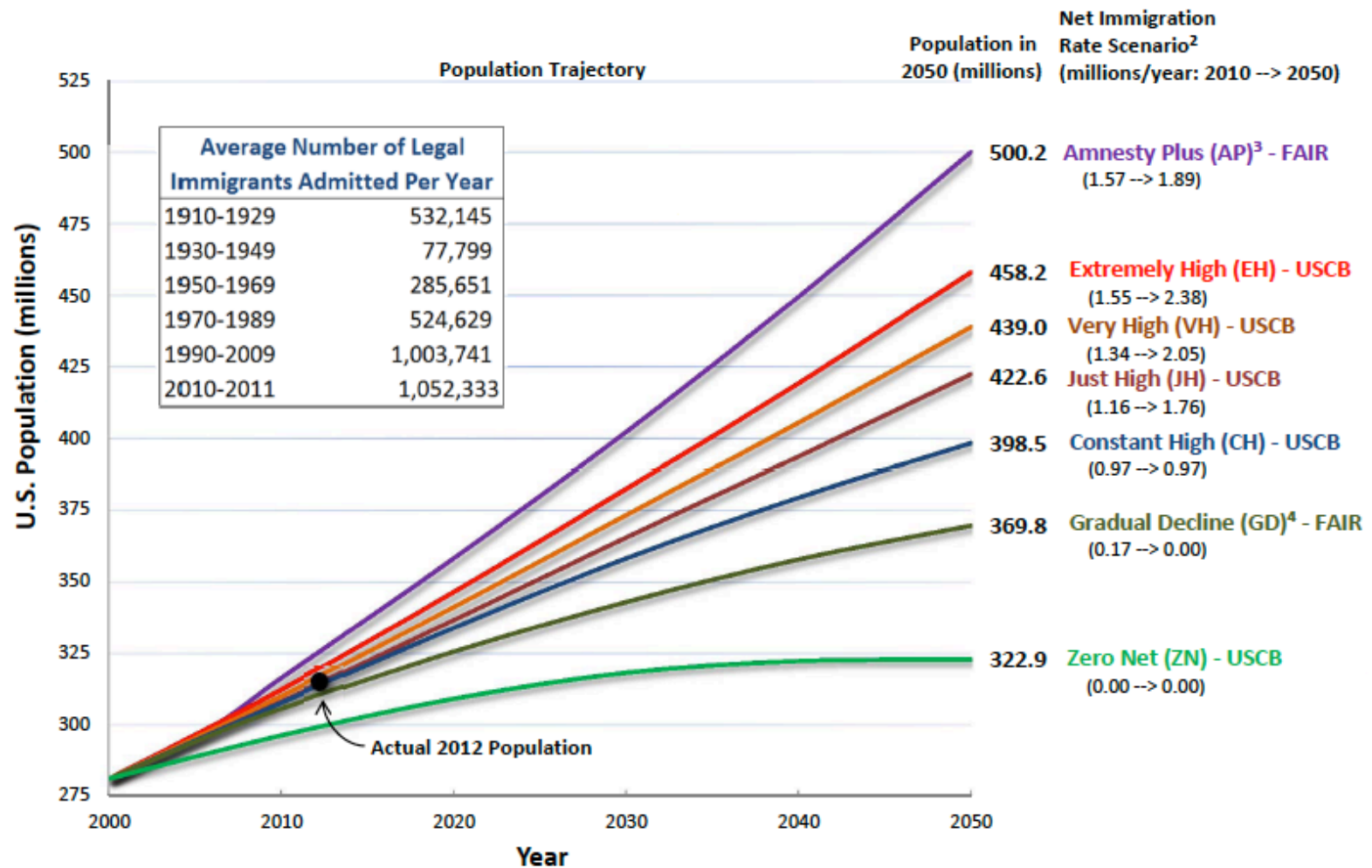
And Its Key Determinants<sup>1</sup>



# Lesson 3

## Projected U.S. Population Size (2000-2050)

Under 7 Different Immigration Scenarios<sup>1</sup>



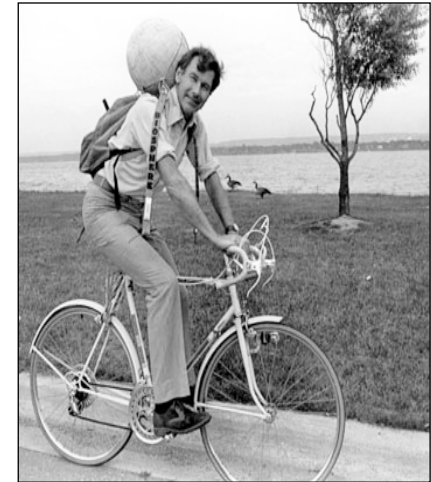
# 1972: Three Key Contributions on Population-Environment Conundrums

- **Donella Meadows et al. Limits to Growth.** Computer modeling of unchecked economic and population growth with finite resource supplies. Updated every ten years.
- **Paul Ehrlich, John Holdren, Barry Commoner.** Bull. Atomic Sci.  $I = PAT$
- **J.R. Vallentyne.** Biol. Conservation. **Demotechnic growth...**
  - $C = P (1 + D\text{-index})$

C = consumption-adjusted population,

P = actual population

D-index =  $\frac{\text{Total technol. E consumed by country in year}}{\text{Food E in a good diet, one person over a year}}$

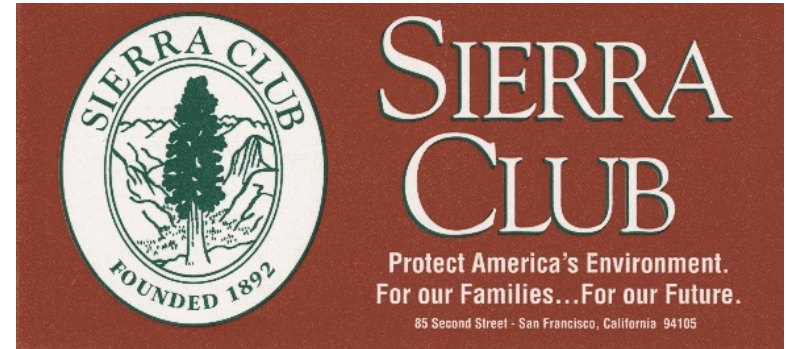


**Jack Vallentyne**  
aka  
**Johnny Biosphere**  
1926-2006

# Travails of A Once Great Environmental Organization

## Sierra Club pre-1996 policy

- “Club policy calls for development by the federal government of a population policy for the United States and for the U.S. to end its population growth as soon as feasible.”
- “Immigration to the U.S. should be no greater than that which will permit achievement of population stabilization in the U.S.”



## Sierra Club post-1996 policy

We support:

- “Increasing universal access to voluntary family planning services and comprehensive sex education.”
- “Advancing women's and girls' basic rights, including access to health care, education and economic opportunity.”



- **[And – minor omission – suppression of discussion of immigration as the major impediment to U.S. population stabilization. S.Hurlbert]**



# The Sustainable Biosphere Initiative:

An Ecological Research Agenda: A Report from the  
Ecological Society of America, 1991

- A request for more \$\$\$ for ecological research...
- Mentions global population issue briefly, says **nothing whatsoever about U.S. population growth.**
- **SBI soon criticized as being too self-serving and pie-in-the-sky:**

“Such a claim that basic research will lead to sustainable use of resources in the face of a growing human population may lead to a false complacency: **instead of addressing the problems of population and excessive use of resources, we avoid such difficult issues by spending money on basic ecological research.**’

– Donald Ludwig, Ray Hilborn, Carl Walters,  
Science 60, 17, 1993



## The Sustainable Biosphere Initiative:

Others also criticized its silence on population issues, to no avail.

