The Green Economy:

Oxymoron vs. Coexistence
or
Can an Oxy-Moron Learn to Coexist?

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ECOnomics: The Green Economy Summit by RCBC

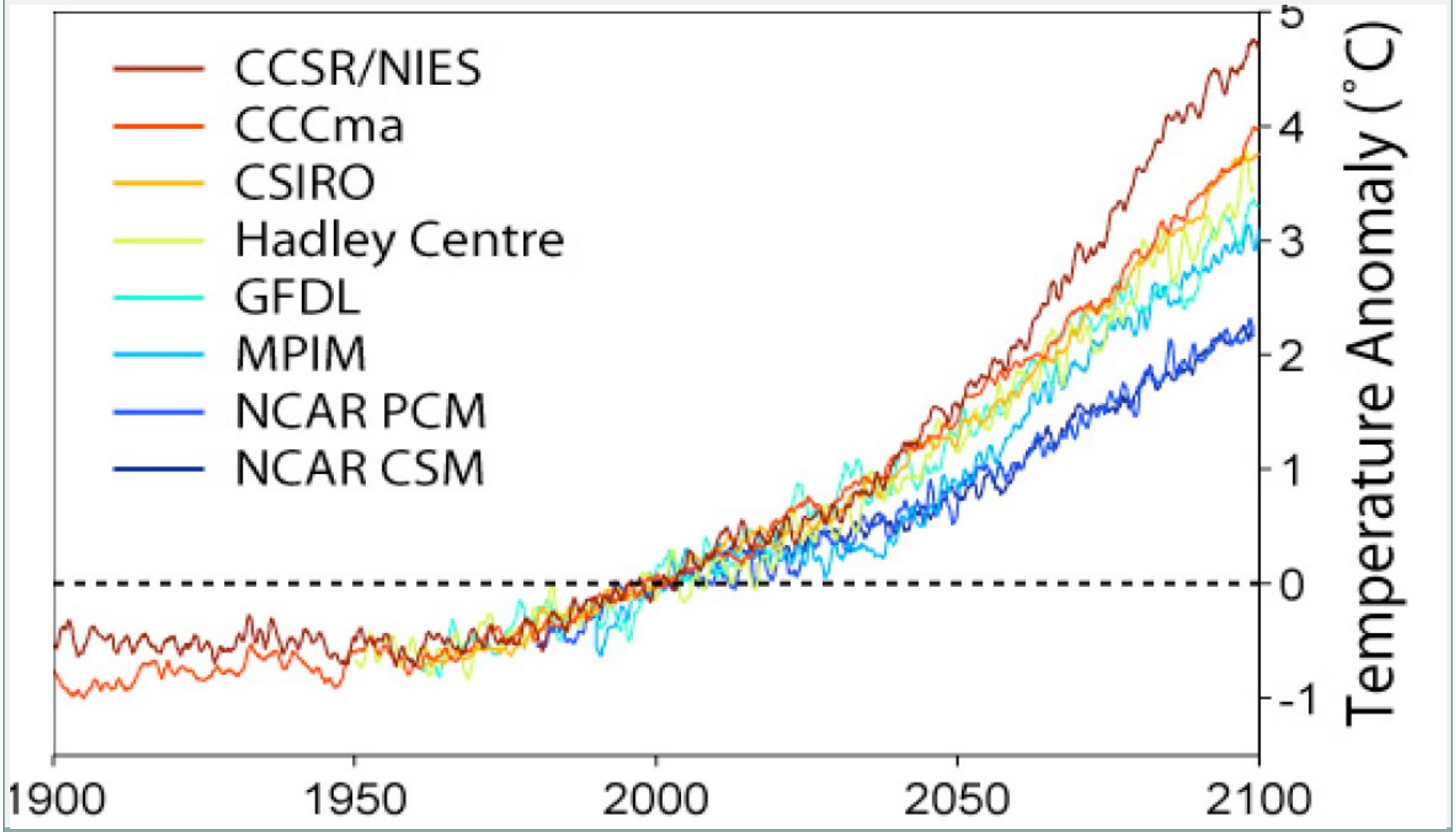
Technological progress is like an axe
in the hands
of a pathological criminal!

