

TW for Ep 3:

Racism

Colonialism and murder

Anti-environmentalism

Animal extinction

Warfare

Mass loss of life

Slave labour

Gun violence

Karel Green 0:00

Welcome back to the POCSquared podcast hosted by Sehher, Pruthvi and Karel. This week's episode is on capitalism and colonialism and how this has affected the climate and how it will affect the climate in the future. But please be aware that the following topics are discussed: racism, colonialism and murder, anti-environmentalism, animal extinction, warfare, mass loss of life, slave labour and gun violence. A transcript and show notes for this and all episodes can be found on our website, www.poc2.co.uk, that's www dot POC then the number two.co.uk. And if you have any comments or questions, we can be found on Twitter and Instagram at pocsquared, that's POC and then the word squared with no spaces. You can also contact us via email POCSquared@gmail.com. That's POC, then the word squared@gmail.com. With all that said, we hope you enjoy the episode. We are on episode five of the podcasts, halfway through, which is really good that we've actually made it this far. But today...

Pruthvi Mehta 1:17

We're alive, lads, we're alive.

Karel Green 1:19

But only bearly. Uh, no, no, it might get slightly better though I'm not promising everything because it's getting close to spring. And that's when my seasonal depression is gone. So there you go you have something to look forward to. But today we are going to talk about the seasons and the climate in our excellent name of Capitalism, Colonialism and Climate love the alliteration.

Pruthvi Mehta 1:45

Yes.

Karel Green 1:46

But yes, we're going to talk about environmental science today. And we're going to talk about how just white men have destroyed the planet that we could live on. That's the episode

Sehher Tariq 1:55

Yeah, I think this is a definitely a recurring theme. I don't know if anybody else has noticed that...

Karel Green 2:00

Yeah, Who would have guessed that once again white men have not only clowned us all but clowned themselves? Because I don't know where they're gonna live after the planet collapses but that's a problem for them.

Pruthvi Mehta 2:13

Don't you even know that Musk is planning to colonize like Mars and like...

Karel Green 2:17

What? With his cyber truck that you could punch a hole in?

Pruthvi Mehta 2:22

Hyperloop like, have to pay to exist on Mars when when Musk is like running it, Musk is gonna be king of Mars. Water will cost like 300 pounds per milliliter. Only the rich can survive.

Karel Green 2:38

Of course, there is literally like a teen dystopian book, I forgotten the name of the series, but I've heard a book youtuber talking about it about like a colony on another planet where the poor are dying because you have to pay for oxygen. And that's what Musk is gonna do. You have to buy your own oxygen tanks and if you're too poor to afford them, you could just like choke to death. So I was wrong. Excuse me Elon, I'm sorry that I assumed that you'd die like the rest of us. Clearly you're too rich for that.

Pruthvi Mehta 3:07

I think it's like... You're making a joke but there's a thing now where companies are selling like canned air. Have you seen? Have you seen that BS?

Sehher Tariq 3:16

Yes. I've seen that and it's like... They take air from like the mountains and valleys and stuff like that. And they take it to like polluted cities and they're like, you can smell fresh air.

Pruthvi Mehta 3:26

It's horrifying. It's literally some sort of... We're living in a dystopia, lads, we're living in dystopia.

Karel Green 3:32

How much money do you want to bet that they're not even going to the mountains and get in clean air like they're literally just like canning air from down the street and being like mmmmm....

Pruthvi Mehta 3:41
Canning air from Peckham.

Karel Green 3:45
Putting Febreeze in it and being like mmmmm smell that mountain fresh.

Pruthvi Mehta 3:49
I do that. Don't call me out on that. I did that this morning, okay. Don't you dare. Come for me like this in my own home.

Karel Green 3:58
Sweetie. I'm so sorry.

Pruthvi Mehta 4:00
Febreeze, Febreeze just sponsor us please. Please sponsor us Febreeze.

Karel Green 4:04
I mean I need a sponsor. That would be real great guys. We don't have any money but also Febreeze sponsor us. But yes. Okay. So...

We're talking about colonialism and the climate and capitalism. So I think with a good... Well, I'm going to... A good place to start, as we have written in our like outline for this episode is about how the West claims to have precedent over climate change activism with people like Greta Thunburg, and you know, just other white people whose names I didn't bother to learn, and just, you know, pretending that they're out here trying to save the planet because countries like India or South Africa, or places like this are causing so much climate pollution, because they're showing off these carbon maps and countries in the East are bright but so were like America and the UK. But you know, they don't talk about that. And they're trying to spin the story, that it's all their fault for polluting the planet, and that we must, you know, do something about that. And it's sort of feeding in the generalized hate of like non Western countries, you know, what's the opinions on that ladies?

Pruthvi Mehta 4:16
Yeah, okay...

So I think it's I think it's utter garbage. It's a scam by the West to trick the world into believing that environmentalism is something that they have been like, you know, pro this entire time when they are the literal main perpetrators of capitalism, which is like, capitalism, colonialism, and like anti environmentalism, or like fucking like the same goddamn concept, just like different manifestations, and it's really harmful how so you'll have like these big like, big green, let's call them and like big pharma, big green initiatives by companies in the West, which end up causing more harm to the environment. You know, then they... The, you know, the proposed solutions they're trying to put out there. So one thing, one kind of book I actually want to plug is Utopia by China Mieville, who's basically like a sci fi author. And he's written a lot, a

lot of cool stuff. But he's also done a foreword to a book, a really old book by Thomas More, which is about you know, the existence of perfect utopia. And the foreword is written by China. And he talks about how big green is responsible for... Capitalism itself is responsible for a lot of environmental disasters, particularly affecting countries where people of color reside. Umm anyway I think I think like it's a it's a complete disgrace, like you know, every, like all the big companies are held in the West they have majority of the world's wealth, the majority of the world's resource, they hold the majority of the world's you know, big companies that do bad and bleep that out but don't.

Karel Green 7:04

You already swore before that so like my editing is going to be cray cray for this episode so thank you for that.

Pruthvi Mehta 7:11

I love making it worse.

Karel Green 7:14

It's fine I like I like the passion so makes it worth it but only barely.

Unknown Speaker 7:21

But yeah, what was I saying what we did... what we derailed in my head. What was I saying oh yeah basically basically just ah like I hate this idea that it's on the POC in their dirty countries etc to like bear the brunt of environmentalism when really it's just it's all the West it's entirely the West's fault because of how they create capitalism as a sole byproduct and awful absolutely awful. Thank you for listening to my rant. It's all me talking.

Karel Green 7:52

I love it. No, that's gonna be the episode. We're not going to talk by anything else. I'm just ending it there.

Sehher Tariq 7:56

I'm cool with that.

Karel Green 7:57

Nice. The POCSquared podcast was written, recorded, edited and posted by the POCSquared team. Great. I essentially agree I'd just like to bring up like two points to pop off from. One is that I have it bolded here and it came out like, sort of last year when extinction rebellion was first sort of coming into the limelight. And whilst they're like good and bad as all green energy green things are, which is a really weird space to live in, but we'll talk about that in a moment? One actual good thing that I made sure to save that they were like spouting was that how 100 companies cause 71% of the world's global carbon emissions. That's literally right there. It will be in the show notes. And because I've got the link right in front of me, it's on our outline that you can see but yeah, it literally 100 companies costs 71% of the world's global

emissions, right. I'm just screaming and the problem is this is not something new. Because like you said, Pruthvi, you're talking about how like companies and the government are spouting about how like we need to change things. But I think it'd be good to take like a bit of a step back because like you said, how this climate emergency, colonialism and like pollution and all... are all the same part of what is capitalism. Yeah. And that's like you said it's not something new, something that I found out right near the beginning of my sort of diversity journey, which has always stayed with me. And there's literally like a picture in our outline, and it will be in the show notes. And the link is to the Wikipedia page for bison hunting. And it talks about the... So, North America used to have a species of bison, which is now I think it's extinct, or it's very close to extinct. And there was a book written about them, and it's literally called 1491: New Revelations of the Americas Before Columbus, right?

Pruthvi Mehta 10:07

Yeah.

Karel Green 10:07

And you're gonna get to... You hear the word before Columbus because they existed before Columbus. And now there's only pictures of them. Because when white Europeans colonized North America, murdered everybody who lived there, and then call themselves American, because we love to remind everybody that any white person who set foot on that continent is not an American. They're just a European who's moved there one way or another, right. And that bison is now literally extinct.

Pruthvi Mehta 10:37

Disgusting.

Karel Green 10:38

And the reason it's extinct is because they, the Europeans who colonized America killed off the bison, because they were 1: sacred to Native Americans who are real americans. And 2: like they, they're huge. They're literal bison, so they'd only need like one or two and that would feed their entire tribe for a matter of months and they would use all of it, there'd be no waste. Not like the way that things are processed now, you know, they's use every piece of it, and you'd see like, you know, they use the skin as like clothing, you know, the fur even. And they use the skin as leather and the horns sacred and stuff like that you could read all about this on the wiki and on other things, but thanks to colonialism, it's not only morally wrong, as usual, they literally killed off an entire species. And that destroys an ecosystem. Because not only did the literal Native Americans die, but then whatever animals, you know, were part of that food chain died, or, you know, became whatever the bison hunted, actually they ate grass, but if they ate like small animals or whatever, those probably became overly abundant, you know, continuing to destroy the environment. And this is just one example of that how the history of colonialism has led to massive climate change.

Pruthvi Mehta 11:56

Yeah.

Karel Green 11:56

I'm really upset about it.

Sehher Tariq 11:58

It happened in Australia as well, there were so many different species of animals. And then when the Europeans, the British, whatever, when they started to colonize Australia, all of these animals started to die out. And that was because they introduced cats, dogs, cattle. And because of that they would... So, for example, dingoes, erm they'd shoot them to protect their cattle. So then they're endangered. Now, I think or the popular population numbers are very, very low. And there's examples of so many different species that have gone extinct because their habitat has changed. They've been hunted because they wanted to protect their cattle. And it's just, there's so many different animals that went extinct just because of their own interests. The ecosystem has completely changed. And I learned that because of, I think it was David Attenborough's documentary, Seven Worlds One Planet. And when it comes to documentaries like that, you end up listening and you're like, wow, this ecosystem is amazing, this animals amazing. And then all of a sudden, he will go on to this like whole thing of, oh, well, now they're endangered because of climate change, or because of humans hunting or because of the waste that we're producing. They're choking on plastic or something like that. And that's just such a typical ending to the story of so many different types of animals and it's really disappointing.

Pruthvi Mehta 13:42

It's horrendous.

Karel Green 13:43

Yep agreed. That was really well put. I had no clue about that. And the way you said it, as well, the end where he's just like, Oh, thanks to climate change. They've all gone. They're endangered, blah, blah, blah. A lot of the narrative is that it's our fault that they're endangered when, yeah, climate change has an effect on them. But if that... If Europeans didn't go to a country and murder them in the first place, they wouldn't be endangered. So it's, it's all part of this terrible narrative, that it's like these brown countries fault that the people who are living there are being over, you know, over hunting these animals and stuff like that. And it's, it's just, it's insane. It's insane.

Unknown Speaker 14:30

Exactly. I think one thing especially, like, we don't have like the notes here, but when you when you talk about stuff like hunting animals for particular products, right, maiming and killing them for particular products, they always always show like, you know, people in these countries doing it to the animals and stuff like that, but they never talk about the like, why they're doing it. And a lot of the time it's especially for

stuff like for example like ivory from tusks and stuff. That's being sold to like buyers in the West,

Karel Green 15:01

It's like an accessory. Ivory... I'm gonna I'm gonna die. It's so bad.

