



RUTGERS GREEN PRINT

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Hello Green Print Readers,

The spring time is one of the most exciting times on our campus and the vibrancy that comes with warmer weather on campus will not be felt this year. Given the unprecedented event of a worldwide pandemic it is with a heavy heart to say that the remainder of the spring semester will continue online. First, we would like to thank our senior members who have dedicated an immense amount of time to make our club extraordinary through their writing as well as photography! Little did we know our most recent in-person meeting was going to be our last one of the semester. We wish the best to our graduating seniors.

However, this unfortunate incident will not stop our Green Print team in offering our readers the most intriguing eye opening articles! We want to keep you guys informed as well as entertained about local and global matters.

Speaking about important matters, have you signed up to vote for the 2020 election? It goes without say that this election will be one that goes down in history. As young voters we have the power to alter our political future for the better. Between now and election day young people can make calls, knock on doors, and mobilize their peers on college campuses and in digital spaces. If you fail to vote you are yielding the ultimate power to adults to make decisions that will shape and lead society for decades, and you can be sure that those decisions won't be congruent with younger generations perspectives. Now, more than ever, it is essential that young people take advantage of their right to vote in order to create a future that aligns with their fundamental beliefs and to set a precedent for future generations. Tuesday, November 3rd is when the 2020 presidential election will take place. Do not be absent during the molding of your own future and the future of people you love. VOTE! VOTE! VOTE!

With love,
Samara
Editor



What would you do if you lived in Kashmir, the world's most militarized zone?

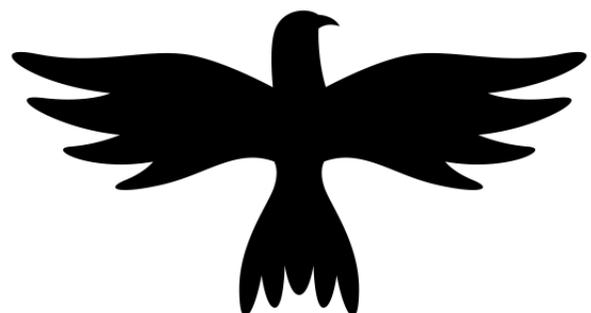
By Nadia Qazi



On August 5th, 2019, India cut off all internet access in Kashmir. For those who may not know, Kashmir is a Himalayan region currently occupied by three different countries-India, Pakistan, and China. Indian-occupied Kashmir consists of Kashmir Valley and Jammu, Pakistan-occupied Kashmir consists of Azad Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan, and Chinese occupied Kashmir consists of land, known as Aksai Chin, with no people living there. The people living in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (POK) have assimilated to Pakistan, but the Kashmiris in Indian-occupied Kashmir (IOK) do not recognize India as their government. For this article, I will be focusing on Indian-occupied Kashmir and the mistreatment of the Kashmiri people living there by the Indian government. To be clear: Kashmiris do not want freedom from India because they are mistreated, rather, they are mistreated because they want freedom from India.

Kashmir is the world's most militarized zone. It also had the longest internet shutdown to have ever occurred in a "democratic" nation. Unfortunately, Kashmiris have had to face more severe hardships, than just the lack of internet access. Kashmiris have gone through unimaginable injustices such as enforced-disappearances, mass-incarceration,

torture, collective punishment, militarization, state terrorism, political prisoners, media dehumanization, lack of press freedom, economic loss, and many more horrific misdeeds. To understand the events that transpired on August 5th, the decades of Kashmir's struggles must be understood first. Kashmir's desire for self-determination started in 1931 when Jammu and Kashmir began a movement against the Dogras for the rights of Muslims in the region. The Dogras were a Hindu dynasty that ruled over a Muslim-majority Kashmir from 1846 to 1947. In 1947, the Partition of India divided British India into a Hindu-majority India and a Muslim-majority Pakistan. The Dogras requested military assistance from India as raids and uprisings began to occur from Muslims in the region of Jammu and Kashmir. The government of India agreed to help if the Dogra signed a treaty, known as Article 370, giving India control over the defense, communication, and foreign affairs of the region.

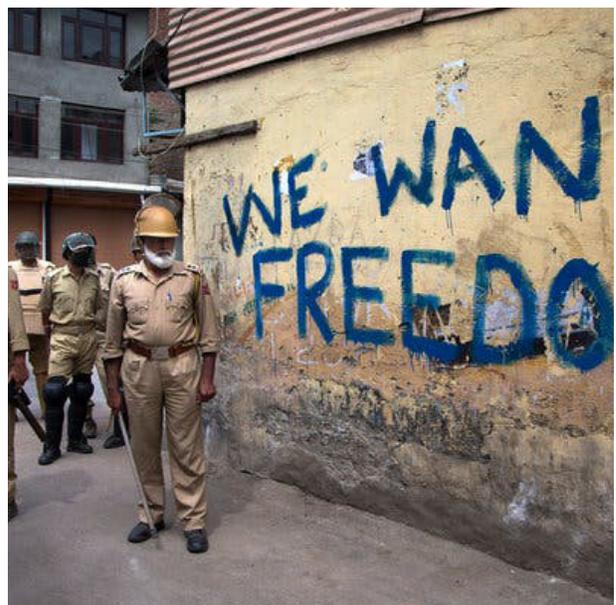


The agreement guaranteed that the people of the region would be given the right to vote and decide Jammu and Kashmir's future. A war between Pakistan and India in 1948 resulted in India gaining control of two-thirds of the region and Pakistan gaining control of one-third. The war resulted in the U.N. calling for the vote to be held in Kashmir. However, seventy years later, the vote has yet to take place.