Albert Einstein

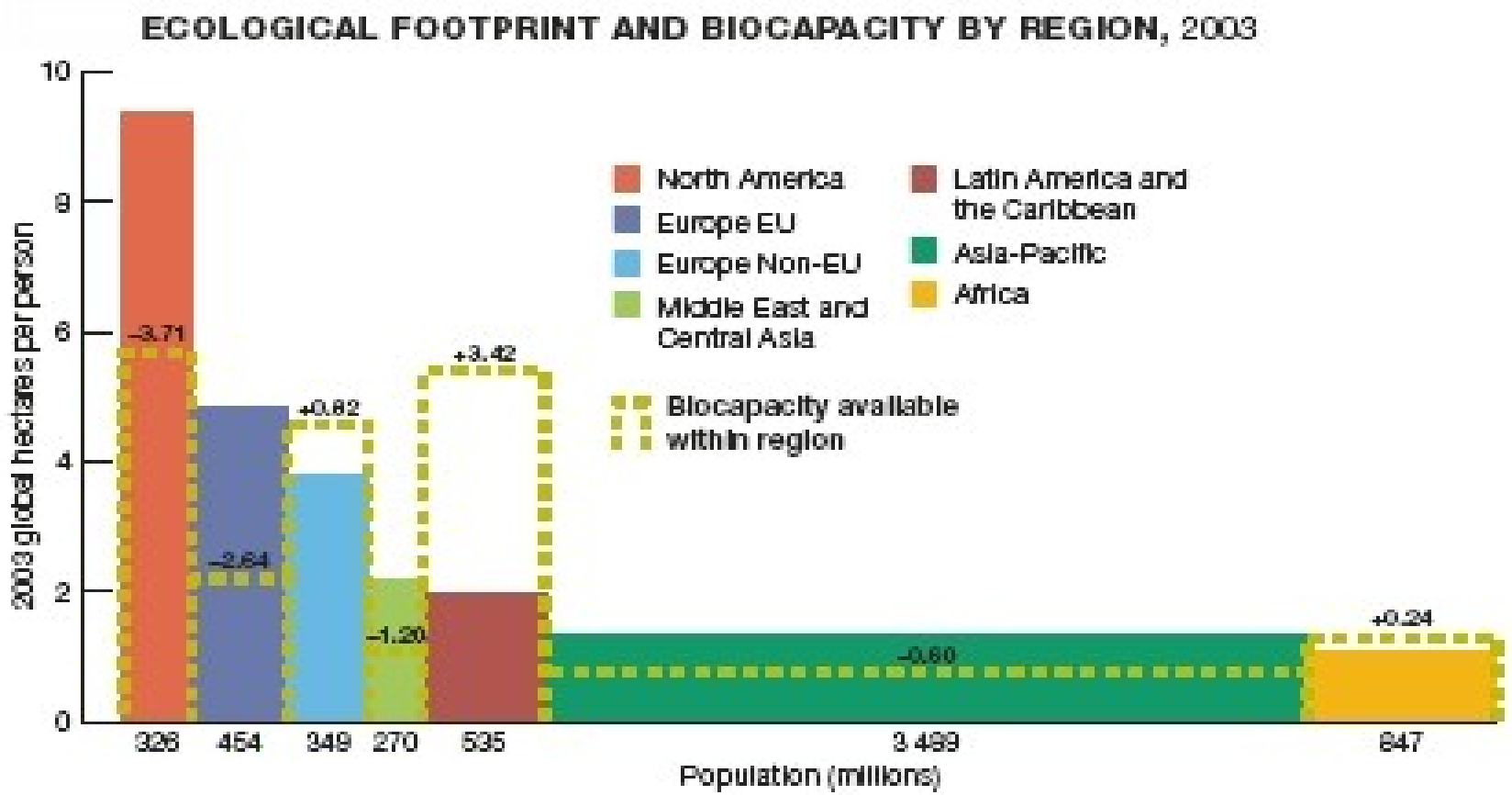
We'll start with extraction, which is a fancy word for natural resource exploitation, which is a fancy word for trashing the planet. What this looks like is we chop down the trees, we blow up mountains to get the metals inside, we use up all the water and we wipe out the animals!