Unknown Speaker 15:07

We sold it like what, like billions times, like a billion times the price, or whatever they're getting it for and like I... It's just so hypocritical. It's so hypocritical. I hate how and this sort of feeds into the whole, like, big climate moral agenda being pushed by a lot of companies in the West where they're trying to act like they're doing. They're doing good in terms of, you know, environmental protectionism when they're really the perpetrator of all problems. So like, one thing that can be brought up with how you know, so in the U... In the US, you have the biggest climate protection company, whatever is called the EPA, Environmental Protection Agency. I only know that because the Simpsons Movie, but anyway,

Karel Green 15:50

Simpsons is out here swinging for us. Thank you.

Unknown Speaker 15:54

They literally make fun of the EPA and it's great, but it gave a... So in 2013, and it gave its climate leadership award to Raytheon, a company, which is known for developing basically weapons of mass destruction, bombs etc and dropping them on people of color in their own like goddamn hometown. So one place they used to bomb, the Middle East, etc. So a lot of Afghan villages. And like there were basically... So they... These these big environmental protection agencies have their own sort of emission offsetting scheme so stuff which will reduce the carbon footprint in quotation marks, right. And what they normally do is they seize land from legitimate monocultures normally in countries of color right to plant trees. So they basically map out huge areas to plant these trees they have like all these schemes to like plant lots and lots of trees and you know, save the environment etc. And one big problem with this is that they're literally having to clear indigenous people away from their land, in some cases using brute force. Erm, you have the... So in Uganda you had the UN accredited New Forest being planted. And 22,000 Ugandan farmers which just evicted from their homes, so this company could can't trees. It's it's absolutely horrifying.

Sehher Tariq 17:19

That's just... That isn't a surprise. And it's so sad that that isn't a surprise.

Karel Green 17:24

Yep.

Pruthvi Mehta 17:26

I have I have more examples, I'm ready to yell.

Karel Green 17:29

Do it. I am... Yeah, I'm just not surprised that they're kicking out the people who again the people who live there instead of like these huge companies that have bases in these countries.

Pruthvi Mehta 17:40

Yeah.

Karel Green 17:40

Because you know, clothing which is again another massive polluter, but we get told off for buying like factory made clothing even though it's not even cheap. Like it's not even cheap to buy. So I don't know where I'm supposed to get clothes from but that's a whole nother thing. All of those places, factories and stuff like that with cheap labor aren't getting evicted but the people who live there are so again, you know, absolute nightmare.

Pruthvi Mehta 18:06

The worst example I can think of like like these climate action projects like literally and like the hire goddamn armies to protect these like green areas and they'll just forcibly use armies to like stop indigenous people living there from just like entering their own goddamn land. So you have like the... So in like Brazil, you had this... This army pulled over they're called the Força Verde, Green Force, being basically just enlisted there and being... and locking away like the indigenous Guarani people away from their own forest. That's... it's absolutely disgusting. It's ruining the way these people these people of color live in their own countries. It's horrifying.

Karel Green 18:49

Yeah, I erm... So I want to quickly go back to my bison. Bare with me, I'm not just here to talk about bison for the whole episode.

Pruthvi Mehta 18:59

If you do it's fine, I love it.

Karel Green 19:01

Thank you. I did want to say about the, the Wikipedia for bison hunting. It's like really typical, and a really good resource for like what is happening because if you go to the contents, because I opened it up after I spoke about it, I've been reading through it. But if we go to the contents it says like prehistoric and native hunting, Native American plains bison hunting, horse introduction, and the changing of hunting dynamics, which is fine, right? And then it says bison hunting and its effect on indigenous people, loss of land and disputes over hunting grounds, loss of food source, loss of autonomy, spiritual effects, like I said, and if you read first thing like they were killing the bison made the Native Americans more dependent on the new colonial Americans, you know, for food and stuff like that it all fed into just them

taking over the continent. And again, loss of spiritual effects because it's a part of their literal religion. Because they were literally sacred animals. And then 19th century bison hunts to near extinction, it says commercial incentive, military involvement, Native American involvement, railroad involvement, commercial hunting, discussion of bison protection, the last hunts of the Indians. So obviously, bison hunting was not only necessary for Native Americans to survive, but it was, it was a part of their culture. It wasn't just like oh I'm going to kill a bison. It was like all of the people would get together. It was like an event because obviously it was sacred, and they had to make sure they were doing it right. So they've lost that. And you can see on the wiki, there's a massive picture about like these two white guys standing on a hill. It's so big this hill was literally what... so a man is what an average of like six foot so this hills easily like 30 feet tall, because there's a man at the bottom and a man at the top and it's purely made out of bison skulls, and they were processed to be used for glue, fertilizer, dye or tint or ink or burn to pick bone char which was important for sugar refining, which like feeds back into, you know, slavery. So, and that was just bison skulls and it's insane all these commercial incentives, like I said the military coming in, trying to stop the first thing because they're running out of bison. So of course, they send the military to try and stop Native Americans because they needed bison for their ink or whatever. And then, you know, you've got all of these things. And then apparently, it's not extinct, which is nice. But now you've got you've got conservation efforts, and there are bison in like national parks now, which is one, at least it's nice because they're alive and stuff, but they're protected under the US government, which is not the same as Native Americans. So they still can't even use or see bison for their, for their religion. And now the white American government owns all the bison. And that's just that's just for one, for one animal. And that's pretty much what happens with all of them. It's a whole, a whole nightmare. But I really recommend skimming through and looking at the images for the Native American bison because it has a bunch of pictures about, from before the colonization of America. There was like statues and totems and things of bison because people actually cared about them. And I'm just here to just destroy North America. I'm so upset that they did this.

Pruthvi Mehta 22:33

I mean, like we could we probably gonna segue into an actual conversation about like, the moral like problems regarding stuff like killing animals for whatever reason, whether like food or you know, food, or for resources, whatever, but the prob... Thing is, right. These like indigenous cultures, you have these animals in their own land, they would sort of do it so it didn't affect the, erm, the natural like order of things in...

Karel Green 22:59

The ecosystem.

Pruthvi Mehta 22:59

Ecosystem and like yeah, exactly. And the food chain, it wouldn't disrupt any of that. Right? And they... What what they did, they used like every part of it just to like survive and live, it wasn't fed into any sort of capitalistic chain. Right, which is what

the West came and did which is why they had this like huge mass murder of these of this like of the species when it's it's absolutely horrific how capitalism can just come in and wipe out something entirely because of greed. And it's horrible.

Karel Green 23:27

I am... It's on the website. I saw it in a tweet as I see everything. And I'm sure well, Pruthvi, good luck finding it on the website. But it recently came out like a study was done about the clothing of especially native North Americans like the north part of North America, and they would use animal furs, obviously to stay warm, and their clothing is literally more efficient at keeping heat in to comparative to like modern day equivalents. So not only like you said they were using all of the animal to survive, and they were doing it in a respectful manner, and they weren't over hunting them. And then literal... The way they literally did it is still better than like the corporate greed today, because they're not trying to make things for the better of us. They're trying to sell stuff. So like, of course, thermals, and things aren't actually that great, because again, they did a study on the amount of heat that these traditionally made clothes keep in compared to quote, unquote, you know, thermal, high tech clothing, and it's literally better. I'm just so upset. I'm so upset. It's an absolute nightmare. And yet, this is a ongoing theme that has gone on throughout the literal planet throughout history. And it's sort of fed into how bad Climate, the climate emergency is now, because after literal centuries of going to random countries and destroying ecosystems and destroying the land, you know, kicking natives out and flattening the land for you know, whatever they want to buy. It's now coming back into a massive climate emergency.

Pruthvi Mehta 25:07

Yep, you reap what you sow, basically. And then with capitalism you reap, reap, reap because of how everything's made for mass production and mass, you know, financial profit. And I think, you know, I just, I just want to, like hammer on, like companies that, you know, put plants put like plants for basically, any anything and imagine any resource being made. They'll have plants for it always in people... countries where it's predominantly people of color because of the cheap labor pool, right? And you have like, no safety checks in place for these people. And so when there's a huge environmental disaster, it's being put on them. So like one example is, so there's a company called, well now it's called Union Carbide. It used to be Dow Carbide in the States and it makes like polymers, chemicals, etc. Basically just one of like the one of the companies that makes... produce... will produce chemicals for use and basically everything anything that we have in like our modern household or whatever. They spilled in 1984 they spilled... So they had a plant, a huge plant in India. In 1984, they spilled about 27 tons of methyl isocyanate from the plot due to you know, unfair labor rules, there weren't any health checks cuz why would you care about the Browns working for pennies in a poor country? Who cares? God 35,000 people died and 500,000 have been injured... have had chemical injuries like permanently, just ruining their life. So the Indian government obviously pissed, demanded America, demanded to America, they were like, Hey, we want \$3.8 billion in compensation. They only got 470 million dollars in return that's 15% of the

initial sum which is wild and awful. And each worker received only about 300 to \$500. And I just want to point out something that they literally... Dow Carbide has now got a huge like environmental facing, you know, pretend sort of like font. And I remember at the time Kathy Hunt, who was Dow Carbide's Public Affairs Officer, so literally public relations person said, and not not, not behind closed doors, right? They literally said, oh \$500 is plenty for an Indian, like these, these companies do not care who they hurt, especially if those people are people of color. And they are going to keep doing what they do. And it's honestly just absolutely terrible.

Sehher Tariq 27:40

Yeah, that event that was so sad. Like, I've seen pictures of a lot of the kids that that are alive at the moment and there's still so many birth defects because of that accident. And their entire life is like ruined and you don't know what what will happen like even further along the line. So how is \$500 gonna, gonna help anybody for a couple of lifetimes of struggle?

Unknown Speaker 28:11

It's not going to help and like...

Karel Green 28:14

The thing is that nothing has changed. Everybody remembers the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. And when you were actually speaking a minute ago, you might have heard me typing, and that's because it happened. Something similar happened in 2014, because I remember it on the news. And Primark had a factory in Bangladesh in Rana Plaza, and it collapsed, and it killed 1100 people. And they, obviously they got in trouble for it, but it killed a bunch of people in Bangladesh. And the article says, I don't know how much they paid them at the beginning. But the article it literally says Primark to pay 6 million more pounds to victim of Rana Plaza factory in Bangladesh. 6 million pounds is all they're getting, you know, after a literal factory collapsed on them because of course, why would Primark care about the safety of this concrete building that the people, you know, sewing their clothes together? You're like, it's a whole nightmare. And there's images of it. And like you said, when you were talking about this, because I hadn't heard about the one you were talking about a minute ago, Pruthvi. But I was just like, I literally googled it. I was just like, something similar to this has happened. And I literally googled the words Primark clothing factory burned down, and it comes up. It's on the... Oh damn, okay, well, there's a Daily Mail article, I've posted the Guardian article about it. It was on the news because I literally remembered it's on the BBC. And it turns out that there was another one in 2013, which has a Wikipedia page. Oh, no, no, it's the same one. Never mind. And yeah, it's it's it's it has a whole wiki page now. I'm just screaming and you know, nope, nobody nobody cares. Nobody cares Primark is still alive. And oh look compensation to victims. There's a little section the smallest section on the entire Wikipedia page, only larger than the charges section which is four lines, because why would we want to hear about that? And it has some pictures of two brown women smiling at a camera and it says a survivor of the burning building collapse. Like it's disgusting. It's disgusting, this building collapsed and killed people

and how much money does Primark make in a day? What is 6 million pounds to them? How much money does Primark make in a day? And then you get things like like goddamn vegan YouTubers out here saying you should thrift your clothes. Cuz buying clothes from like these companies are the worst and I'm just like, how about instead of moaning at people who can only afford things from Primark because they're cheap, right?

Pruthvi Mehta 31:10

Yeah, yeah.