On August 4th, the Indian government shut down internet access in Kashmir, a common human rights violation that Kashmiris have become accustomed to, in an effort to hide what was to come on August 5th. On August 5th, the Indian government, without Kashmiris knowing, and illegally - against their own constitution- revoked Article 370. Revoking article 370 removed the little autonomy Kashmiris had on their land. On October 4th, some phone and calling services were restored. Towards the end of January, only 301 websites, selected by the Indian government, were available for Kashmiris. On March 5th, seven months later, 2G internet was finally restored in Kashmir. There is still a ban on 4G internet, due to "misuse of social media." The collective punishment of a communication blockade, helmed by the Indian government, resulted in the region suffering over \$2.5 billion in losses.

In these last seventy years, the Indian government has had 70,000 people killed and 10,000 people have disappeared. An innumerable amount of mass graves have been discovered. Over half a million Indian armed forces have been stationed in Kashmir and Indian military forces have raped countless women. These armed forces are protected under the Armed Forces Special Powers Act and the Public Security Act, allowing military officers to arrest anyone for up to two years without any due process. Kashmiri journalists can be beaten and arrested for doing their job, while foreign journalists are not allowed to report from Kashmir at all. There are mass lockdowns and curfews set by the government as a means of collective punishment. Kashmir has suffered a great deal by India, and the U.N. has done very little to better the lives of Kashmiris. Educating oneself on the current climate in Kashmir and understanding the adversities Kashmiris face is imperative. What would you do if you lived without the internet for seven months? What would you do if you lived in Kashmir? What would you do to achieve the right to self-determination?