Annie Leonard, *The Story of Stuff*

Climate Models Projections

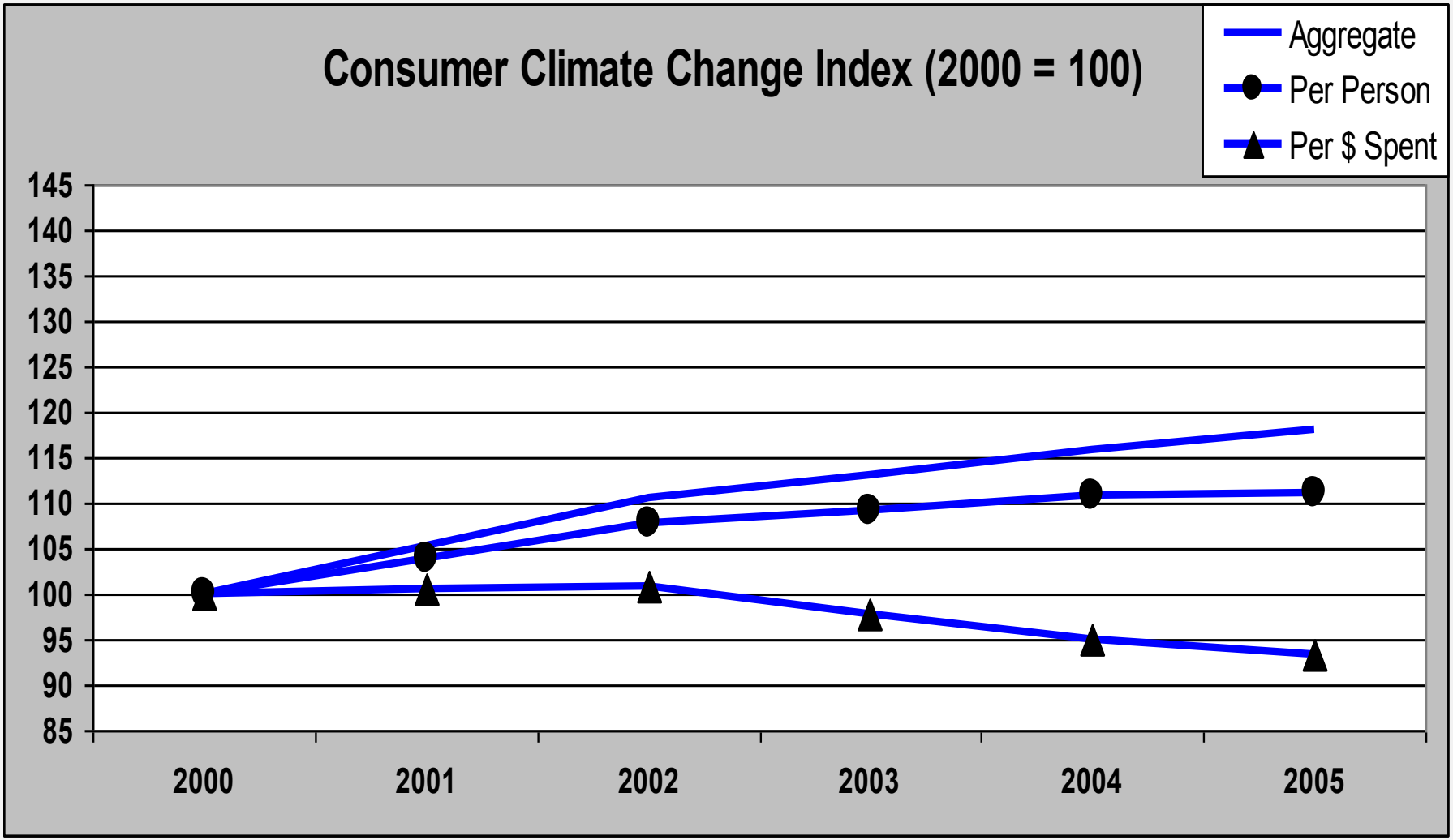


Consumption vs. Biocapacity