Karel Green 31:11

How about you? You go and complain to Primark who literally murdered people, they got charged for murder, because they did not care about the working conditions of these people in this country. Okay, the revenue, it says on this random website, I found that the revenue Primark in 2018 was 7.5 billion pounds. So that 6 million is nothing 6,000,000... 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6... divided by 7.9... Sorry, somebody else speak I'm doing some maths.

Pruthvi Mehta 31:50

We love maths, we love it.

Karel Green 31:52

I'm very good at it. So...

Unknown Speaker 31:54

Like you're completely right with like, erm, like, it's almost like it's set up so that there's like a system in place. So that okay, so obviously, compared to the women who are making, you know, clothes in a factory Dhaka in like Bangladesh like there... there's like the... You can't compare the level of poverty from us always buying clothes from Primark, but this sort of system keeps in place so that the poorest in one in one area of the world have to like, rely on resources for the poorest, from like another part of the world. Right? So like, you know, there's so there's, it's like insidious, they're like targeting, the people who can afford to shop at Primark are normally working class people in this country. And like they're obviously they're just there trying to like exist and stuff and they're not going to have time to you know, take a goddamn campaign to Primark, whereas the rich are sort of left out of this completely and just reap the profits, and that's what capitalism set up to do. And it's insidious, like...

Karel Green 32:50

Yep, so I just worked it out and it turns out that 6,000,00 out of 7.9 billion and may I add, I think that's in one year, so that's not how much Primark makes you know, in its entire lifetime that was just one year, and it's 0.08%. So, there you go. That's how much money they paid out to the people that they maimed for life in some of the poorest areas of a poorer country. I'm ready to scream. I'm ready to scream.

Pruthvi Mehta 33:21

Yeah, I think... Do you like... Do any of you want to talk about like the... So you mentioned vegan youtubers? I think it's a very, very interesting... I'm ready to die. There's a really interesting conversation to be had about the sort of push towards like veganism especially more than vegetarian, I would say, push towards veganism as a sort of trendy lifestyle choice for people for especially normally middle class and privileged people in the West, right? And how that how that actually as a as an effort to sort of help the environment. When in reality, they're like in it sort of effects in negative ways that people are talking about because obviously people are going to profit. Companies are going to profit off this trend of veganism, the push for... Push for... So, they won't have any like thoughts on that

Karel Green 34:06

I have a lot.

Sehher Tariq 34:07

I have, I have some thoughts as well.

Karel Green 34:09

Yes.

Sehher Tariq 34:10

Because I was actually... Well, I wasn't discussing it, I was listening to my boss and some other people who. So at work I've got people who are like, kind of leaning towards vegetarianism and veganism and my, my boss was just talking about veganism and this whole trend of it, of like meat free products. And and basically what he was saying and what I I already thought anyway, and is that when you take, say like, specifically meat and dairy consumption from a local level,

So you can take it just from the local level. So you only consume whatever is produced locally. So say there's a farm in your town. If... so with with that, there's going to be kind of like seasons. So one at one point there might be like more meat that you want... That can be available and then there might be like a bit of an offseason as well. So you kind of you tailor yourself to... you'll tailor your meat consumption based on the amount that's actually available locally. But when it's available on a larger scale, so they import meat, they produce it on massive factory levels, then you don't really feel the effects of of the meat... Of the meat production. Yeah, so that will increase your meat production because you're just... well meat consumption because you you're you're not really like tuning into what goes into it like how... you don't really know how many... how many animals there are that are being you know, kind of churned out with this, of like these factories and cage farms and stuff like that. So it's this whole kind of this dissociation with the industry that...

Pruthvi Mehta 34:52

Yeah

Exactly.

Sehher Tariq 36:06

It's... that's kind of what spurred this whole thing on. So if so, obviously, that's the whole reason this has happened and this is like spiraled out of control is because of capitalism. And because everybody wants this availability of meat, but if you took it down to a local level, then environmental impact would go down because you tailor your diet to what is available locally. So if only sheep is available locally, you only eat sheep, if cows are only available locally you only eat cows kind of thing. So this whole capitalism of like, Oh, I can afford to buy five, five chicken breasts, and then like a whole entire sheep from from Tesco. And that that's just gonna ruin your perception. So yeah, this whole thing of like punishing people because they're eating meat is just not a good one because that's not the problem, the main problem is capitalism.

Karel Green 37:06

Yes.

Pruthvi Mehta 37:07

Yep.

Karel Green 37:08

There's like, two big... Because I'm going back to vegan youtubers because I really dislike them for a lot of reasons. And, Sehher, you've pretty much scalped them to death and I love it. But here we go. But they... there's like two sides to them that I don't like because, you're right, they have they have a big trend, like shaming people for eating meat, like you said. And then being vegan is not entirely cruelty free. And they don't talk about that side either. And it's really, really bad. And I think especially with the way the kids are growing up now more on the internet, and these are the people they're seeing it so... Really, really, it's really bad really mean and it's like insidious, because you look at these vegan YouTubers, right? All of them have these huge houses. Everything's up white marble because they go for like a minimalist aesthetic, because that's what veganism means to them. You know, and then you take a look at the Naval got Mac MacBook Pros, which all costs two grand, right? They haven't got cheap, they haven't got a lot, at least in the shots that they show, you know, one corner of their bedroom, but everything they do have is several thousand pounds or dollars or wherever you are. And then they talk about like, Oh, I only eat quinoa or whatever. And it's really mean because again, most people can't afford that. You know, I'm not out here going to places and putting cows into factory farms and never letting chicken out of a hutch right? I literally even if I wanted to be that mean, and that evil, I don't have the time or the money to strangle a chicken at a farm. Okay, I live in a city. I can't get to them. They're only safe for me because I can't get to them is what I'm saying. But also right. So, but the idea that eating meat because the meat industry is bad, therefore it's your fault. Because we consume so much meat, is a terrible idea because like I said, it's not like we're doing this, the meat industry makes a load of money, they could change if they want to. But with that change, they would lose their profit margins. Because of

the way capitalism is set up. You know, treating things better costs more money, which is the opposite of what things should be. But there we go. Yeah, and it's really terrible. And then none of them interact well. A lot of them are having... There's a new trend might I add, of them all having a breakdown because it turns out none of them are vegan, and were eating meat and dairy.

Pruthvi Mehta 39:38
I saw that!

Karel Green 39:41

There's so many, there's so many of them and it's great because they're all the worst but they've made their YouTube money so nothing matters apparently. So, you know, you can do whatever you want as long as you're skinny white girl with a ring light but whatever. On the other side, and there are articles about this there on our website. They're in our show notes. They're in our outline because I put them down when we first made it. But like vegan foods aren't cruelty free. There are things like quinoa and Where's the other one? Is it...

Pruthvi Mehta 40:17
Cashews.

Karel Green 40:17

Cashews there we are. So quinoa and cashews, right? I don't know where these people think they are. But nobody is growing quinoa in goddamn England's climate, right? Nobody's growing cashew nuts in England's climate. Nobody's growing bananas and all these tropical fruits in a non tropical climate. It's almost like the name matches where the fruit comes from. So all of these things are international foods right? And like Sehher said, it's better to not be vegan and to shop locally at your local farmers market and whatever. And whilst that's better. It's also you don't have to feel bad because like I said, a farmers market is expensive. And if you can't afford it, you can't afford it. It's not your fault, it's set up... You know capitalism is set up that way, but they're eating all of these foods that have a massive carbon footprint because they're being shipped by plane or by boat, which is spilling oil into the Gulf of Mexico, you know, internationally to get to them. And then so therefore, it's one not cruelty free for that. But then, you know, people in Africa who are farming these things, people in India who are farming, these things are dying, because of course they are because, you know, there's no such thing as like a minimum standard of the way they treat these people. They get paid pennies a day, and they do back breaking labor and fields, right. So the human beings are dying to get you your cashew milk. Human beings are dying to get your quinoa, and huge swathes of environments are being leveled to plant quinoa fields, which is killing animals. And you know what, like, if a human being dies to get you your goddamn oatmilk, then it's not vegan. I don't care that it's not an animal product. So it's just a whole like circle jerk of, just hypocrisy, and I'm done with it. I don't I don't care.

Pruthvi Mehta 42:07

Like Karel, I'm literally looking at... so you put a link to the metro... Metro article on the women in India who like shell these cashew nuts like day in day out. I'm going to put it in the show notes. And it's really like, I'm going to put like, a goddamn trigger warnings for this article. Because like, it's like, it's I'm looking at the pictures and these women have like, blackened bruised like boils on their hands, they can get infected, they have no health care, they have no proper, you know, there's a doctor there but because it cost them money, they don't, you know, go to them because it'll come out their wages, they're very like pitiful wages. They they they're given gloves to use, but the gloves slow them down, they just take off, you'll take off the gloves. And because they're paid by the amount they shell, they just because they want to work for so they just, you know, don't use the gloves. And it's like because they want to make as much money as they can because they're not being paid enough for this horrendous work. Oh the pictures are actually just that's really upsetting. Oh my god it's awful it's absolutely like horrendous and I'm but I'm also very glad you brought this point up like, um, another food which is a very popular one right now and one food I actually really love and I know a lot of vegan youtubers love as well. The entire episode is going to be me crapping on the vegan YouTubers.

Karel Green 43:24
They deserve it.

Pruthvi Mehta 43:25
Like I think the food is avocados. They have a ridiculous amount of water consumption. They're grown in they're growing like South American climates. And there are literally reserves of water being taken away from local people who live there to grow these grow avocados for product... production and for selling the in the in the States. And the people who live there call your drink their own water because it's being they're being used to grow avocados to be sold in the States and the West in general. And it's horrendous, like one avocado takes about, I think 283 liters of water to produce.

Karel Green 44:05
That's insane.

Pruthvi Mehta 44:07
It is insane. It's because like, again, if if they're being consumed by people like locally living there where they grow, it wouldn't have a problem on the ecosystem because it's being mass produced now, like Sehher has said that's where the problem feeds in, capitalism interferes with the environment. That's when you get the hell.

Karel Green 44:24
Yes, exactly. And I'll keep saying it, like you said exactly like the the way animals are treated. Factory farming is horrific, horrible. I don't... I'm not saying that they're treated great. They obviously deserve to be treated better. But factory farming is not exclusive to animal products, its effects all products. So going vegan, and shaming individuals who are like... instead of shaming these corporations shaming, the 14

year olds who are watching your YouTube videos, who are who don't have like these critical thinking skills yet. And are starting to feel bad. It's not going to save the environment because they're not out here, destroying it, eating an avocado. And I also quickly wanted to say I looked it up I want it just, you know not to say that all people of color are the same. When I was talking about quinoa.... It was Bosnian people who are getting Bosnian and Peruvian people who are getting destroyed, making quinoa, but there we go, I just wanted to make that clear. I'm just screaming. So that's now underneath the article that I wrote about, that I found about veganism, killing specifically Indian people, indian women, but now we've got like, all of Bosnia, I'm so sorry, sweetie. Like, it's, it's terrible. It's terrible.

Sehher Tariq 45:48

Erm I was basically gonna say that there's a similar situation, but it isn't a specific kind of vegan food that is kind of popular. It's just, it's just tomatoes, right? In Spain, the south of Spain it's really hot. So they have a really good, like environment for growing vegetables, fruit, and a lot of the tomatoes that we get in England, in the UK, they come from Spain because they can churn them out throughout the year. So what they do is there's migrants that come over from Morocco from all of... like all sorts of countries in Africa, and they'll migrate to do work in the greenhouses in southern Spain. And these people end up dying because 1) they're not treated well. There's literally 16 people who basically live in like a shed and they end up dying because of, because of the greenhouses getting so hot, so it's like, middle of summer Spain can get like 40 degrees and they're in a greenhouse and they're picking tomatoes. And one guy just ended up just collapsing and dying because he was so dehydrated. It was so hot. It was it was like verging on like, I think they said, maybe like 70-80 degrees. And maybe more than that. I remember it being a really high number. I was like, damn, you can't survive in that. And this, like, exploit... exploitation of these workers, because they're, they may or may not be there legally. So the owners don't want to treat them right. And then also this whole thing of you need to churn out food all through the year because of capitalism, that ends up affecting people's lives. So like, these people are literally dying for your food, and it's only a tomato that you get in Tesco. And it's not just specifically vegan food is everything.