QUARANTINE: My View on the COVID-19 Outbreak

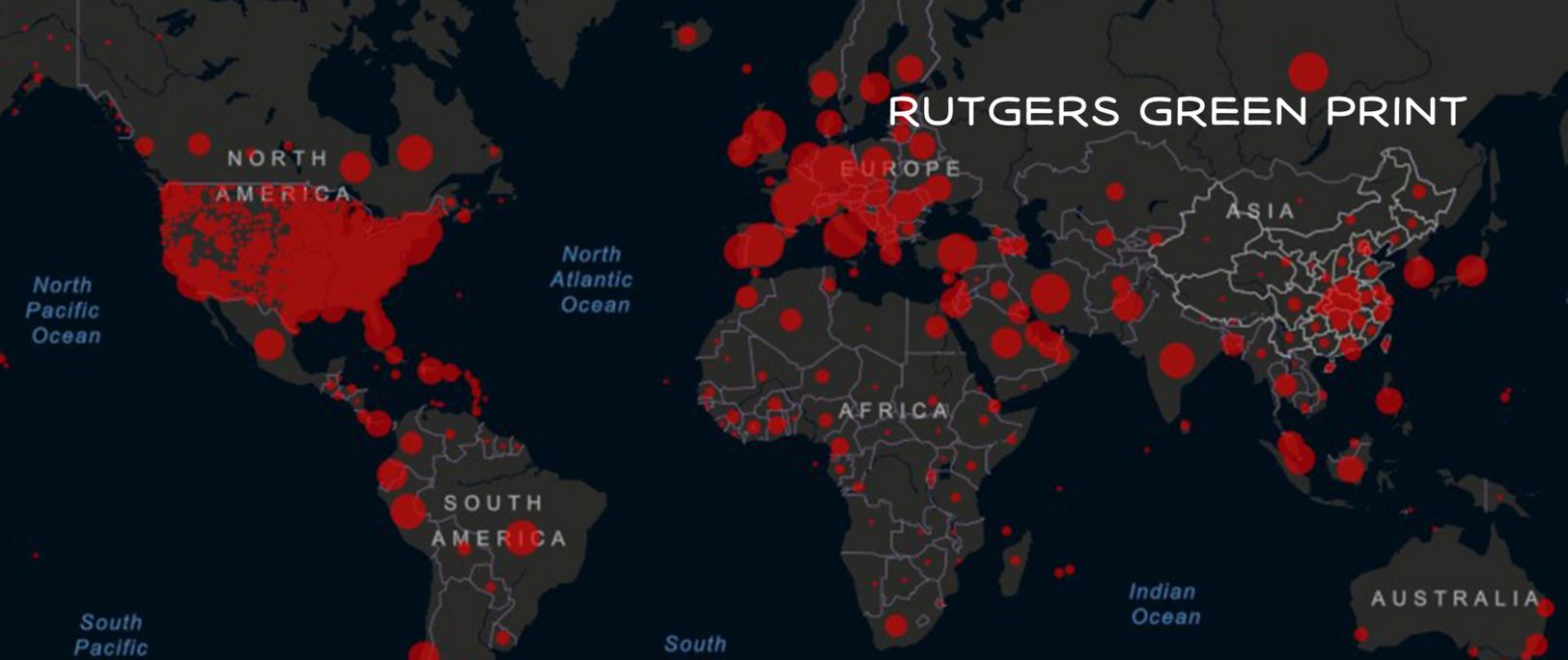
By Anantha Kashibhatla

COVID-19, the official name designated by the World Health Organization (WHO), has wrought havoc throughout the world. What started as an outbreak in the Wuhan Province in China has become a deadly pandemic that has left many health experts perplexed about how to deal with this newfound issue. I remember being in the gym three weeks ago, when the news of the first case of the virus was reported in California. I knew then that an outbreak was set to happen and that it will only grow worse if people don't take it seriously enough.

My worst fears have now come true-the United States now has approximately 500,000 cases of the coronavirus, and New York is the epicenter of the viral infection. The fact that I am currently living 30 minutes away from this city is harrowing and keeps me awake at night. Businesses, restaurants, gyms, pubs, and beaches have all shutdown due to this virus. Yet, you still have people down in Florida-"spring breakers" partying it up as if everything is normal. This is something that should not be entertained because not only are they putting their own lives at risk, but they are also endangering others as well. The virus has a specific demographic that it affects-with a higher death rate among populations that are older and immunosuppressed. Ignoring curfews and health restrictions makes you selfish and irresponsible as you put vulnerable individuals at risk. This is something the national government should not entertain.

Speaking of the national government, it is important to talk about their incompetencies in dealing with this virus. The Trump administration has wholly failed to effectively and competently deal with this crisis.

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Let's talk about the fact that President Trump closed the borders to Europe a month after a 1000 cases had lined up in the United States, or the fact that President Trump designated the virus as a hoax perpetrated by the Democrats. Are you kidding me? Bro, look at how and where the virus has originated from and then answer that question. Fast forward to the present day, and we find New York City in ruins. The mayor asked for military support and aid, yet the federal government did not respond or react in time. He is urgently asking the federal government to create a new credit line to fund the hospitals because the city simply can not sustain itself anymore. This is result of a failed and an incompetent national government. Possible solutions to slow this crisis is the enactment of martial law and a complete national shutdown. We need stricter curfews and regulations to keep us at our homes 24/7. This is the only way the spring breakers can stay home. The Chinese government does not take this issue lightly as they practically welded the doors of its citizens to prevent the spread of the virus. I sincerely hope we do not slip down to these drastic measures but if it prevents the spread of the virus, then I am all for it.



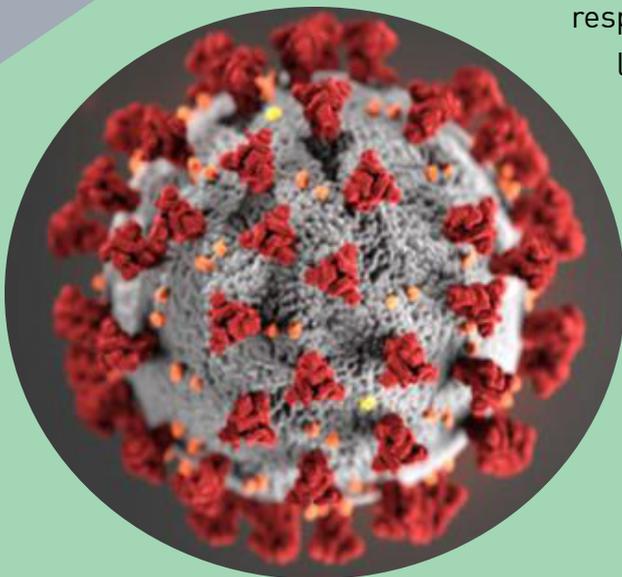
Coronavirus is in the Air

Allison Almeda-Ahmadi



With COVID-19, also known as coronavirus, on the rise, people around the world are scrambling to find personal protective equipment. Along with disinfecting wipes, face masks are among the items that are selling out quickly. But are all facemasks created equally? The answer is no! The most commonly bought surgical masks actually do little to nothing to protect you from the coronavirus. Plastic surgical masks are intended to keep an individual's pathogens inside the mask to avoid infecting others-not to keep foreign bacteria and viruses out. These facemasks are often out of stock, but the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention advises that healthy individuals should not be wearing these masks as a precaution. A more effective alternative for the plastic face mask is the N95 respirator. These respirators are much thicker and less comfortable for everyday

use, as it is very hard to breathe through the material. N95 respirators sit more fitted on the face compared to the loose surgical masks and are much more reliable in preventing infection. However, it is heavily advised to avoid buying N95 Respirators unless you live in a high-risk area, to prevent a shortage of respirators for medical professionals that need them to help combat the virus. Instead, opt for home-made masks from materials such as handkerchiefs and bandanas. You can even incorporate your favorite designs to make your mask more appealing!