LIVING PLANET REPORT 2006

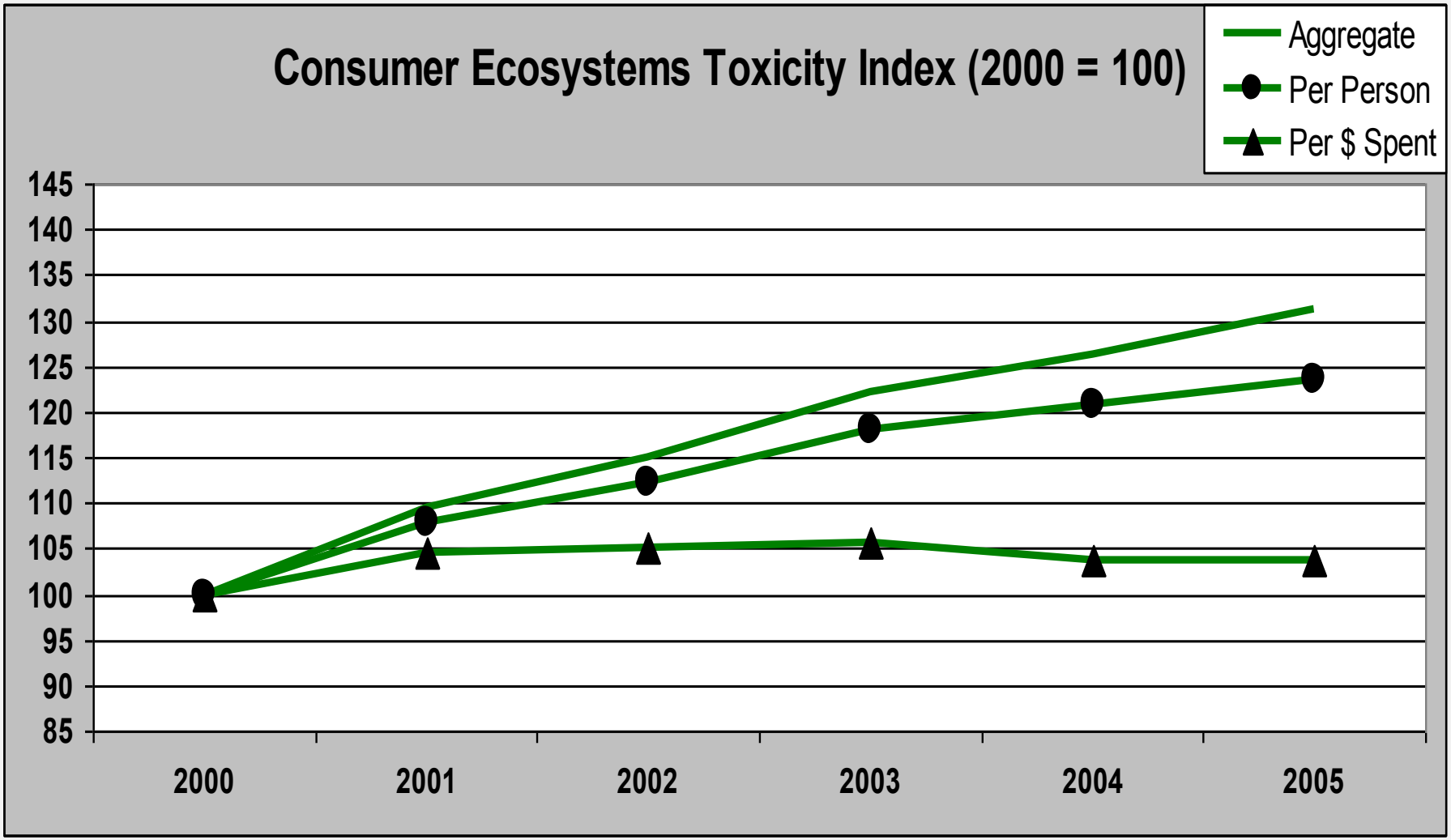
Washington State Consumers' Climate Impact