Karel Green 47:55

And then, as capitalism would like, right, because they actually want it to happen, capitalism wants the reaction to that to be Oh everybody stop buying tomatoes, everybody stop eating tomatoes, because the idea that it's up to us as an individual to stop buying tomatoes, and so therefore, those people are no longer needed and don't go to the south of Spain and then die the shed to fix this is not like the solution they want to be perpetuated, because then it's not the actual solution, which is Tesco should not be supporting slave labor in the south of Spain. Right. So it's a whole like nightmare, because again, so much of like climates... Western, like New Age, you know, 21st century Green Climate activism, right climate activism is about people saying you should go vegan to not support the you know, The factory farming industry, you know, you should stop buying this because it's bad for the

environment. And when they mean the environment, they don't mean like the brown and black people working in horrible conditions in these countries. They just mean like the plants and the rabbits, they care about more than humans, right? But nobody's talking about how you know the government and especially the government because they should be fine-ing these private companies, okay, Tesco and Sainsbury's and Walmart and wherever you are in whatever your local shopping center, they're not part of the government. They are just a company that a human being owns. They should be like fined and forced to change the way that they are getting their produce, because I'm sure the CEO of you know Sainsbury's makes several billions a year and could go down to, you know, a couple billion a year if they got food from like sustainable practices, as opposed to getting their slave labor from like a South Asian country and calling it a day. But they're not doing that they're telling you to have a veggie day, one day a week only eat a vegan meal. Like I'm so sick of that narrative. And I think it's disgusting. And something that's really insidious to me. And I was always sort of been there. But it's never really never really thought about it properly until we were doing this episode was the idea of like fair trade things. And I just, it's really gross to me, especially as a black woman to go into these places and suddenly see like boxes of tea and whatever be like, we fairly traded this from the farmers in you know, South Africa. And there's like a black woman who's like smiling in the field after an entire day of like picking tea leaves. And I'm just like, this feels so fake, and so terrible. And then the idea to everything that isn't fair trade is literally just slave labor, which is the truth and it just follows me around that follows me I think about it all the time. And it's like the picture of a smiling brown person on the packet of crisps does not make me feel better about how the crisps were made. Like ermmm bad bad blocked.

Pruthvi Mehta 51:16

yep like I mean I'm literally on article right now which is Forbes article that's talking about how like fair trade doesn't actually like... isn't really fair. It literally says surprise fair trade doesn't benefit the poor peasants. That's the title. Written by white dude. He's the only one I trust now because he's right. This is gross but it's also got this ad for like cleaning ear wax like right next to this so I'm not sure what to make of that. I don't know. No. It's got a picture of wax being taken out the ear.

Karel Green 51:55

Okay.

Unknown Speaker 51:56

I'm sending this to the chat.

Sehher Tariq 51:59

Why

Pruthvi Mehta 52:01

I don't I don't remember googling anything either. I'm so confused anyway. Anyway, I'm gonna I'm gonna like read a little bit from this article if that's okay. Yes. Um, so the

other study like SOAS in London, School of Oriental and African Studies into fair trade, there was a report that was done and they've like, they've taken a bit from the report and put it into this article. Um, and basically so it says that a careful statistical analysis allowed us or the people who made the report to separate out possible effects on factors such as the scale of production. So still a difference as well in most cases, especially for wages to be significant. explaining why it would be that workers in areas dominated by fair trade organizations are so often worse off than workers in areas is a complex and challenging tasks. And this report will list some possible reasons. I'm definitely putting this report in the show notes. I'm ready to fight all of fair trade. Um, yeah, like so. It really It really doesn't matter. The scale because here's the thing, everything related unfair labor is correlated to the scale of production, right?

Sehher Tariq 53:07

Yeah.

Pruthvi Mehta 53:07

Fair trade is a huge, it's an organization, it's a company, nothing like it, there's honestly not gonna be that much fair about it. At the end of the day, it's still a company that results you know, that benefits off of capitalism. It's not going to be fair at the end of the day. Um, I'm definitely, because I haven't read this article fully. I will definitely probably read it and like, put it into the show notes. But I feel like I'm onto something here by looking at this. I'm ready to expose and scam.

Karel Green 53:36

I just realized, I just quickly want to say especially those fair trade images, I've just worked out why they feel so bad to me. It's like they're being held at gunpoint, like real talk. All the fair trade images. If you ever look at them it's like they've literally gone out to the field that they've got these people working in, who are like if I don't get 80 billion tomatoes by the end of today, I won't be able to afford food for my family because that's what it's like, like you said pretty with the cashew nuts. They're literally just like, let me just take off the gloves and have no hands to get 40 more cashew nuts an hour so I can eat. And it's literally like all of these pic... every image looks like they're being held at gunpoint and told to take a picture and smile for these Fairtrade images. That's why I don't like them. It's so forced and fake. Oh, it's terrible. It's terrible. And I also wanted to bring up and this is... reminds me of Flint water crisis, which I think is still ongoing, yet nobody talks about it anymore because it's not trendy. But it's a whole nightmare. But it's in our show notes here, but it talks about how like areas where there is a like a toxic spill or some environmental crisis. If it's an area that's predominantly like of color, so like countries of color, or just like like Flint, which is predominantly black and stuff like that the finds are higher than places that have the same kind of environmental crisis, but are full of white people. Yeah, like so. I'd love to hear your thoughts on this. But things like you said, like the Flint water crisis. I will never forget what I heard about the Flint water crisis in that these people... Flint's already a poor area is a poor area of the United States. It had the water crisis... had... it has currently the water crisis and these black people are already poor, and you think well, at least they're not they don't have a water bill.

Well try again, sweetie, because in America, if you have children in a house that does not have running water, and they check that by making sure you're paying for a water bill. CPS comes and takes their kid away. So these people, these poor people who have brown, toxic water coming out of their literal taps have to continue paying for the water that they don't want on top of spending literal hundreds a month buying bottled waters from supermarkets, because if they don't, the auto generated CPS system is just time to take this person's kid away because their house doesn't have water and they'll get their kids taken from them. I'm losing my mind that's an actual consequence of the Flint water crisis.

Pruthvi Mehta 56:22

Oh, it's awful. It's awful and like I just I just want like pull out some stats. So like for the record, I've I've, I've looked it up. So Flint, Michigan, is just so we know the racial stats here we're being clear on everything. It is 57% black, so 60 like 60% black basically, 37 % white, 4% Latino and 4% mixed race. And more than 41% of its residents live below the poverty level. So it literally... so and the governor's involved in you know, I'm going to put in quotation marks "trying to fix this entire mess" have admitted that race, the race of the people living there was a factor. In the end, like the how slow the resolution is going, and it's absolutely sickening. It's absolutely ridiculous. It's not. It's, it started in 2014. It started in 2014 coming up on six years, this April

Karel Green 57:13

It's a decade, it's literally a decada. I'm losing my mind.

Sehher Tariq 57:18

It says that they expect to replace all the lead pipes by July 2020. That insane how long this is going on?

Pruthvi Mehta 57:30

Yeah. And like, we've talked a lot about how it like these, these big companies affect people of color in you know, countries of color, predominantly countries of color, and in the east, etc. But we have you know, I think it's a really good point, like the whole Flint, Michigan thing brings home how environmental racism is not limited to countries in the global south, right? It literally is present in western countries too. And it always always impacts people of color like you have, I can't remember the documentary. It was a documentary on veganism and it was actually talking about it was talking about like how meat and dairy farms in the states the all the processing done from like meat and dairy is like absolutely horrendous and the fumes that come out of these factories are disgusting and terrible for your lungs and they're always in communities of color, always in like black and Hispanic communities always always always and it causes so many health problems. It's absolutely it's absolutely vile. And they and people and you know capitalism benefits of having these massive factories in poor areas. So we know we could do a whole episode on like race and money, right? But they always or they do it in areas which are which are poor. And they're predominantly where, where people of color live. And it's just

it's just a whole it's just a whole disgusting mess. It's so it's so terrible. How they purposely target it to be like that.

Karel Green 59:00

Yep. And so I've gotten the Scottish NHS website open, even though I'm not in Scotland but I just want to say I went through an NHS website because if you don't live in the UK we have a National Health Service. So if I'm sick, I need to go to the hospital, I don't have to pay any money. It's currently collapsing because the Tories are a nightmare, but we still have it. So just so you know, you can actually trust the NHS websites, right. But I've got the NHS website open for lead poisoning, the symptoms of lead poisoning. So it's split into for children and adults. In children, you can get irritability and fatigue, loss of appetite and weight loss, abdominal pain, right? Vomiting, constipation, hearing loss, it can literally deafen children and developmental delay and learning difficulties. And that's, that's endgame for like poor black people in America. Because developmental delays, hearing loss, those are things that are gonna affect them for the rest of their life. Trying to get a job in America. You know if you if you're especially if you've got like learning difficulties, these people are just stuck stuck under poverty for the rest of their life that's in children. In adults symptoms can include high blood pressure, abdominal pain, constipation, joint and muscle pain, pain, numbness or tingling of the extremities, headaches, and then it could cause miscarriages or premature birth in people who could have children biologically. And it also causes fatigue and memory loss. And it's like, those are, that's lead poisoning. Okay, it can cause humans to miscarriage, it can give them high blood pressure, that leads to so many things that can lead to diabetes. America does not have socialized medicine. If you can't afford to go to a doctor you die of whatever you have, right. And that's going to follow these people for the rest of their life. They're exposed to lead so many different areas.

Pruthvi Mehta 1:00:59

So this reminds me of the so do you remember the Baltimore protests on vaguely?

Karel Green 1:01:06

Vaguely.

Pruthvi Mehta 1:01:06

So they basically... So, it was basically based around this black man called Freddie Gray, 25 year old African American resident of Baltimore, Maryland. So he was arrested. And while he was in the transport, he sustained injuries to his neck and spine. Right. And so those a whole so BS and he died he died while in police care... Oh God quotation marks "care". Right? Yeah, yeah. So the whole so the riots, the protests there were about, you know, the unfair, disgusting death and treatment of this man. And so a whole a whole like study was done about the people with people who growing up in Baltimore, Maryland, and the conditions they lived in and when you mentioned, so lead from from Flint, it made... reminded me of how lead was like used in the Baltimore protests. So the housing, in the houses in Baltimore for where predominately black people live has lead paint on the walls.

Karel Green 1:02:11

Oh my god...