Bucket List For The Traveller: Raritan River

By Jeremy Lewan

Last semester, I was enrolled in Dr. Jean-Marie Hartman's SEBS Interdisciplinary Honors Seminar "Tracing the Raritan River." Dr. Hartman is a professor in the Landscape Architecture Department and an Honors College Faculty Fellow. As part of our seminar, we took a boat trip up and down the Lower Raritan River on the R/V Rutgers, on which we were able to truly appreciate this estuarine ecosystem and recognize its importance.

Along with these natural outgrowths, we witnessed many electrical transformers and a number of large landfill waste dumps. It is unfortunate that these landfill areas were located in such close proximity to the river, making it highly probable that their pollutants would leach into it. We also passed directly underneath the NJ Turnpike (I-95) and saw downriver the decaying remnants of NJ's industrial past symbolized by crumbling abandoned brick factory buildings.



Our Class on the R/V Rutgers. Cruising through flocks of seagulls, we saw the banks of the river lined with Phragmites, an invasive wetland species of perennial grass.



You can see here clumps of Phragmites, a distinctive characteristic of the Raritan wetland ecosystem.

We took turns using the YSI ProDSS (Digital Sampling System) handheld multiparameter meter, which measures a variety of water characteristics including temperature, pressure, dissolved oxygen, salinity, and pH.

I'd like to thank the Honors College and the Marine & Coastal Sciences Department for allowing us to have an unforgettable experience on the R/V Rutgers. It was an indispensable supplement to our education. A classroom setting is a 2-dimensional way of learning. We might "trace the Raritan" with the help of photographs and videos, but the true importance and beauty of the Raritan cannot be attained in this manner. Tracing the Raritan with the propeller of the boat gave us a completely new perspective of the river. Our trip was truly meaningful and allowed for a sense of appreciation and even love for the Raritan.

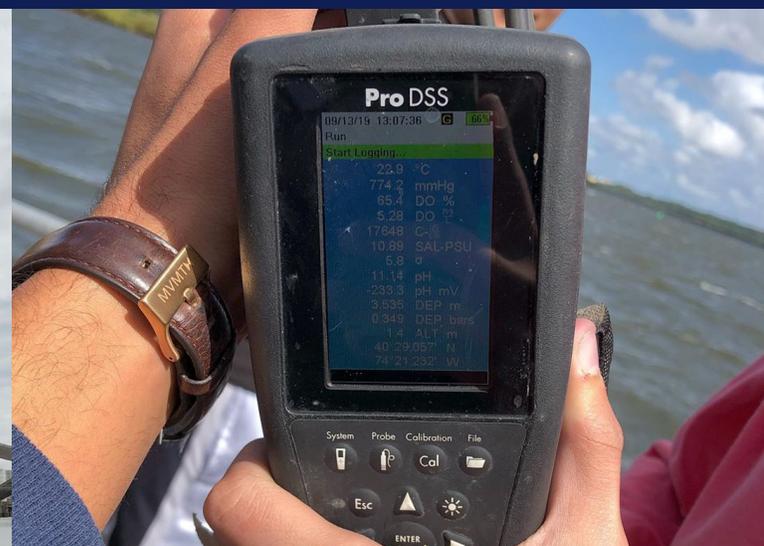


The R/V Rutgers is outfitted with a depth finder; 4 feet was the shallowest water we were in the entire trip!



Abandoned brick factory building

Me taking measuring various datum with the YSI ProDSS



Here you can see the wide array of parameters measured by the meter!

Want to ACTUALLY Stick to Your New Habits? Look no further.

By Henry Velasquez

Now is the perfect time to build new habits (and not just because we're stuck at home for a few months)! You want to start exercising, but it's just too hard, right? Or you don't have the time, right? Maybe you want to start meditating instead. Or reading. Or writing. Or drawing. Maybe, all of those things! But, you can't because you have school, work, or other life circumstances that don't allow you to build these new habits. Perhaps you've tried your best-time and time again-to go to the gym for an hour, or read for 2 hours, but you just didn't have the time to spare. Let's fix that together in the following paragraph

If your goal is to go to the gym for an hour each day, you may find it difficult to always have the hour to spare for the gym. When a few days go by where you cannot make the time, you end up dropping the habit altogether. What's the easy fix? Make the habit so easy to complete, that you can do it without taking up much time at all.

Want to build a habit of meditating? Set a goal to meditate for two minutes everyday. Want to build a habit of reading? Set a goal to read one or two pages of a book everyday. Want to build a habit of going to the gym or just exercising?