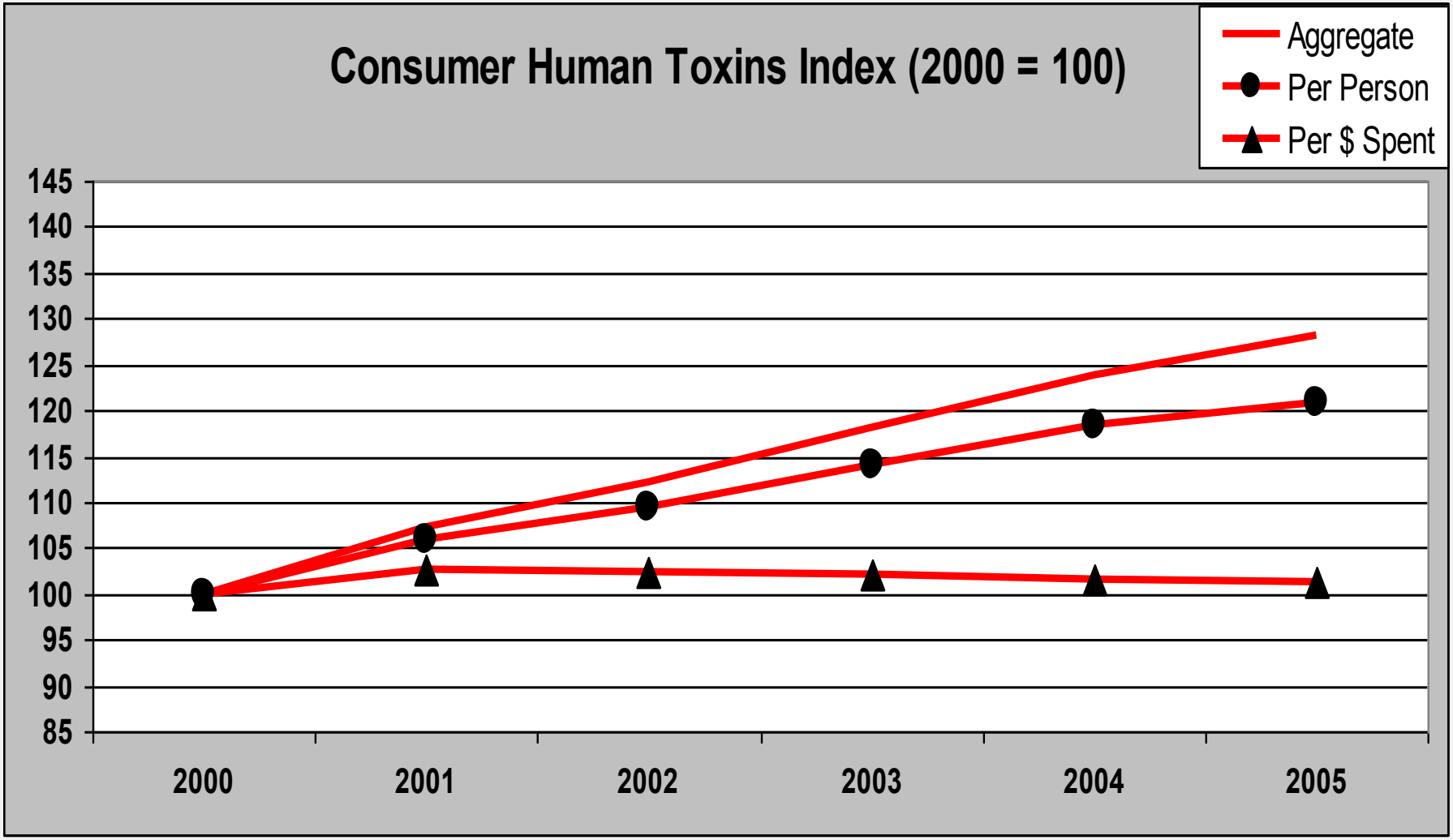
A Cyclops Can't See 3D!