Pruthvi Mehta 1:02:12

And a lot of like, kids will grow a lot, a lot of the A lot, a lot of little kids will grow up in these houses and like, because lead paint if you taste lead chips, they're sweet. So they will eat these chips off the walls because they're cheap houses, they use lead paint to cover them. Lead causes neurological, like disabilities and delays, especially in children. Right and it grows up causing causing like emotional instability. Right and a lot of literally feel it's so it's so terrible because you have these like, these these arrests for disorderliness among like black communities, right? To put them in quotation marks Well, obviously, and a lot of it if there is any, if there's any actual like, you know, disorders there, a lot of it can actually be traced back and there are papers on this, traced back to the environment and these letters homes these lead painted homes that these children grew up in like and the reason they have to get the reason they have houses there is because you know wealth inequality of all races in the US it's cheaper to have like massive areas of housing which have lead paint in them are predominantly where people of color live as well. Like that lead... Like lead is being used as a sort of like tool to like sub... like subdue by race and it's absolutely horrendous like I just like... there's there's so much there's so much wrong with the way like housing and infrastructure is built into it in the US. It literally the... You have these like you've areas particularly black or where only black people live, which are which have which are like lead painted and there's a reason for this in those reasons for this because back in like the 50s and still today, housing officers were straight up racist and discriminatory and it's affecting every aspect of these people's lives and killing them and it's horrendous because Baltimore wasn't isolated to that one man's death, it's been an ongoing problem, right? It's the outcome it's the natural outcome of a freaking ongoing, ongoing, horrible insidious structure of the sort of systematic racism, that's what this was. This was what this is what led up to it, it's still going with Flint. And yeah, I've just wanted to yell, it's absolutely horrendous.

Karel Green 1:04:22

No, and it's, it's right because you know, especially in America, any you know, any white boy who like shoots up a church or wherever gets, you know, bulletproof vests or whatever, but you know, a goddamn a black person who is angry, which is a thing you're allowed to be it's not illegal to be angry, right? You know, gets just like literally executed by the police. So especially like as a black person, especially like a black man who has had these buildup of lead over his life thanks to growing up in a poor area, and then has learning difficulties and hasn't got the quote unquote good learning difficulties that just makes him a quiet person who finds it difficult to talk to people, but instead makes them you know, a bit loud and a bit rowdy because they don't... You know, especially people with learning difficulties, you've seen them, especially severe learning difficulties, like volume is not, I'm not trying to over generalize, but there are people who are very sensitive to volume and there are people who are just like loud and just shout because they're not... It's social norm not

to shout, and, you know, wherever it's fine, but you know, God forbid, a black man has that, and then they just get destroyed by the police, literally just murdered. So yeah, you're right. No, it's right. It all feeds into the same nightmare. And I'm just quickly looking through our show notes because I want to just mention the last couple things that we have here that we haven't mentioned. I want to talk about how so we've talked about Indian people and Bosnian people and people in the south... immigrants to the south of Spain. I also want to say unsurprisingly, I can't remember the exact how, how and why there's a gal dem article about how veganism is killing specifically African people as well. So, fear not everyone's getting killed by the vegans.

Pruthvi Mehta 1:06:10

I have that open. I've been, I was like almost like was reading through it. I'm just trying like, because it's quite, you know, it's quite based in this woman's, like the woman who wrote this, it's like her life. So let's just find like what like, what are the key...

Karel Green 1:06:26

The general.

Pruthvi Mehta 1:06:27

Yeah, so basically, it's like. I'm literally just reading it, someone talk.

Karel Green 1:06:39

Go ahead. Okay, so I'm also going to talk about how... So just things like obviously deforestation is real bad and it's literally killing all of us. We have here that the especially in the Amazon rainforest. A lot of Brazilian people get like poor Brazilian people who are the loggers because why would white people do that when they could make Brazilians do all of the heavy lifting, are out here destroying the Amazon rainforest. Brazil is a very like poor country. This is sweeping generalizations, of course. But there we go. A lot of Brazil is very poor. And these people don't, they don't want to destroy their home. But getting paid to cut down trees is some of the only jobs that some people can get, especially the very poor people. And then you get things where people are like blaming them for deforestation. But saying how the Amazon rainforest produces over 20% of the world's oxygen, and has 10% of all known wildlife species on the planet, with new discoveries being made on average every three days, and probably by new discoveries. They mean quote, unquote Western people saying that they've made a new discovery as opposed to the people who've been living there all their lives knew these animals already existed, but whatever. But they're not like, you know, they're not using the trees themselves. They don't need that. many trees, the trees are being outsourced to other places, and those companies aren't getting in trouble for not using a sustainable resource. Because yeah, you can replant a tree for every... replant 10 trees for every tree cut down. Trees take hundreds of years to mature, especially the size of the tree... trees in Amazon Rainforest aren't the same kind of tree to see outside your window in a park in England or in the US, right? These are really really really tall trees. Okay? And those

can take hundreds of years to grow. So even if you plant 100 for every one you cut down you're not cancelling out what you've taken away. And it's just, so that's a whole nightmare. The hell of blaming these poor poor literally poor Brazilian people who are just trying to survive on the deforestation of the Amazon is an absolute nightmare.

Pruthvi Mehta 1:08:54

Yep. I'm just so I'm so the the article on that I've got up, the Galdem article. So this basically it says, it talks about how like being vegan is killing her culture, specifically South African culture and how it's not being carried through and that. And again, it's basically just like crapping on white YouTubers, white vegan YouTubers, as we all should be. Yeah, I think well good point this article makes is actually how the whole sort of like growth sort of moral like virtue of being vegan which is normally pushed just you know, quite a trend now and being pushed by white vegan youtubers, is sort of ruining like the like the ability for people of color who... whose ancestors use meat in their cooking to like carry on with that and like you know, makes them feel ashamed even though like like we've said before these especially in ancient times in like in like older times where people of color would would use that would use meat in their diet, like sustainably in us every part of it, right. It was just like it was just like a part of their diet, it would it wouldn't affect ecosystem etc. But it's weird how white... How the West is guilting us or guilting people of color into thinking that if they have meat as part of their diet, it's somehow incredibly insanely ethically wrong when in fact you know they were doing it for centuries haven't harmed their ecosystems until your people colonised us. Like basically the point I want to I want to make from this article in particular like it's literally about like how it hurts... It hurts like... white, white white veganism in particular hurts POC cultures like more ways than one. Yeah...

Karel Green 1:10:36

Yeah. Agreed. That's a whole correct, just to like speak through things, I guess or just to point them out how non Western countries get shamed a lot more for not doing things about climate change, especially ones that do pollute, because there are non Western countries that do pollute a lot, but then they pollute a lot because they're trying to recover you know, quote unquote, developing countries, the word I hate, they're trying to recover from the effects of colonialism. And a lot of solutions to climate change are extremely expensive. And because it's it's a lot of money to be like, Oh, we've built these this you know, extra sleek, extra fast machine thing that does this better and has zero climate outcome but you can only buy it from goddamn SpaceX or wherever else you know Musk owns, right? So it's like I said countries of color that have been destroyed, colonialism are trying to get back on their feet and have a lot of pollution. Because doesn't, doesn't India a lot pollution. Yeah, I think Japan does, you know, all these places. You've seen the pollution charts, the literal maps that just like okay, you know, the brighter a country is the more it pollutes or wherever, and it's like it's not their fault.

Pruthvi Mehta 1:11:58

It's literally not their fault. That's the sad thing like India is a country of like 1 billion people, try not polluting first, first and foremost. Right. And like, again, only when a lot of it was like a direct result of like, you know, colonialism so even so like how I remember we've talked about how when the British came to India and then, you know, gave them trains, but not really, like, you know, that in itself was one, like just one method of how, you know, because those trains ran on fossil fuels. Right. And, you know, like, they were literally like coals, like, literally coal trains, and that was the that was the beginning of it. So, you know, with every goddamn technological development in quotation marks, they gave to quotation marks again, you know, countries that people will call a living in a country to global south, there's always an environmental like, you know, like a double edged sword, give give technology but also give the risk of like ruining your country's ecosystem, completely destroying the flora and fauna that live there. The health of the people. that live there. Like you... colonialism was never it was never beneficial like ever. It hurt so much it hurt so much.

Karel Green 1:13:09

I also wanted to talk about how... I wanted to say things as well in colonialism, not only is it like destroying things, but like, quote unquote like decorating in other countries. Literally Mount Rushmore was not only had the face of the white men who murdered the people who already lived there and literal colonizers, because I feel like the word colonialism is getting a bit... because of the co-opting of decolonial activity. The word colonialism in my opinion is generally getting removed from its roots. But let us not forget it literally just leads the white Europeans who murdered people in other countries and pretended that they own it. Right. And the quote unquote presidents of the United States slammed their face into Mount Rushmore, which was a not only just any mountain, but still Specifically sacred to Native Americans. Imagine if I like came to your house, killed your families, and then on your little like religious books carved my name into it, I'm gonna scream. So like things like that. And I'm sure that's happened in more than one country. But yeah, like Mount Rushmore was a sacred mountain, which has now now has the face of four white colonizers in it, or I'm going to scream. Yeah, and the same is about to happen. And I'm especially ashamed to say this one as an astronomer, but luckily my ass is not going to the country, because I refused to Mauna Kea is a sacred Native Hawaiian mountain. And there are a lot of telescopes on Hawaii because there's a little light pollution and they're trying to build a telescope on this sacred mountain. And all of the Hawaiians are just like no sweaty, our gods are there, and then the literal telescope are like we want to do some science. Just leave it alone. And these poor Hawaiian people out here having to literally like chain themselves in front of moving tractors to stop these white people from bringing, you know things up the mountain to build a telescope. And it's a whole ongoing ordeal. It's still going on today. I'm just so... I'm out here killing all of astronomy. Why would they do this. We already have telescopes in Hawaii, and they want to... Ugh.. They don't own it. They don't own it.

Pruthvi Mehta 1:15:33

It's likely it's like the astronomy version of the Jennifer Lawrence like, dragged about rubbing her butt or like a sacred rock in Hawaii. And Chris Pratt looked like he was gonna knock her out on Graham Norton, like

Karel Green 1:15:47

I remember that. Link that in the show notes. God Damn.

Pruthvi Mehta 1:15:50

And that's the only thing going in the show notes is just Jennifer Laurence.

Karel Green 1:15:53

Just leak it. Leak the show notes. I'm screaming.

Pruthvi Mehta 1:15:58

I can't believe she bragged about that, it was disgusting.

Karel Green 1:16:01

She can choke, she can choke. Oh. And then also something else that is a big issue... golf courses. People level a lot of land to build golf courses, a lot of bushes loads of places that a lot of flora and fauna could live in to pin swathes of very precision grass, that they always cut a lot. So there's no animals living in the grass because it's constantly being cut down to a certain level. Terrible for the environment. It's especially bad. I know a lot of sports pretty bad for the environment, because stadiums and things like that, but golf especially, is extra bad for the environment, just from the sheer land mass that it levels to make it... to use golf.

Pruthvi Mehta 1:16:52

When the revolution comes golf courses and country clubs are the fast things going along with the people in them. You're right, you're right but I've never thought about it that way. But like golf courses, I've never I've never been near one I don't, I don't know what golf is okay, but like I literally the landmass and like you like you said like they're really big. I keep forgetting how big they are. And you clearly right like...

Sehher Tariq 1:17:16

It really is a symbol of white... the rich white man's capitalism. Golf courses. That's where they go to discuss which country they're gonna flatten next.

Karel Green 1:17:30

You're right, we could, we could never tell where they're going to go next because nobody likes golf. Oh.

But Lastly, for me, I just quickly wanted to say day to day as well. Generally cleaning staff in everything, but especially in universities and things which is where I see them as somebody who works at a university, tend to be people of color, usually darker skinned people of color. And day to day cleaning staff get treated like literal trash,

or worse than trash, they get abused, or just people just ignore them and don't even look at them. And it's like they're out here literally cleaning, which is like the smallest day to day thing you could do for the environment, right? And I'm losing my mind.

Pruthvi Mehta 1:18:21

You're right. We went to that... the Anti Racist Classroom event where remember they like the talked about this, this black man who was a cleaner within I can't remember which institution. Remember how they talked about how these white professors were were like were basically disparaging another black academic and being racist towards them. And this this black janitor was literally there and could hear them and they acted like he didn't exist.

Karel Green 1:18:53

They didn't even clock them.