Set a goal to go to the gym for just 10 minutes, or a goal to just do one pushup. Often times you'll find yourself able to do more than two minutes of meditation, more than one or two pages of reading, more than one pushup, but in the case that it's been a long day and you want to sleep, or you really have to study, you can accomplish the habit quickly and easily. You may be wondering: why do this? Is one pushup really going to give me the benefits I want?

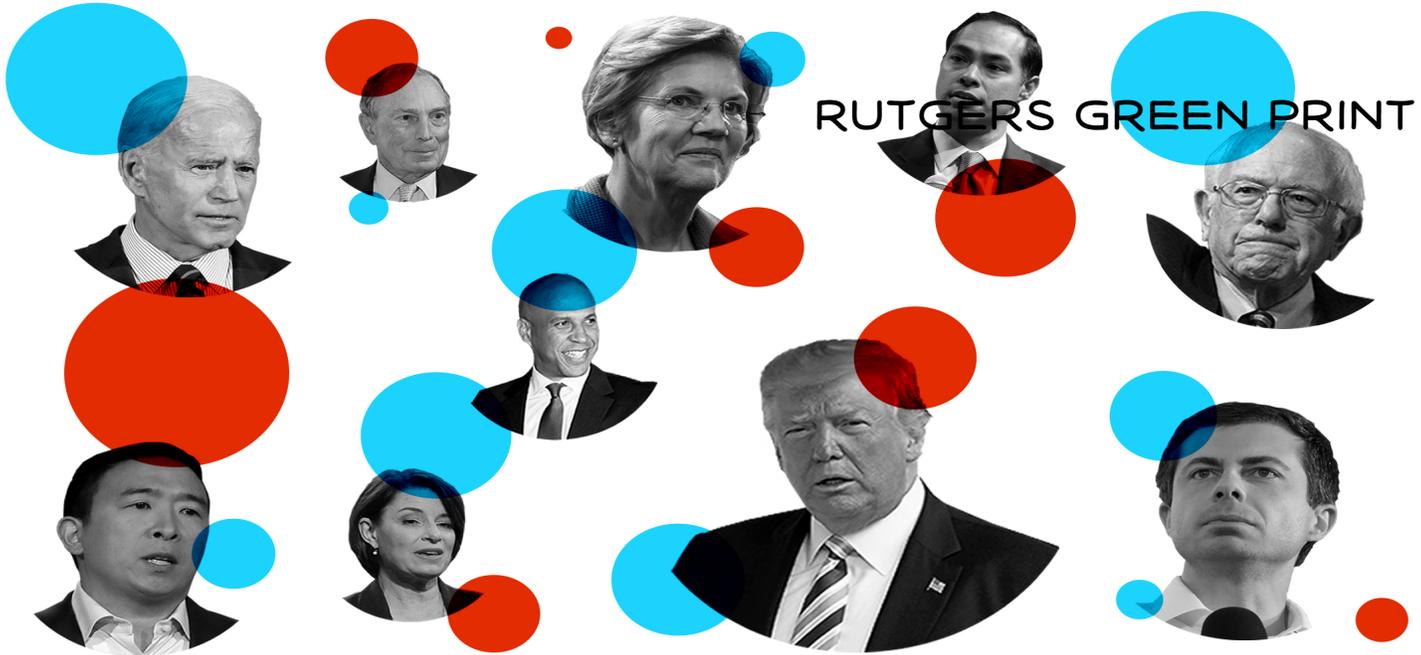




It's more about building the habit itself. If you set a goal to workout for an hour a day, you may not be likely to stick to it. But, it's very easy to build a habit of doing at least one pushup or just two minutes of meditation per day. After that habit is set in stone and becomes a part of your everyday life, it becomes a part of who you are and it becomes easier to practice. It is also easy to stick to a habit if you start to identify yourself with it. How do you do this?

To identify with a habit, you simply have to claim it as part of your identity. It's a psychological phenomenon. For example, let's say you want to build a habit of avoiding unhealthy food. When offered chocolate cake you might say "I can't eat that, I'm on a diet" or "I'm avoiding sugary foods". This makes it seem like it's a temporary goal rather than a lifestyle. Instead, it's easier to avoid unhealthy food, if you say something like "No thanks, I don't eat that, I'm a healthy eater." This has a powerful psychological effect and you begin to identify as an individual who simply does not eat that kind of food. Now what? Well, I'll tell you what.

Pick a habit you want, set a small goal, and do it right now! Set up a streak on your calendar, so that you're less tempted to break it. No one likes losing their four hundred day snap streaks-it won't feel good losing your seven month reading streak either. Go out there and be the beautiful person that you want to be! Well, actually, for now, do that, but do it indoors until it's safe to go outside again!