Morris & Matthews, *A Consumer Environmental Index (CEI) to Track the Environmental Impact of Consumer demand for Goods and Services: Results for Washington State Consumers*

Washington State Consumers' Ecosystems Impact



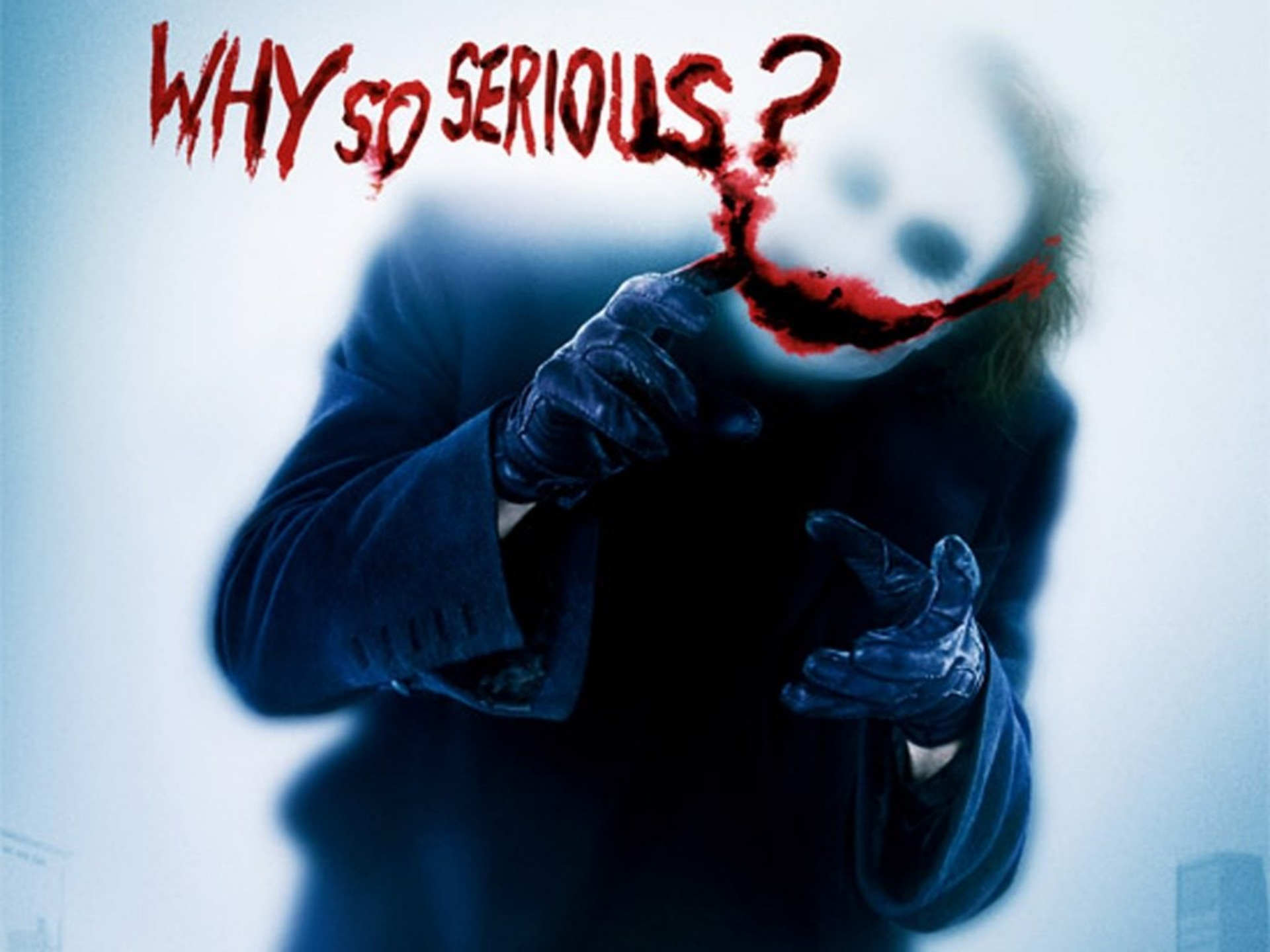
Washington Consumers' Human Toxicity Impacts



Clowns to the left of me,
Jokers to the right,
Here I am
Stuck in the middle with you.

Egan & Rafferty, *Stuck in the Middle with You*


G.A.HARKER-


WHY SO SERIOUS?