Pruthvi Mehta 1:18:55

They didn't even acknowledge that and like it was because of it was because of this man that that black academic knew that thought that these whites are going to try and like hurt him and hurt his career.

Karel Green 1:19:09

I remember it. This black guy was the only one who spoke to them because he's like a human being and not an asshole.

Pruthvi Mehta 1:19:16

Yeah,

Karel Green 1:19:16

The literal cleaner was just like, Hey, I was in the room when they were like, calling you names and saying bad things about you. And it's like the fact that they're not, they're so... like they're not even on white people's radar. Oh God horrible, horrible. I'm not the best. But I'll say hello, I'll greet them. I greet because they're human beings and they stop and they deserve my respect. And more importantly, they are the only people who automatically get my respect. Cleaning staff, in any institution, no matter where I am, are the only people who get my respect. Everybody else can earn it. Yes. Yeah.

Pruthvi Mehta 1:19:54

Yeah.

Karel Green 1:19:56

That is it. So unless anybody else has has other anything else to say? We should go on to our possible solutions section.

Pruthvi Mehta 1:20:07

Okay.

Sehher Tariq 1:20:08

I don't know if I should mention Bhutan now?

Karel Green 1:20:12

Yes.

Pruthvi Mehta 1:20:12

Go ahead. Go ahead.

Karel Green 1:20:15

Please do.

Sehher Tariq 1:20:16

So I was on Twitter the other day, you know, that's where we all get our information. And I saw something that the World Bank, the Asia kind of division or whatever, wrote an article about Bhutan and it said that Bhutan was under utilizing its resources. And they were saying that because Bhutan is basically all forest, it's covered in forest. It's a carbon negative country. I think it is the only one that's carbon negative, which is in that's an that's just impressive, and that's how it should be. And they were saying how they were under utilizing their forest. And they were saying that they need to start utilizing their forest to grow their GDP. And everybody on Twitter was like, go away leave Bhutan alone.

Karel Green 1:21:20

Yes.

Pruthvi Mehta 1:21:20

Yes. I remember that.

Karel Green 1:21:21

That's correct.

Pruthvi Mehta 1:21:22

So good.

Sehher Tariq 1:21:23

I think this is like it's whenever you see like a story where they're like, and this hidden place has been found, and it's been untouched, like, there was one in some I think it was okay, I'm not gonna say which country because but it was like an a country in the middle of Africa. And there was like an entire forest that they had not even seen before. Well, there you know, the, like, Western people haven't seen before, and it was

Karel Green 1:21:57

Therefore it doesn't exist.

Sehher Tariq 1:21:58

Yeah. It was completely untouched, and everyone was just like leave it alone. Because everyone knows that whenever they say something like this, they're just gonna go in and they're gonna ruin everything. And there was one other thing that I remembered and it was, there was a lake that they'd found. And in that lake, there was a bunch of... it was a massive forest. And that forest was essentially petrified. And petrified wood is like I think is a really good fuel. So they were considering taking that wood from this underwater Petrified Forest and using it as fuel somewhere else. So like something else that they want to destroy and get rid of, just for their own use like that. That is not going to be like... Go ahead, study it. Go ahead, keep it as something that people can look at because that that's something interesting to look at. But no, they want to chop it down and they want to burn it. Because that's how capitalism just works they have to utilize absolutely everything, it makes me so mad like can't they just leave stuff alone.

Karel Green 1:23:07

Oh, that reminds me of how you told me. You literally told me this how Ancient Egyptians and lest anybody forget Egypt is in Africa, so they were black. They used to mummify not only their like Pharaohs, but literal like animals and things. But we've now lost that information because the white people who quote unquote in the biggest quote marks possible explored the pyramids, took the took the animals and powdered them for fertilizer.

Sehher Tariq 1:23:39

Yeah. They were mummified so many different animals. There was like cranes, crocodiles, cats. There were just so many for animals that they'd mummified and they'd have them stored in these special buildings specifically made for mummifying animals. And it wasn't like you know, they just mummified them and then chucked them in a pyramid or something like that, they specifically mummified them for a reason. And then they had thousands of these animals mummified. And obviously, like, that was something special to that culture. But then later on, like the English had come and they obviously doing doing stuff, like taking stuff and you know, typical British like, you know, you know, and then, and then they saw like these thousands and thousands of animals and they were like, Hey, you know what, let's send it to Liverpool. Let's crush up and sell as fertilizer. And now there's barely any of them left. Like there was it was like tons and tons of these mummified cats that they just sent to Liverpool, auctioned them off and then they used them as fertilizer.

Karel Green 1:24:50

That is such a mess. And it literally makes sense because one of the things that most people know about Egypt is that they used to treat cats like gods or like they were really high and as they should be, they were really high and like the social, like the social status of Egypt. And that makes sense because they would be like, we need to respect these animals that are really high up in our religion. And yeah, so of course them being mummified makes sense. Why wouldn't they? Oh my God, a

nightmare. And also as well, the biology of cats and humans are surprisingly different. So that the the, what goes into mummifying a human would probably not work exactly the same of mummifying a cat and or any other animal or like a lizard or whatever, you know, different genomes react to different chemicals, and we've now lost that information. So thanks, Liverpool, you continue to offer us absolutely nothing.

Pruthvi Mehta 1:25:51

I've gone out and fought all the reforms, punching the ground as we speak.

Karel Green 1:25:57

Nothing good out there. I'm sorry. But that's just a fact. So absolute mess. So solution.

POC Squared 1:26:11

Solutions.

Pruthvi Mehta 1:26:12

So there was like, it's gonna be difficult to like, tackle something like as as as horribly ingrained and intertwined as you know, environmental racism is to like, structure of our day of our literal everyday lives, right because we are all we are all you know, you know, like profiting off the labor of these, you know, the workers of color in these impoverished countries whose own goddamn lands are crumbling to pieces due to actions from big companies in the West. Like that's not an easy thing to like deconstruct and tackle. But I think you know, first of all defining like, what we want to, you know, sustain on this earth and what we believe our utopia should be. Not just for ourselves but our planet I think is a good it's a good starting starting point. I also think that like, like I think I mentioned this lot at the beginning but holding... don't hold like, you know how there's a big the big push to put the environmental activism like on the backs of individuals? Yeah, I think that shift has to push towards companies who are doing most of the damage companies in the West are doing most of the damage you know they are literally at huge fault all of the time right the fact they didn't put something in right recycling bin.

Karel Green 1:27:38

Yes. It's not make or break.

Pruthvi Mehta 1:27:42

It equivalent to BP spilling tons of oil into the ocean right like that's, you know, they can't do that they can't go, actually did you how much is your carbon footprint? How long did you spend in the shower today? Like no, like I'm sad. Let me cry in the shower for an hour. I'm just gonna let too much out on this show

Karel Green 1:28:02

Just say it. It's fine.

Pruthvi Mehta 1:28:05

Yeah, basically, you know when you have student, when you have groups in the universities who are like environmental activism groups don't target like, you know don't target one particular rail station or whatever I don't know there was like activism that was like big like activist thing held a particular like train station in London. I don't know why so it's like going to God damn the headquarter National Rail just like holding banners at train stations is major like majority white students like this one train station who activists quotation marks, and it was actually in the area that the, the, the station that the demonstration was like, in was on like a, like a like a community of like color and like, you know, I want to say south or South East London

Sehher Tariq 1:28:54

Wait was this, wasn't this extinction rebellion and they went to Canning Town.

Pruthvi Mehta 1:29:00

Was it Canning Town... Oh yeah, it was Canning Town... That was... Oh God. Yep. Everything wrong...

Karel Green 1:29:05

This is the bad thing about extinction rebellion I teased earlier in the podcast, ladies.

Pruthvi Mehta 1:29:13

Like literally so that was something that was brought up in the, like student network meeting to do with colonialism and environmental activism that I went at. And so one guy from extinction rebellion was actually there. And, you know, one of the questions posed to him was like, hey, why is it first of all the demonstration so white, and why were you God damn demonstrating in this one rail station instead of you know, doing something more productive with your day? Like...

Karel Green 1:29:41

I need to express. Has anyone been to Canning Town? Nobody out there has any say over the global climate change, right? They're all dying. I've been there. Canning Town has nothing. And that reminds me I saw on the news, some white guy took a van and plugged up a a main tunnel to Heathrow to protest the building of a new runway. Yeah, they will. He was protesting that. And instead of like you said, going to the central headquarters where it's happening, he was like screaming on top of his van was standing, making traffic because he clogged up a main tunnel. And all I could think of the amount of times I hear it, people like to live in different places, right? And the number of people I know who've been like, Oh, yeah, I live in... I live in South Australia and I'm from the UK. And my mum got sick. So I had to pay 8000 pounds to get a plane the next day so I could fly home. And I'm just like, imagine if somebody who's in the UK who's moved here like a white person for Australia, because, you know, they can't empathize with anybody who isn't white, and their mum is sick in Australia. And they're like they've paid exorbitant amount of money to get to somewhere because they need to be there by the next day and this man's plugged up the literal oh I'm just like none of these people are doing anything wrong. You know, like you said there defining what you mean. And if you're

gonna if you're gonna protest actually go for the rich. The poor people on a train in Canning Town.

Pruthvi Mehta 1:31:19
They didn't do anything.

Karel Green 1:31:20
Yeah because they can't afford to get a black cab through Central goddamn London to get to where they're going. They're not doing anything. The people who are driving to an airport aren't happy. They're already upset because they're driving to an airport. Okay.

Sehher Tariq 1:31:36
Thing is I understand what the what they were thinking they were thinking that, well, when it comes to protests, if you disrupt something so much, eventually the government will kind of bow down to you and say, okay, we will do some change. We'll make some changes. But that just... one, that that's just not the that wasn't the right place to hit. You can disrupt things without having to stop people from going into work that, you know, they might get, you know, sacked from if they bloody get in late. Just but yeah, you're right. Like, you need to target the right people, you need to target the people who actually have the power and disrupt them, as opposed to disrupting the normal people who can't... they don't have a say in any of this.

Karel Green 1:32:24
Yep, exactly. The government and you know, companies, because those are two separate things, even though they're run by the same idiot racist white people, right? They don't care about the individual. They don't care if you disrupt a train station or wherever, because these people already paid for their ticket. Like, look at the state of like southeastern rail or whatever. Southern rail. Yeah, they don't care if anything works, right. So you, like, like you said, like, causing a disruption can be effective, but you need to disrupt the people they care about. I'm telling you right now that they don't care about us.

Pruthvi Mehta 1:33:03
Like so I think um I think another like solution I think especially to all the, about all the food stuff we're talking about I think all of you mentioned it is basically shop and eat locally. Okay. Don't think that automatically becoming vegan and you know God... God I'm following Rebecca vegan that's her name on YouTube is gonna like solve the world crises.

Karel Green 1:33:27
Names aren't even that good, it's like Raw Alignments or

Pruthvi Mehta 1:33:33
Christina we're coming for you okay

Karel Green 1:33:37

She doesn't believe in sun cream so I'm sure I'll be fine but...

Pruthvi Mehta 1:33:41

Yeah basically shop and eat local you know, sticking to one particular weird diet isn't gonna fix everything you have to just be smart with what you eat. You know make sure it was like... don't don't buy 10,000 avocados, don't you drink nut milks are just bad. Not the words not the word nut milk is bad as well.

Karel Green 1:34:04

Yeah.

Pruthvi Mehta 1:34:05

Like, don't, don't do it like don't think that, you know, sticking to a trendy diet fad is gonna, it's gonna help the environment anyway, you'd have to literally think about make conscious decisions to eat as locally as possible. And you know, don't fly in something from a country where the people who made the food are getting paid nothing and dying while making it. Like you have to do better everyone, including myself, just do better for me.