Exploring Languages

Climate Change Policies among the 2020 Presidential Candidates:

Awareness and Stubborn Denial

By Marine Lebrun

Aujourd'hui, grâce à la mobilisation croissante de la communauté scientifique, des associations de lutte contre le changement climatique et des citoyens eux-mêmes qui se joignent aux manifestations, la prise de conscience sur ce sujet s'est accrue dans le monde entier. Ce mouvement peut être illustré aux États-Unis par exemple avec les chiffres suivants, tirés du programme de Yale pour la communication sur le changement climatique. Selon eux, 69 % des Américains en âge de voter se disent préoccupés par le changement climatique, et près d'un tiers sont « très inquiets », un record historique. Ce sentiment se reflète dans l'offre politique pour les élections présidentielles américaines de 2020, tous les candidats se déclarant préoccupés par ce problème et souhaitant s'y attaquer, de manière plus ou moins proactive. Un seul candidat réfute ce constat : l'actuel président Trump.

Thanks to the increasing mobilization of the scientific community, the associations struggling against climate change and the citizens who join the demonstrations, global awareness of climate change has increased throughout the world. This movement can be exemplified in the United States for instance with the following figures, from the Yale Program for Climate Change Communication. According to them, 69% of voting-age Americans say that they are worried about climate change, of which almost a third are "very worried", which is a historic record. This feeling is reflected in the political environment for the 2020 US presidential elections, with all the candidates making promises to tackle this issue, in a more or less proactive way. Only one candidate refutes this observation: the current American President Donald Trump.

Nous allons comparer les grandes tendances chez chaque candidat qui, jusqu'à présent, sont toujours en lice, par ordre alphabétique. Dans le paysage démocratique, les trois candidats restants sont Joe Biden, Tulsi Gabbard et Bernie Sanders.

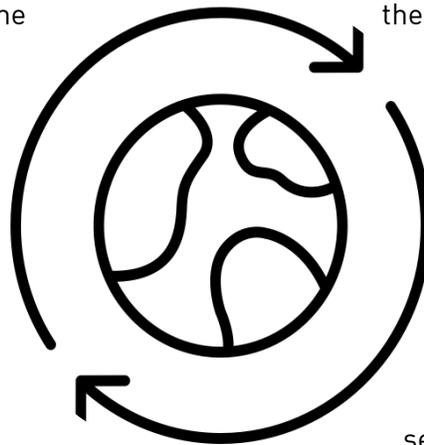
Commençons par Joe Biden. Le 4 juin, il a dévoilé son plan climatique de 1,7 trillion de dollars pour la "révolution de l'énergie propre". Il comporte 5 objectifs globaux : assurer une économie à 100% d'énergie propre d'ici 2050, réaliser un investissement historique de 400 milliards de dollars sur 10 ans dans la recherche et l'innovation dans le domaine de l'énergie, du climat et des infrastructures propres, réengager, comme à l'époque d'Obama, les Etats-Unis dans l'Accord de Paris sur le climat, lutter contre les pollueurs qui sont particulièrement durs à l'encontre des communautés les plus fragiles, à savoir les communautés de couleur ou à faibles revenus, et enfin remplir les conditions d'une transition qui n'affecte pas gravement les travailleurs qui ont contribué à la révolution industrielle et à la croissance.

Sur son site web, on peut lire "Biden estime que le Green New Deal est un cadre crucial pour relever les défis auxquels nous sommes confrontés. Il capture puissamment deux vérités fondamentales, qui sont au cœur de son plan: (1) les États-Unis doivent de toute urgence faire preuve d'une plus grande ambition et d'une échelle épique pour relever ce défi, et (2)

In this article, I am going to compare the general trends of primary candidates (in an alphabetical order). In the Democratic landscape, the three remaining candidates are Joe Biden, Tulsi Gabbard and Bernie Sanders.

Let's begin with Joe Biden. On June 4th, he unveiled the \$1.7 trillion dollars "Clean Energy Revolution" climate plan. It has 5 global goals: to ensure a 100% clean energy economy by 2050, to make a historic investment of 400 trillion dollars over 10 years in research and innovation in the field of energy, climate and clean infrastructure, to re-engage (as in the Obama era) the US into Paris Climate Agreement, to fight against polluters who are particular hard on the more fragile communities-namely the colored or low income ones, and finally to meet the conditions for a transition that does not severely affect the workers who have contributed to the industrial revolution and growth. On his website, it states: "Biden believes the Green New Deal is a crucial framework for meeting climate challenges we face. It powerfully captures two basic truths, which are at the core of his plan: (1) the US urgently needs to embrace greater ambition an epic scale to meet the scope of this challenge, and (2) our environment and our economy are completely and totally connected."

With regard to Tulsi Gabbard, her campaign website says that she "is a champion for protecting our environment, ensuring clean



notre environnement et notre économie sont complètement et totalement liés”.

