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AppointeeAlert



this issue:

John P. Holdren, Director of the
White House Office of
Science and Technology Policy
(Science Czar)

Holdren's Background

Faculty Consultant, Lawrence
Livermore National Laboratory

Professor, Harvard University

Professor, University of California,
Berkeley

Visiting Scholar, Woods Hole
Research Center

Senior Research Fellow,
California Institute of Technology

Research Assistant, Stanford
University

EDUCATION

S.B., Massachusetts Institute of
Technology

S.M., Massachusetts Institute of
Technology

P.h.D., Stanford University

Who is Holdren?

On March 19, 2009, John P. Holdren was confirmed as the Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy.

Holdren's views on issues such as population control are shocking. In addition his past predictions regarding impact on the Earth from population growth have not materialized. Population control having faded as a popular issue, Holdren is now on the global warming bandwagon.

After reviewing Holdren's views one would hope that his appointment as a Czar was an anomaly. Unfortunately Holdren's appointment follows Obama's pattern of appointing people with views to the left of almost everyone on Earth.

*-Don Todd, Director of Research,
Americans for Limited Government*

Reduce population by any means necessary...

Holdren believes capitalism, the traditional family, and new achievements in energy production are propelling the world toward

unmitigated disaster. Because of this in 1973 he advocated a "de-development" of the United States. He advocates this so the United States may be "in line with the realities...of the world's resource situation". In essence, he advocates government mandated family sizes, government controlled energy distribution, and government controls on every aspect of our lives –

all in the interest of "equality". Fn.1.

Since the 1960s Holdren has advocated draconian practices in order to control the world's population. In 1969 he wrote, "If... population control measures are not initiated immediately...technology...will not fend off the misery to come." Holdren further states, "Some form of ecocatastrophe...seems almost certain...before the end of the century."

In his 1977 book *Ecoscience*, Holdren expounds on what population controls he would put in place. He stated that "compulsory population-control laws [would be needed]...if the population crisis became sufficiently severe

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What you really need to know about John Holdren in his own words.

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to endanger society.” Holdren puts forth several ideas on how this would be accomplished. He suggests, “laws requiring compulsory abortion” (Fn.2.), “requiring pregnant single women to marry or abort the child” (Fn.3.), “adding a sterilant to drinking water or staple foods” (Fn.4.), “adjusting tax laws to favor single people, working wives, and small families”, “tax measures that include high marriage fees”, “taxes on luxury baby goods and toys”, “removal of family allowances”, and “limitation of...educational benefits to two children per family.”

In his book Holdren calls for a “planetary regime” in order to administrate these policies. He says, “The Planetary Regime might be given the responsibility for determining the optimum population for the world, and for each region....” He continues, “If this could be accomplished, security might be provided by an armed international organization, a global analogue of a police force.” Furthermore, he concedes, “This...involves the partial surrender of sovereignty to an international organization.” He then justifies his position by asking, “For example, no one may lawfully have more than one spouse at a time. Why should the law not be able to prevent a person from having more than two children?” Fn.5.

In 1971 Holdren called for a “massive de-development campaign of the United States” because of the “rapacious depletion of our fossil fuels”. He justifies this by saying, “Resources...must be diverted from frivolous...uses in overdeveloped countries to filling the genuine needs of underdeveloped countries.” In essence, he would have us divert money from finding cost-effective and consumer-friendly energy sources to propping up dictatorships in the third world. In 1977, he claimed the world was “running out of cheap energy.” He was so sure of his position that, in 1980, he placed a wager with economist Julian Simon based on his prediction. Per the rules of the bet Paul Ehrlich (a Holdren mentor) chose several minerals he thought would become scarcer, and more valuable. Holdren and Ehrlich lost, as each mineral chosen became cheaper, and more abundant. This loss did not faze Holdren in the least. In 2007 he repeated his belief regarding the depletion of natural resources. Fn.6.

Holdren will not hear anyone who questions his beliefs on climate change. In 2007 Bjorn Lomborg published a book entitled *The Skeptical Environmentalist* in this work he raises questions surrounding climate change. After the book was published Holdren attacked Lomborg’s work, but he “misrepresented Lomborg’s argument and failed to identify any meaningful errors in the book.” Fn.7 Holdren has also shown intolerance to climate change skeptics labeling them all “Conservative Republicans, calling them “menaces” and “dangerous”. Apparently, Holdren does not realize that Lomborg is gay, a vegetarian, and worked as Director for the independent Environmental Assessment Institute, and has been praised by numerous publications, including *The Economist*.

Sources for further reading:

Fn.1. Kathy Shaidle, ‘Science Czar’ John P. Holdren’s disturbing beliefs about America, capitalism and humanity, WASHINGTON DC EXAMINER, July 16, 2009. Available online at: <http://www.examiner.com/x-722-Conservative-Politics-Examiner-y2009m7d16-Science-Czar-John-P-Holdrens-disturbing-beliefs-about-America-capitalism-and-humanity>. (Accessed July 20, 2009.)

Fn.2. PAUL R. EHRLICH, ANNE H. EHRLICH, AND JOHN P. HOLDREN, ECOSCIENCE: POPULATION, RESOURCES, ENVIRONMENT 786 (1977).

Fn.3. *Id.*

Fn.4. *Id.*, at 787-788.

Fn.5. ECOSCIENCE, *supra*.

Fn.6. John Tierney, *Honest Science in Washington*, TIERNEY LAB, NEW YORK TIMES BLOG, February 23, 2009. Available online at: <http://tierney-lab.blogs.nytimes.com/2009/02/23/honest-science-in-washington/?scp=1&sq=Tierny%20Honest%20Science%20in%20Washington&st=cse>. (Accessed July 20, 2009.)

Fn.7. Jonathan H. Adler, *Obama’s Political Science Advisor*, NATIONAL REVIEW ONLINE, January 7, 2009. Available online at: <http://article.nationalreview.com/print/?q=NTc4MGNiYmIxMGlyZWYwZjE3MTFmMGVINDY0Nzc0NDU>. (Accessed July 20, 2009.)

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