One was **Ron Pulliam, ESA President, 1991-1992**,  
and SBI committee member



**“[W]e feel the SBI is remiss in not explicitly calling for ecologists to study human population growth and the question of human carrying capacity. ...[A]n analysis of carrying capacity is currently more realistic at the national [as opposed to global] level.”**

Pulliam, H. R. and N. M. Haddad. 1994. *Bulletin of the Ecological Society of America* 75:141-157

Another was **Jim Brown, ESA President, 1996-1997** :



**“ Ron Pulliam and I noted the absence of any serious attention to human population and resource use, which we argued were THE BIG ISSUE WITH ‘SUSTAINABILITY’. We were told that ‘it would not be politically expedient to include any mention of this’, because the ESA wanted to use the SBI to increase awareness and funding of ecology in DC and elsewhere, where this issue would be viewed as ‘too controversial’.”**

**J. Brown**, email to S. Hurlbert, 1 November 2011





## Two More ESA Sustainability-Lite White Papers

### Ecological Science and Sustainability for a Crowded Planet, 2004

- one objective: “advance innovative ecological research aimed at **the sustainability of an over-populated planet**” [say that again?]
- ignores population stabilization and reduction as critical prerequisites for sustainability
- ignores previous criticisms of the SBI for the same omission
- primarily another request for more \$\$\$\$ for ecologists

### Ecological Impacts of Economic Activities, 2009

- ignored population policy changes as critical to a sustainable society
- membership of committee kept secret
- no ecological economist on committee
- promotes the oxymoron of “sustainable growth”

**Moral of story:** If invited to help prepare another “sustainability-lite” ESA white paper, RUN !

# AAAS in Decline?

Bias and Censorship in Largest Scientific Organization  
On U.S. Population Issues

FALL 2011

THE SOCIAL CONTRACT

## **Is the AAAS Oblivious to U.S. Overpopulation and Its Consequences?**

*Or Is It Just Another Censor?*

BY STUART H. HURLBERT

WINTER 2012

THE SOCIAL CONTRACT

## **American Association for the Advancement of Silence (On National Population Policies) Muffles 'Obnoxious' Canadians Too**

BY DAVID SCHINDLER, MADELINE WELD, AND STUART H. HURLBERT



1973



John Holdren

Assistant Professor  
University of California,  
Berkeley

Holdren on a sustainable U.S. population:

“[the] 210 million [here] now is too many and [a Census Bureau projected] 280 million in 2040 is likely to be much too many.”

*Population and The American Predicament: **The Case Against Complacency**,*  
in *Daedalus* 102:31-43

2007



John Holdren  
AAAS President

Presidential Address, February 2007

(published in Science in 2008)

## ***Science and Technology for Sustainable Well-Being***

- 9300 words long
- **One sentence** (24 words) on population:  
“ Among the aggravating factors is...continuing population growth, which, while not the sole cause of any of the shortfalls listed, makes the remedy of all of them more difficult”
- **Not a single comment specifically on U.S. population growth**



2009



John Holdren  
Nominated as President  
Obama's Chief Science  
Advisor

## Confirmation Hearing in the U.S. Senate, February 2009

**Senator David Vitter (R-Louisiana):** *"In 1973 you encouraged a 'decline in fertility to well below replacement' in the United States because '280 million in 2040 is likely to be too many.' What would your number, or the right population in the US, be today?"*

**John P. Holdren:** *"**I no longer think it's productive**, senator, to focus on the optimum population of the United States... When I wrote those lines in 1973 I was preoccupied with the fact that many problems the United States face appear to be being made more difficult by the rate of population growth... **It's a tough question...**"*

2009



John Holdren

Nominated as President  
Obama's Chief Science Advisor

**Hard Right Goes Hard After Holdren, *grossly distorting his earlier writings***

"As we have exhaustively documented, Holdren infamously co-wrote a 1977 textbook in which he **advocated** the formation of a "**planetary regime**" that would use a "global police force" to enforce **totalitarian measures** of population control, including **forced abortions**, **mass sterilization programs** conducted via the food and water supply, as well as **mandatory bodily implants** that would prevent couples from having children."