En ce qui concerne Tulsi Gabbard, elle n’a dévoilé aucun plan pour le climat pour le moment. Toutefois, son site web de campagne indique qu’elle “est une championne de la protection de notre environnement, de la garantie d’une eau et d’un air propres pour les générations à venir, de l’investissement dans les infrastructures et d’une économie de l’énergie verte”. Elle a parrainé la loi sur les combustibles non fossiles pour un avenir meilleur en 2017 à la Chambre des Députés, une loi visant à réaliser la transition vers une énergie 100% propre d’ici 2035 et a refusé de co-parrainer la résolution Green New Deal en raison de son “flou”.

Quant à Bernie Sanders, il a dévoilé son plan pour un Green New Deal le 22 août dernier. Il est composé de trois parties, qui sont de faire évoluer le système énergétique américain vers une énergie 100% renouvelable et de créer 20 millions d’emplois, de mettre fin à l’industrie des combustibles fossiles et de les tenir pour responsables et enfin d’assurer la justice pour les travailleurs tout en gérant cette transition économique. Il détaille avec soin les moyens par lesquels il entend mettre en œuvre son plan. Lors du deuxième débat démocratique, le 30 juillet, il a déclaré “Que faire d’une industrie qui, sciemment, pour des milliards de dollars de profits à court terme, détruit cette planète ? Je dis que c’est une activité criminelle, qu’on ne peut pas laisser continuer... Nous devons être super agressifs si nous aimons nos enfants et si nous voulons leur laisser une planète saine et habitable”.

water and air for generations to come, investing in infrastructure and a green energy economy”. She sponsored the Off-Fossil Fuels for a Better Future Act in 2017 in the House, an act aiming at fulfilling the transition to 100% clean energy by 2035 and refused to co-sponsor the Green New Deal resolution because of its “vagueness”.



Regarding Bernie Sanders, he unveiled his plan for a Green New Deal on August 22nd. It is composed of three parts, which are to shift the American energy system toward 100% renewable energy and create 20 million jobs, end the fossil fuel industry and eventually ensure justice for workers while operating this economic transition. He details carefully by which means he intends to implement his plan. At the second democratic debate, on July 30th, he declared: “What do you do with an industry that knowingly for billions of dollars in short-term profits is destroying this planet? I say that is criminal activity, that cannot be allowed to continue...We have got to be super aggressive if we love our children and we want to leave them a planet that is healthy and habitable.”

Global Warming Is the Top *Most Important Issue* Among Liberal Democrats When Deciding Who They Will Vote For In the 2020 Presidential Election

Rank by "most important"	All Registered Voters	Liberal Democrats	Moderate/Conservative Democrats	Liberal/Moderate Republicans	Conservative Republicans
1	The economy	Global warming	Healthcare	The economy	The economy
2	Healthcare	Healthcare	Social Security	Border security	Gun policies
3	Social Security	Income gap	Income gap	Social Security	Border security
4	Income gap	Environmental protection	The economy	Gun policies	Abortion
5	Global warming	Social Security	Global warming	Immigration reform	Healthcare
6	Gun policies	Russian election interference	Russian election interference	Terrorism	Immigration reform
7	Border security	The economy	Education	Federal budget deficit	Federal budget deficit
8	Environmental protection	Education	Race relations	Healthcare	Social Security
9	Abortion	Gun policies	Gun policies	Income gap	Terrorism
10	Education	Race relations	Environmental protection	Abortion	Improving roads, etc.

Earlier you said that the following issues are important to you when deciding how you will vote in the 2020 election for President. Which one of these issues is the most important issue to you when voting for a candidate?

November 2019. Base: Registered American Voters.



Du côté des républicains, Donald Trump n'a aucun plan car il affirme qu'il n'y a pas de changement climatique en cours. Ainsi, il est très fier par exemple que l'Amérique se soit retirée de l'Accord de Paris sur le climat, ait reconsidéré la règle de l'ère Obama sur les émissions de méthane, ait "signé un décret pour étendre le forage pétrolier et gazier offshore"

ou ait "signé une législation pour ouvrir la Réserve faunique nationale de l'Arctique à la production d'énergie domestique". Son administration et lui-même ont mené des politiques préjudiciables à l'environnement, faisant reculer l'ère d'Obama et ses progrès en la matière. Trump nie le consensus scientifique sur le changement climatique, déclarant qu'il a "un instinct naturel pour la science".

L'autre concurrent dans cette course est William

On the Republican side, Donald Trump has no plan and has even made claims that there is no climate change occurring. He is responsible for removing the United States out of the Paris Climate Agreement, and has reconsidered Obama-era rule on methane emissions. He has "signed an Executive Order to expand offshore oil and gas drilling" and "signed a legislation to open the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to domestic energy production." The Trump administration has been putting policies into place which result in the damaging of the environment, and have pushed back previously made progress on environmental protection. Trump denies the scientific consensus about climate change, declaring that he has a "natural instinct for science."