Sehher Tariq 1:34:33

But also, you kind of can't stress yourself out too much of you can't do that. Because of the expense.

Pruthvi Mehta 1:34:39

Yes. And yes, it's been this advice been targeted to our middle class, like, this privileged listeners, listeners who aren't like in Lidl, you know, like, the least exactly like, you know, people who can afford it and people who can afford all the goddamn fancy, nut milk butters and stuff. Like change from that a local. Exactly, PSA.

Karel Green 1:35:05

I said because they made it that way on purpose like one thing that I will never forgive or forget is something I use is just the simple there's a brand called Simple in the UK and they have like face wipes, face cleaning wipes, and I use them pretty regularly. And they have two new brands of it now they have their old regular ones and then they have ones that are biodegradable. So first of all, they didn't even take the regular ones off the shelf, you can still buy them and the regular ones are cheaper than the biodegradable ones. If they cared about the environment, they would get rid of the regular ones and replace them with the biodegradable ones. I've used them I bought them when they were on sale might I add and they feel exactly the same except they don't destroy you know penguins and pigeons and wherever else are in the... eating them out the Thames apparently, but nobody asked why there are penguins in the Thames. Just admit that's true, but Yeah,

Pruthvi Mehta 1:36:02

I saw one. I was there. I clapped.

Karel Green 1:36:07

But yeah, but like they literally it's more expensive so I don't like you said don't beat yourself up because it's you're not out here going to the polar icecaps and shooting the polar bears. You're not out here with a lighter next to the ice caps trying to melt them by yourself. This is not our fault we didn't do this. So the number one thing you can do to try and stop climate change if you want to do something personal shop local you know you don't have anything specific but what you do eat local to literally remove the carbon footprint of getting it to you, getting it to your mouth. And then the other thing you could do is eat the rich. Just destroy them please.

Pruthvi Mehta 1:36:47

That's the only thing you need to take on board actually just eat the rich. That would solve everything actually. I would say another thing is actually saw this on... So, Sehher, you mentioned I think in a in an earlier episode in one of the media recommendation bits you mentioned Patriot Act by Hasan Minhaj. And he did like a episode on like clothing sustainability and I don't know if you saw that, but one thing he said was like, basically like fast fashion, so like companies like asos and you know primark. Yep. Basically any like chain, High Street sort of shopping thing center. Wow my words are here today. Basically all of those sell fast fashion which means, you know, cheap materials produced by very like low paid labor pools in countries of color in the global south and they last for all of 3 seconds and you throw them away and buy new ones and that's how they make their money. Basically, he was like, avoid that. And just at least wear your clothing for longer. I think it's a really simple thing you can do just wear it. Don't keep buying 50 things a second, like just wear all your clothing items for longer, right? Like Yeah, that's just a basic thing I think that's quite doable as well.

Karel Green 1:38:02

Agreed. There's not really like an alternative to that because people are like, Oh, you should shop from secondhand stores and wherever. So like again that's very limited. I am very overweight there's nothing in there that would fit me right yeah, but and there's not really an alternative to where you can get clothes from so fast fashion industry is trash and terrible, but again, it's literally not our fault. If there was a button for fast fashion or sustainable fashion. We'd click the sustainable one. But it's not what we have. Try and live... try and use stuff for longer, maybe go online it's gonna cost more money. But go online look for places you know, smaller brands, you know, and people of color in general. I'd be like, Hey, I started this small clothing brand I do it... We use recycled materials and stuff like that. As usual it's gonna be more expensive but if you can give give a black some money. Give me some money and I'm black. Yeah. You know, try and not give these big brands all your money because clothes are gonna fall apart no matter how well they're made.

Pruthvi Mehta 1:39:07

Yeah, exactly.

Karel Green 1:39:08

They're gonna fall apart at some point anyway, so you might as well just...

Pruthvi Mehta 1:39:11

Yeah, like, inves... like invest in clothing so like you know like something which is better like better made will last longer generally like I because like I always buy really cheap shoes all the time they fall apart right. They fall apart like crap and they barely fit me my stupid tiny size two feet that I hate but anyway... I'm mad today. Um like a lot of clothing will use stuff like polymers and you know just plastics basically especially fast fashion brands. So like you know, I just... so even remember like, you have a lot of vegan shoes coming out so so using like leather they'll just use like plastic instead. Right? And that is also like garbage as well.

Karel Green 1:39:58

I want to... So, Pruthvi, do you remember us... There was like a shoe that was... I can't remember who sold it. It was on like a runway and it was worth like 8000 pounds or something like something crazy. And it was made out of like PVC, and we googled it and you could get like 10 meters of PVC on Amazon for like one pound.

Pruthvi Mehta 1:40:17

Yes.

Karel Green 1:40:18

This is so bad. So it's...

Pruthvi Mehta 1:40:20

I'm wearing those shoes right now. I made them from the Amazon, the PVC I bought on Amazon for one pound.

Karel Green 1:40:25

40 pairs of them because you bought so much. It's so bad.

Also, just because something is expensive doesn't mean that it isn't made in the same conditions that fast fashion is.

Pruthvi Mehta 1:40:37

Yes, true. That's something to also be aware of.

Karel Green 1:40:39

Yeah.

Pruthvi Mehta 1:40:40

Yep. So like always, I think the main thing is just a look at where your stuff's being made.

Karel Green 1:40:44

Yeah.

Pruthvi Mehta 1:40:45

And like try to control that as much as you can. But also don't stress yourself out because all this is impossible and I don't follow half this advice anyway.

Karel Green 1:40:54

So there we are. Oh, something else really big. You can do something I forgot. So, things that most people forget is that banks aren't government owned, they are a for profit company it's the whole scam it's disgusting. I understand that a lot of things require a bank who can't pay rent without bank, people don't just take cash, because you need the backup of a bank, but it's a whole mess, right? But banks are trash. The things like there was a... I've forgotten the name... I think it was the Dakota pipeline, I can't remember what it was. There was like a pipe... oil pipeline that was being made in America, right. And at first it was planned to go through a bunch of these like rich areas that all the whites lived in. They didn't like that. So instead got moved to an area that was sacred, one of the last ones that was sacred to Native Americans. And they that was all over the internet and all over the news. And they were protesting it. Think it went through anyway, it was a nightmare. And it ended up destroying the environment. And it's like there today and I'm out here screaming and that was made by banks, right. It's an absolute nightmare. The people who funded it was banks and again, their for profit. They make their money on loans, they make their money on houses, mortgages, banks make their monies in terrible ways. And they're, you know, owned by old white racist, men. There we go. If you want to do something and I have a credit union, right, but what you need is you could try and change to a credit union. There are different types and there are more in different ones. I use my one purely for savings. It takes 10 quid out of my bank account every month, as a direct debit, and it has savings. But there are other ones you get where you get like a literal card and it's normally like a bank. And a credit union is a bank that isn't evil. It's not for profit, and they help a lot of people. They have ethical loans, loans where they won't literally like strip your lungs out of your throat if you can't afford to pay it back. And there was... Because I was learning... when I was learning about credit unions, there was this boy whose parents died when he was in his teens and he needed money for their funeral, and he didn't know anything about anything. So he took out a bunch of loans. And he's been in debt his entire life and it got crazy. And he had to go to the credit union because he was just like, Hey, you know, I got this loan when I was like 17, barely, it was barely legal somehow. I literally used it to bury my dead parents so me and my sister could live. And I need help, because I was just old, too old to be protected by child laws. But I was still like very young, and the credit unions helped him. So it's something that could be really good, that anyone can do because they are free to join as well. Get an account with a credit union so give them your money so they can use it because they don't fund disgusting pipelines. And they don't target the poorest people. The fact that you can you have you get a fine for going overdrawn is nightmarish. Like nobody

thinks about it, but the fact that if you have no money, and you go over that limit the banks like you owe us more money is crazy. That's, that's crazy. So great. So get a credit union account, google it, Google credit union and then your city name and there will be one that will really help the environment. I can promise you that. And then I'll find some links and by me, I mean, Pruthvi, find some links and put them in the show notes. So it actually explains what a credit union is and how... please do that.

Pruthvi Mehta 1:44:29

They, that's actually a... because I might, like I'm first of all, I'm at the local Santander branch, punching them in the face too. And also punching the ground at the same time because I haven't stopped. But yeah, like that's a really, that's a really good point. And I won't... I'm gonna make that switch. I'm gonna do I'm gonna do it. I'm gonna research it, thank you and put it all in the show notes. And we... Which will be available after this goes out. I think I think one final like I mean, I'm gonna put this one little solution in as well, I think because Karel you mentioned being, first of all, being decent to cleaning staff whether they're your University, institution, business, you know, whatever. Because they're not, they're always like, you know, people like people of color, you know, and you need to need to be good to them. And one way... they can literally help the environment by literally cleaning, right? Literally doing that. So one thing try just lit... just try and make your universities pay them goddamn well. You know, give them health benefits, give them dental, give them insurance, give them everything. They deserve more than me and they deserve more than you like, as well. So yeah.

Karel Green 1:45:46

So yeah, yeah, agreed. Yeah. And they're all on agency a lot of the time as well. So they don't get benefits like that, especially in countries like North America, where you know, things like things like Hospitals and dental care is not socialized. Even though in the UK dental isn't socialized, but whatever like other things are. So there you go, be good to them. So yeah, that's everything that I have for solutions other than Eat the Rich. So, yeah, and don't don't and look into these green schemes. Like we said, Jeff Bezos is making a new green scheme to help the environment. And he thought, I've given 10 billion pounds to the environment, right? But then you actually take two seconds to Google what it is and he's setting up another company and that company will get him more money. So he's not just given to an actual charity that's purely trying to help the environment. He just set up a company that might do a little bit of good, but ultimately gets him more money. And there we go. So Bezos can choke.

Pruthvi Mehta 1:46:55

Just always be critical of any any big companies green scheme, and just in general. Like, always think about how how, how good is it really, this is gonna benefit capitalism. Just think about that.

Karel Green 1:47:06

So many heads of charities have like six, seven figure salaries and I'm just like you're a charity. Right?

Sehher Tariq 1:47:13

This is a big one because I always get, I always get really paranoid about donating to charities, especially really big ones. And you can look up how much money they.... like the percentage of the donation that you like that they actually use. And I'll try and find and I'll try and find the link to it and then put it in the show notes for at least the UK anyway. And if you're happy with how much they've actually used, then donate to them. But otherwise, some charities barely use any of it. And then a lot of charities will actually put money into stocks and shares for really shady companies. I don't want to say anything too... I'm going to say this is allegedly, I think it was either Children in Need or Comic Relief like that, that kind of one of those really big ones. They have stocks and shares in like the tobacco industry. And there's one about the arms industry.

Karel Green 1:48:21

Oh, no...

Sehher Tariq 1:48:22

There was there was one massive charity that has stocks and shares in that and like, your... I just, I have no words. It's just ridiculous.

Karel Green 1:48:33

And whilst that's also obviously really bad, I that's just made me think about and you're gonna have to do some research. So good luck, but please check our show notes. Because there's a lot of stuff in there that we don't talk about, even though we talk for so long. But like, I just realized the actual carbon emissions from war, probably insane. Like the amount of energy that goes into making war machines and guns and things are probably crazy. And then the idea of, again, huge amounts of land, you know, the animals obviously getting killed in the crossfire. But yeah, like, the arms as well, especially in cases like America where gun violence kills children and stuff like that, but but warfare probably... Probably. Warfare just destroys the environment. I didn't even think of that before you said that. And that's Oh my God. So yeah, check the show notes for more on that, but yeah, be careful with who you donate money to. And then also don't feel bad if you don't donate money. I don't donate money to charity, very often, for that exact reason. Because sometimes I'm just like, I don't want to search up if they're good or not. They're just not getting my 4p. Then I go home.