- **Steve Watson, [prisonplanet.com](http://prisonplanet.com)**

2009



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- Steve Watson, [prisonplanet.com](http://prisonplanet.com)

**But Hard to Catch a Shape-Shifter** (Images on internet labeled as John Holdren)



# Bias of *Science* editors & ?



## 29 July 2011 issue

- **Cover:** New York City crowd
- **19 items** (reviews, news articles, editorials) on human population issues
- **None focused on U.S. population** problems; only China, India, Japan, third world, developing countries, etc.
- At least three letters submitted questioning this omission
  - A. Bartlett (U. Colorado)
  - P. Cafaro (Colorado State U.)
  - B. Zuckerman (UCLA), O. Graham (UCSSB), S. Hurlbert (SDSU)
- **All letters rejected**
- **Parallel with silence of Holdren and other AAAS presidents on U.S. population issues just a coincidence ?**



# The Curious Case of the Disappearing P

in  $I = \textcolor{red}{P}AT$  and  $C = \textcolor{red}{P}(1 + D)$



**Retired manicurist Clara Peller calls out the  
Sustainability-Lite crowd, as later did.....**

Beck, R. and L. Kolankiewicz. 2000. **The environmental movement's retreat from advocating U.S. population stabilization (1970-1998): A first draft of history.**  
Journal of Policy History 12:123-156.

OK, Let's Try a **New Strategy:**

**Exhibitor Booths on Population at Scientific Meetings**  
**Population Education for Environmental Scientists (PEES) Project**

Californians for Population Stabilization (SEPS)

Population Institute of Canada (PIC)

**How about a CAPS or PIC population booth**

**At the [American Association for Advancement of Science](#) meeting**

**In Vancouver BC, February 2012 ?**





You know....



**The Social Contract** 

Vol. XXI, No. 3 Spring 2011

## Scientists as Censors

**How Political Correctness Corrupts Environmental Science**

**Highlights**

The disturbing trend of censorship among the ranks of environmental scientists is the subject of this exclusive issue of *The Social Contract*. Dr. Diana Hull has assembled an outstanding compilation of articles that exposes heresy, hypocrisy, political censorship, and misinformation in the environmental sciences. Our distinguished roster of contributors include:

- Stuart Hurlbert
- Diana Hull
- Leon Kolankiewicz
- Robert J. Samuelson
- Brenda Walker

This issue of *TSC* is dedicated to the memory of the late James F. LaBounty, a fearless foe of censors as an environmental scientist and editor.



United States

Mexico

ISSN 1055-145X Visit us at [www.thesocialcontract.com](http://www.thesocialcontract.com)

**The Social Contract** 

Vol. XXII, No. 2 Winter 2012

## AAAS American Association for the Advancement of Silence?

**The nation's top scientific organization suppresses debate of U.S. population policies**

**Edwin S. Rubenstein** remembers Prop 187 and explains the fiscal drain of immigrant households on California's budget.

**Rick Oltman** reflects on the role of California Assemblyman Dick Mountjoy in sponsoring Prop 187.

**David Schindler, Madeline Weld, and Stuart H. Hurlbert** highlight the battle against censorship with the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).

**One hundred scientists and scholars** protest the cancellation of an exhibitor booth for Californians for Population Stabilization (CAPS) at the AAAS meeting in Vancouver.

**Leon Kolankiewicz** writes the AAAS Board of Directors on their "ill-considered" decision to deny booth space to CAPS and suppress the opportunity to contemplate the causes and consequences of unsustainable population growth.

**Peter Gemma** interviews Bob Goldsborough, a leader in the immigration reform movement and former staff investigator for the House Committee on Un-American Activities.

