

Subject: Why Our Brains Are Wired to Ignore Climate Change and What to Do About It –

April 13th EEE Session 2 to 4 p.m. Iliff

From: David Carlson <davidcarlson824@gmail.com>

Date: Sat, March 28, 2015 7:46 am

To: all

Dear friends of the Ethics and Ecological Economics Study Group,

“What explains our ability to separate what we know from what we believe, to put aside the things that seems too painful to accept? How is it possible, when presented with overwhelming evidence, even the evidence of our own eyes, that we can deliberately ignore something—while being entirely aware that this is what we are doing?”

These are the guiding questions that prompted **George Marshall to publish *Don't Even Think About It: Why Our Brains are Wired to Ignore Climate Change* last year. (\$27 in hardback at Tattered Cover; not available in paperback until August, I'm told).**

We will take these guiding questions as our own and explore Marshall's responses with respect to the issue of climate change at our next EEE Study Group gathering on **Monday, April 13th**, 2:00 – 4:15pm, at the Iliff School of Theology in Denver.

According to the book jacket, Marshall “is the founder of the Climate Outreach and Information Network, based in Oxford, England, and over the past twenty-five years he has worked at all levels of the environmental movement, including in senior positions for Greenpeace USA and the Rainforest Foundation. He is one of the leading European experts in climate change communications . . .”

Marshall's message is summarized in his 9/23/2014 op ed piece for *The Guardian*, “Why our brains are wired to ignore climate change and what to do about it” (<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2014/sep/23/why-our-brains-wired-ignore-climate-change-united-nations>). (Marshall's comments were also posted on his website, climatedenial.org, five days later.)

Our group discussion on the 13th will focus on the final four chapters of this 42-chapter book (see attachment). (Chapters average 6-7 pages in length.) Pay particular attention to (i) Marshall's stance regarding the role(s) of religion (in the broad sense) in response to climate change; and (ii) his final chapter, “In a Nutshell: Some Personal and Highly

Biased Ideas for Digging Our Way Out of This Hole.”

As always, your RSVP is appreciated, but not required, to attend. Feel free to forward this invitation to others who may be interested.

Best regards,

David Carlson, EEE Study Group Convener

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