Pruthvi Mehta 1:49:46

I'm literally screaming in the notes about them because of Comic Relief. Wow I'm just gonna do a whole like, Comic Relief undercover, after dark, scam exposed, scam exposed in the show notes. I didn't ever think about... It's something that was on like literally like every year when we were kids whatever happens.

Karel Green 1:50:07

It was on at like on at christmas every year and you trust it because it's on the news and stuff. Oh, you can't trust anyone.

Pruthvi Mehta 1:50:18

Be skeptical. Okay

Sehher Tariq 1:50:20

I found I found the article for it. It says millions of pounds donated to Comic Relief have been invested in funds with shares in tobacco, alcohol and arms firms BBC panorama has learned.

Karel Green 1:50:33

Disgusting.

Pruthvi Mehta 1:50:34

Discostin.

Karel Green 1:50:35

Screaming

Pruthvi Mehta 1:50:36

Discostin.

Karel Green 1:50:38

So hell hours. That's where we're ending this on, the hell hours.

Pruthvi Mehta 1:50:43

There weren't any solutions here. It was just us crying over how real bad it is.

Karel Green 1:50:48

Oh, yeah. And especially with climate activism, people like Greta Thunburg. She's really good, but like she's only popular because she's like a white girl. There's been articles, Pruthvi will find them.

There are young climate activists black and indigenous and native to their own countries and Asian and whatever else, non white climate activists, who've been doing climate activism longer than Greta has. And they're all being called you know the Greta Thunberg of India. Like how about no Sweetie, so listen to them maybe and also children shouldn't have to do climate activism. We live in a dystopia. So I'm forcing us on to some Media Recs, because I'm upset. But now we are going to our next section, which is on media recommendations, where we talk about things to promote self care, and try to prevent burnout. And it will be things made by or in that include people of color because we aren't represented. So there we go. I actually have two ones general and one specific. So who's going to recommend

me some good things to help me heal from this terrible terrible realization of everything bad on the planet.

Sehher Tariq 1:51:00

I don't have any recommendations...

Pruthvi Mehta 1:51:00

Yeah I've found it.

You literally give the only good ones. What are we gonna do?

Karel Green 1:52:13

Media recs canceled. The episodes done. Oh...

Pruthvi Mehta 1:52:18

Ok I'll throw something out there. Um, this is not a game actually. But um,

Karel Green 1:52:26

Wow.

Pruthvi Mehta 1:52:27

So I'm recommending, but I'm on my sci fi BS so you can all just deal with it. So I'm recommending Avenue five, which is a sort of comedy sci fi satirical thing drama, perhaps maybe. So it was created by Armando Iannucci, who did the Thick of It. And it's basically like a satire of how like, capitalism has sort of made like space travel like very materialistic and only for the rich or whatever. But the whole the whole problem with the ship in the show is it's like a luxury sort of space cruise liner for the rich right? They all have like that... everyone on board everyone is actually meant to be like an engineer or like a captain himself is like an actor and the real people that know like... They're all there because you know the hell hours capitalism wants you to look good so they're all just really attractive actors whatever. And the people behind the scenes are like literally just like work on the cover on the ship are the people who like know what the deal is and how you know how to actually like manage the ship and maintain it and maintain engineering and everything. So it's basically about all the drama that goes on there. It's all it's hilarious because makes fun of how you know space travel is being defined in this really materialistic lens. And it has like a load of actors of color, especially women of color. I think there are at least like three black female main characters I can think of who are really really competent in the in the show and that a lot of them I think yeah one of them's like an engineer on board the ship and the other one is like a scientist a mission control back on Earth who's like watching the disaster ship unfold because basically it gets trapped in space and the in the return trajectory is like extended from like a month to like three years. All these all these rich all these horrible like rich people are like doing yoga literally doing yoga in the first episode, soulcycle are stuck on this like ship in space. And like she just was just this black woman who's in Mission Control a part of NASA is like watching it all unfold and just like, like just dying

inside with... it's a whole mess but also they did that themselves. Yeah. It's really funny. I would really recommend it like... Like, you know, it's literally by Armando Iannucci who does really good like politic... does really good political satire and it's carried into space and it's really it's just really funny. Lots of actors of color, please watch it, please. That's my recommendation.

Karel Green 1:55:19

So I am going to recommend something that pretty you actually tweeted at POCSquared account that I retweeted and it was something that Netflix can choke about because I like I didn't even see an advert about it.

You know, so much garbage on Twitter, and I didn't see this one advert. But there is a new show that's out on Netflix as we speak, The Expanding Universe of Ashley Garcia. And this show is about a 15 year old Latina, who got her PhD early, and is now working at NASA where she builds robots, while also adjusting to being a normal teenager. And whilst it sounds like oh, you know, a 15 year old with a PhD... It does happen. And there are... There's like a black girl who's got one who was literally like 16 or 14 or something crazy. So it's not like that weird to think about. It's just a really good show. Because it stars a Latina girl, I don't know much about Latinas or Latinx generally, but so I don't know if the actor/actress herself is mixed race or not, but it's a good representation. Because that's the point that I don't see a lot of Latinx people in, in starring roles, and she is definitely a brown person. And it's just like people deserve this. It is about science. You know, she's, she's smart, and it's not made fun of. She's just really smart and she has a PhD at 15 you go girl, and it's got latinx characters, and most importantly, a latina actress now has a job in like a major Netflix series with starring them. And it's just really good. It says he was out February 17. You know, I've only heard about it literally on February 22nd. So it's been out for a couple weeks. And I'm just here like anyone all Latinx, people you deserve better than what you've been given. And here she is. And yeah, just little Latinx girls deserve to have this story told about them. And it's great, and it's great. So I'm happy and please watch that.

Yeah!

Pruthvi Mehta 1:57:28

It's definitely want to watch first because it looks incredible. I'm also mad at Netflix didn't promote it, I literally didn't see a thing and how often am I on Netflix, all the damn time. I've got a tab open right now. I can't see it.

Karel Green 1:57:41

So where she. That was my recommendation so that's that one. The other one I've kept pretty vague because I think half the fun of it is searching up yourself. But my whole aesthetic, and I... what the world should be, is what it's called solar punk. It's like steampunk But it's futuristic. And it's about a world where we're not ruled by capitalism and the environment. Everything's got green energy, and futuristic structures mould with the environment. And everything's like sleek and clean. And I

really love that aesthetic because it builds with my, I love to be inside. I love to be clean. I hate spiders, I understand that we need them for the ecosystem, but they can choke. But also I like, I want a green energy, I would love to have vines growing up the side of my house, I want bright blue sky. I want the world to run on solar panels, wind turbines, and I just love googling it. And it's, that's what the aesthetic is called, it's called solar punk. There's loads of books about it. If you google images, it's stunning. It's the future I wish we had. It's the future that we should have had. If you know racism didn't exist, and everybody just used each other's science properly, and stuff like that. And I'd really recommend just looking up, looking it up. Cuz like I said, there's so many just writing about it on the, on the internet that you can get for free. And obviously there's books that you could buy I thought would be a nice thing that you could just do for free. So you know if you ever have spare five minutes looking at your phone, you don't want to like go on Twitter because I've got like 100 and something words muted because I'm dying on that website, Google the word solarpunk and just get into the vibe It's so good.

Sehher Tariq 1:59:25

So I think the first one is Seven Worlds One Planet because nature programs are always the best because there's... you know nature is so pretty and, and like the imagery is just so... it makes me happy. But then obviously, it does have that the little depressing bit at the end, but it does like... it still makes you happy because nature is cool. And then the second one is an anime. And it's probably the first... It isn't the first anime that I've watched but it's one of the first ones that watched and it's called Dr. Stone. And it's basically set around this one guy who's really into science, and the whole world turns to stone. They don't know why everyone just turns into stone and then this this kid just wakes up like thousands of years later, and everything that was modern has gone. So all the buildings have crumbled, all the technology has died off. They can't they, it's just everything is just gone. So it's literally just just like the Stone Age again essentially. And what he tries to do is tries to introduce science back into the stone like the Stone Age. So he tries to make modern, modern inventions using materials from like the Stone Age. But yeah, it's like one sea... one season so far. 24 episodes 20 minutes long. And there is a second season confirmed and it's really good. And I really enjoyed it. And if you're into science, you will enjoy it as well. So yeah, that's my recommendation.

Pruthvi Mehta 2:01:21

I've had like Dr. Stone recommended to me and it's Yeah, it's on my way to watch this. So like, thank you. Thank you for that. Yeah.

Sehher Tariq 2:01:26

Watch it.

Karel Green 2:01:28

Nice. That's really, really good. I just quickly wanted to say, um, so for my solar punk thing, if you really want something specific, it was written by a white woman, so I'm sorry, but there is a duology of books called glass and gardens. And what... the first

one is called solar punk summers and the second one is called solar punk winters. And it's like an anthology they're both anthologies set in like solar punk world, but it shows how like, like it's just stories like fictional stories, but set in a solar punk world. So it's nice to have to deal with issues but the world around it isn't collapsing, which is what most dystopias are, well your definition of dystopia and most books are the there's a problem in the world. So I think those would be like a really nice place to start. I still need to buy them myself. And they love like if you google them, bl really love the covers, they are very, very nice. And yeah, so if you want to read a fictional story, but not leave the story, like you wish you were dead, get glass and garden series. So the punk summers and solar punk winters, and you could just enjoy things that are better than the way that they exist today.

Pruthvi Mehta 2:02:41

That's lovely. Because like, I mean, like, there's a whole thing about how like, like cyberpunk, right? Which is like in like a future like aesthetic thing is so like, like, even if one tries not to be dystopian, it's already it's always dystopian, because like most cyberpunk novel novels, like I like I like a lot of science fiction stuff. And cyberpunk is a real predominant one sadly because always written by white men, so it's like all the futures are techy and like pink and purple and dark and you know Blade Runner it's basically Blade Runner and Blade Runner is problematic in a lot of ways. Yeah can I just say solar punk and afrofuturism is where we're heading and that's all the aesthetic I want for the future. I don't want any cyberpunk, I don't want any dieselpunk What the hell is dieselpunk that's the opposite of this episode let me tell you that

Karel Green 2:03:26

Choke on petrol, sweetie.

Pruthvi Mehta 2:03:29

What is that aesthetic. It's not a thing.

Karel Green 2:03:31

I don't understand. Well I need solar punk because I swear to god my seasonal depression is so bad like in summer I have so much energy and I'm just like wow it turns out I'm not tired all the time. So I need the solar punk future because I'm literally have solar panel for a human and I don't function if the sun isn't out so my ass will be dying in the zombie apocalypse might ass be dying in whatever God damn steampunk crispy, you know the moisture assists the mould, like I'm not living in some rusted mess give me solar punk or give me nothing so there we go that's where I'm ending it

Pruthvi Mehta 2:04:10

like it's yeah it's I think we can also like just as a little like a little thing we can definitely have like a whole episode on like POC and health and you know you're talking about how you literally need sunlight to live is actually a part of that.

Karel Green 2:04:22

Next episode. Medicine in Glorious Technicolor there we go.

Pruthvi Mehta 2:04:25

Excellent. Yes. It is. Okay. Fin out why Karel is a solar cell.

Karel Green 2:04:32

Come back next episode. And how you too can become sentient solar cell, there you go

Pruthvi Mehta 2:04:39

I'm so excited.

Karel Green 2:04:42

Nice. Nice. Oh, that was really nice guys.

Sehher Tariq 2:04:46

Before we end it, before we end it?

Pruthvi Mehta 2:04:48

Yeah.

Sehher Tariq 2:04:49

Carbon offsetting, it's a scam goodbye.

Karel Green 2:04:55

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