**William Buchanan** revisits the citizenship clause of the 14th Amendment and the catastrophic consequences of Justice Horace Gray's interpretation in the landmark *Wong Kim Ark* case.

**Dudley L. Poston, Jr. and Demetrea Nicole Farria** ponder which states would lose seats in the House of Representatives if Puerto Rico becomes the 51st state.

**Brenda Walker** discovers frightening analogies in the latest waves of Boat People to the *Camp of the Saints*.

**Dei Erickson** reassesses the credibility of *National Geographic* for dodging the impact of overpopulation.

Reviews by **Donald A. Collins, Gerda Bikales** and **Fred Elbel**.



[www.thesocialcontract.com](http://www.thesocialcontract.com)



**Where have all the scientists gone, long time passing.**

**Where have all the scientists gone, long time ago.**

**Where have all the scientists gone, gone to cover most of 'em.**

**When will they ever learn, when will they ever learn?**

First Run !

Exhibitor Booths on Population at Scientific Meetings  
**Population Education for Environmental Scientists (PEES) Project**  
Californians for Population Stabilization (CAPS)

**CAPS population booth**  
at **North American Congress for Conservation Biology**  
Oakland CA, July 2012



# Third Time's A Charm & A Double-Header Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting

Portland, Oregon, August 2012, 5000 attendees

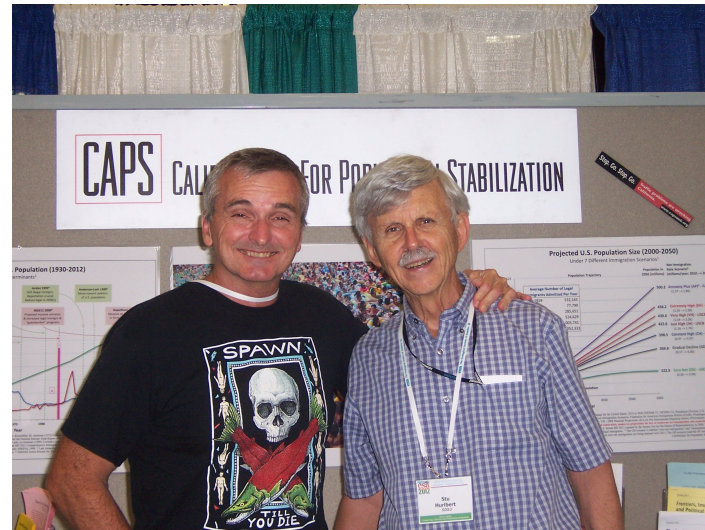
1) Half day session on

**“Population, Environment and Sustainability Issues in the U.S.”**

**Speakers:** Marilyn DeYoung, Madeline Weld, Rob Dietz, Philip Cafaro, David Schindler, Gerardo Ceballos Gonzalez, Hal Michael, Bob Lackey, Ben Zuckerman, Stuart Hurlbert, Robert Costanza

AND A

2) A five-day long CAPS booth



(Leon prior to rehabilitation)



# Time for a new organization,

one run by scientists and that is focused on educating scientists and environmentalists  
and urging them to get with the program and receive redemption