The other competitor in this race is William Weld, who has not yet announced a definitive plan

Weld, qui n'a pas de plan pour le climat, mais dans sa déclaration du 15 avril, dans laquelle il se présente contre Trump, il a affirmé que "le président ne s'occupe tout simplement pas de questions sérieuses telles que le réchauffement de la planète et le changement climatique. C'est une véritable menace pour notre pays. Et pour que le président dise simplement que c'est un canular, ce n'est pas un gouvernement responsable". Il considère le changement climatique comme une question de conservation, ce qui est précieux pour un pays.

Pour résumer, seuls quelques candidats ont de réels projets pour un "Green New Deal" (Biden et Sanders). Cependant, l'importance de s'attaquer à cette question est présente chez tous les candidats, sauf un, l'actuel président Trump. Quel que soit votre choix de candidat, ne laissez pas d'autres personnes choisir en votre nom, allez voter, votre voix compte !

addressing climate change. In his declaration on April 15th, he announced that he will compete against Trump, he claimed that "the President is just not dealing with serious issues such as global warming and climate change. That's a real threat to us as a country. And for the president to just say it's a hoax, that's not responsible government." He is regarding climate change as a matter of conservation, which is valuable to this country.

In summation, only a few candidates seem to have a definitive and detailed plan built addressing the issue of climate change. Climate change is a pressing issue which only grows with each passing day. It is essential for us to deal with it responsibly, and in order to do this, we must vote responsibly. Whoever your choice of candidate may be, don't let other people choose on your behalf. Use your vote, because your voice matters!



Ask Raj: The First Date!

By Rajbir Singh

Hello everyone! Today, we are going to talk about how to successfully have a good first date. Before I begin, I would just like to say that this article is purely from my own perspective. I am in no way a 'love expert', but I have seen some people miss basic rules during their first date. I want to try to help out someone who may not have much experience. Today's column is also primarily catered towards men, but I will do my best to incorporate some advice for women as well. Hopefully, your first date will be less stressful than mine was, with these tips that I have learned over the years.

1) Hygiene and Presentability

This seems like an obvious piece of advice, but some people don't fully understand the lengths you should go to for the first date. Taking a shower, brushing your hair and teeth, putting on deodorant and getting clean clothes should be the top priority on your list for good hygiene. Some things that I do not see some men do is shave or trim their beards. Unless you cannot shave for religious reasons, there should be no reason why you cannot trim or shape up your facial hair. It makes you look sharper and your date will appreciate the effort you took to look presentable. Another task I do not see many men do is trim or clean their nails. If you have long nails, you need to trim them down and clean under them if required. This small task will communicate to your date that you have considered every aspect of looking good for them, and may even

impress them! When choosing what to wear, make sure it is something you would not wear on a regular basis, and this applies to both men and women. Dress in something that makes you feel comfortable and confident, but presentable. Make sure your clothes are also ironed: nobody wants to see a wrinkled shirt when everything else looks good. If you are picking up your date in your car, make sure that your car is clean on the inside. A dirty car can cause a bad first impression, and set your date off to a bad start.





2) Keep the Conversation Going!

This has probably happened to all of us at some point or the other while on a date. You are talking to your date at the table and ask them a question, to which they respond with a one worded answer which results in the dreaded, awkward silence. Make sure that when you go on a date, you have a lot of questions to ask the other person. You are trying to learn more about the person to see if you are compatible with each other, so the more questions the better! A useful tip is to always try to answer a question with another question, as it leaves room for discussion and gives the other person some insight on how you feel. Elaborate your answers as much as possible to keep the conversation lively. Another small piece of advice is to not constantly talk about yourself, as you may come across as self-centered. Show interest in your date-ask them about their achievements and their beliefs.

3) Paying for the First Date

This topic has been discussed and debated by many. I would like to share how I feel about it and some people might find my opinion to be controversial. Like most people, I do believe that the guy should pay for the first date. However, I also believe that women should offer to pay for their share as well. Let me explain. If the woman does not offer to help pay her share, she is not being considerate. If the man does not actually pay for the whole meal, he is not being considerate either. I'm trying to say that women should be willing to offer to pay but the men should be willing to respectfully decline and still pay for the meal. Being considerate towards each other shows that you are willing to be supportive of the relationship you might have. It can also give you a good outlook on how your date handles money if the relationship goes on in the future. One way that you can help contribute is to offer to pay for the tip. It gives your date the ability to still pay for the meal and gives you the chance to support them. I hope that the tips I have provided will significantly improve the first date experience for you! Obviously, there might be a few things that you may like to edit to better fit your personality and dating style, but if you follow these rules in your own way, you will have a better chance of getting a second date.



Passion Puddle Playlist

By Padma Samhita Vadapalli

- 1 Californication - Red Hot Chili Peppers
- 2 The Gentle Waves - Falling From Grace
- 3 I Wanna Get Better - Bleachers
- 4 Plans - Oh Wonder
- 5 Australia - The Shins
- 6 No Room in Frame - Death Cab For Cutie
- 7 How Bizarre - OMC
- 8 You Shook Me All Night Long - AC/DC
- 9 I Always Knew - The Vaccines
- 10 Wake Up - Eden

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