## SEPS Board of Directors



Joyce  
Tarnow



Leon  
Kolankiewicz



David  
Schindler



Paul  
Nachman



Stuart  
Hurlbert



**Scientists and Environmentalists  
for Population Stabilization**

# SEPS Advisory Board



David  
Pimentel



Jonathan  
Cole



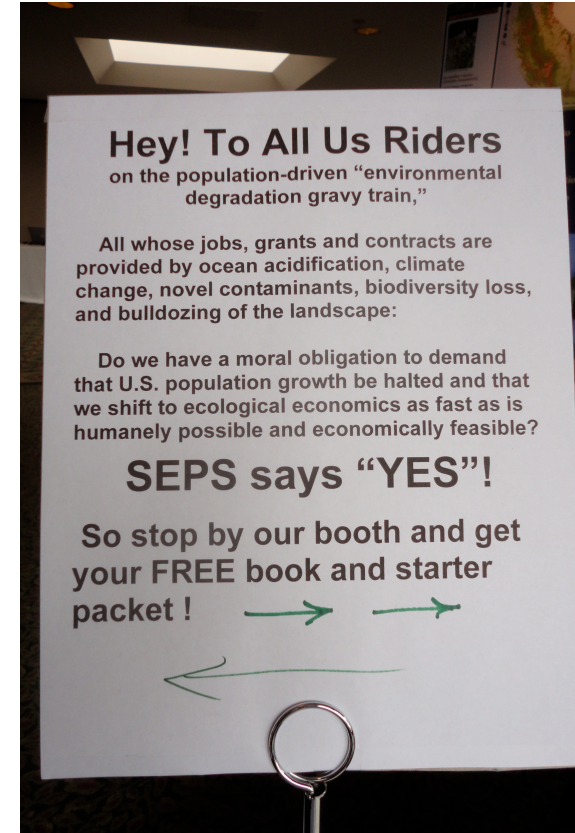
Karin  
Limburg



W. Kenneth  
Smil



Madeline  
Weld



**Yes, redemption really is needed by many environmental scientists...and it is an important benefit of a SEPS life membership!**



# Scientists and Environmentalists for Population Stabilization

## Principles and policies for U.S. population stabilization, in a nutshell

1. Every nation has the obligation to develop its own rational population and economic policies.
2. No nation has right to export its excess population to other nations.
3. Illegal immigration to the U.S. should be halted.
4. U.S. has no moral or legal obligation to provide mass amnesties for illegal aliens
5. Birthright citizenship should be eliminated.
6. Quotas for legal immigration should be greatly reduced.

7. Financial incentives should be developed that encourage postponing of childbirth til early twenties.
8. There should be a flat tax credit for children that does not increase as the number of children does.
9. All persons should have ready access to family planning education and services.
10. Halting of population growth needs to be accompanied by increased efficiency of resource use, elimination of profligate consumption, and a move from neoclassical to ecological economics.



# Refining Booth Operations

flexibility in booth layout, charts, appealing book display,  
literature packets & CBD condoms!



Ecological  
Society of  
America  
August 2013



California Society for  
Ecological Restoration  
May 2013



International Congress  
For Conservation Biology  
July 2013



## 2013 Scientific Meetings Graced by the Presence of SEPS Booths



Organization	Venue	No. of Attendees	No. of Articles Distributed	Booth Attendants
Association for the Sciences of Limnology & Oceanography	New Orleans Feb 17-22	1900	1200	David Schindler, Stuart Hurlbert
San Diego EarthFair	San Diego April 21	60,000	1800	Stuart & Irene Hurlbert
Canadian Society for Ecology and Evolution	Kelowna BC May 12-15	400	1300	Madeline Weld, Tim Murray, David Schindler
California Society for Ecological Restoration	Santa Barbara May 15-16	175	1200	Stuart Hurlbert, Jo Wideman, Gretchen Pfaff
California Coastal Coalition	San Diego May 28-30	200	400	Stuart Hurlbert
International Congress for Conservation Biology	Baltimore July 21-25	1400	2200	Stuart Hurlbert
Ecological Society of America	Minneapolis August 4-9	3300	2300	Stuart Hurlbert, David Paxson

# Coming Attractions

North  
American  
Lake  
Management  
Society

San Diego  
October 2013

Expected  
Attendance:

500

application  
approved

American  
Geophysical  
Union

San Francisco  
December 2013

Expected  
attendance:

23,000

application  
approved



American  
Association for  
the Advancement  
Of Science

Chicago  
February 2014

Expected  
attendance:

10,000

application not yet  
submitted....