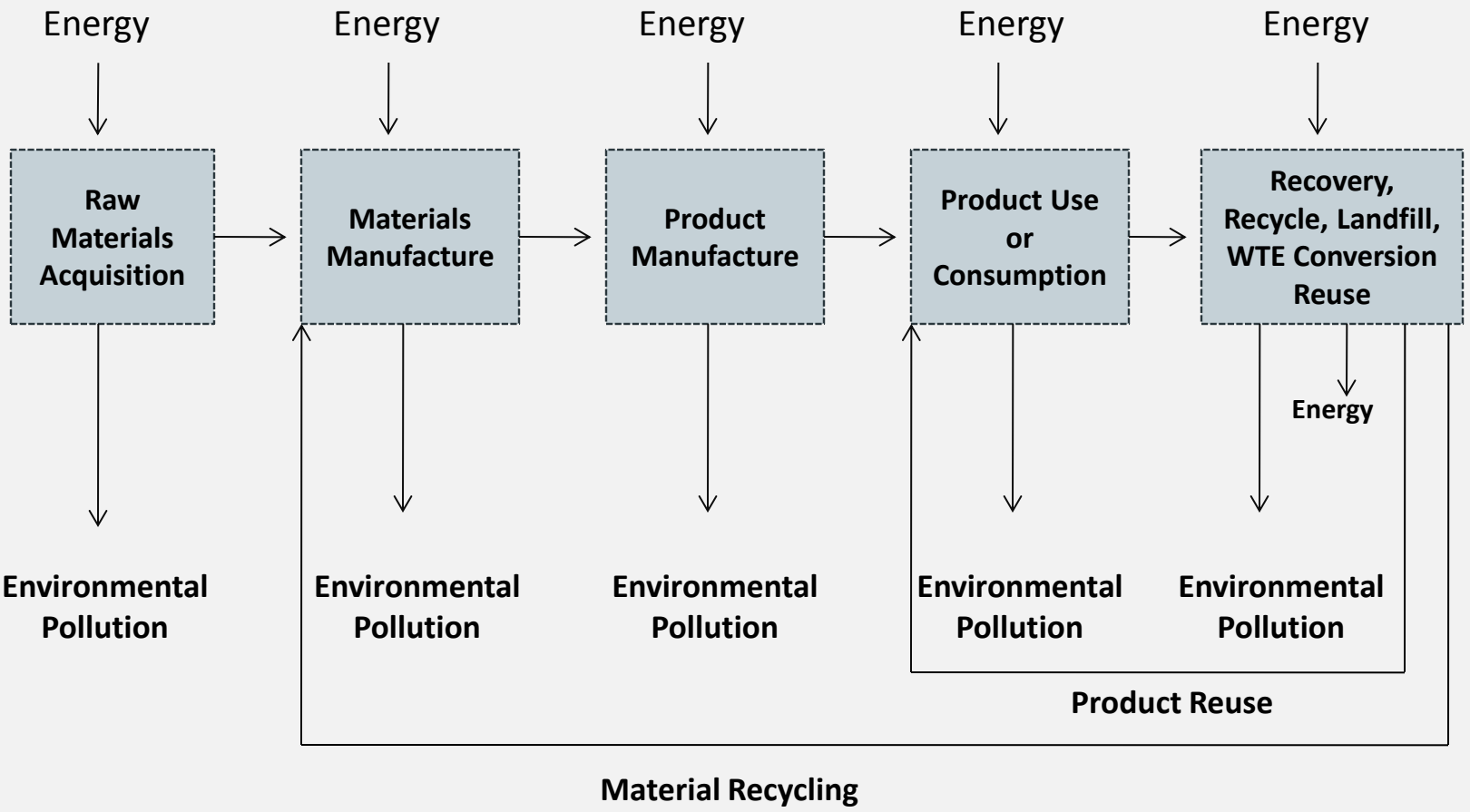
The Purpose of Human Civilization

Tralfamadorians manipulated primitive humans to evolve a civilization that could build a part for their spaceship that stalled long ago in our solar system. Stonehenge, the Great Wall of China and the Kremlin are all messages in the Tralfamadorian geometrical language telling of our progress on this task.

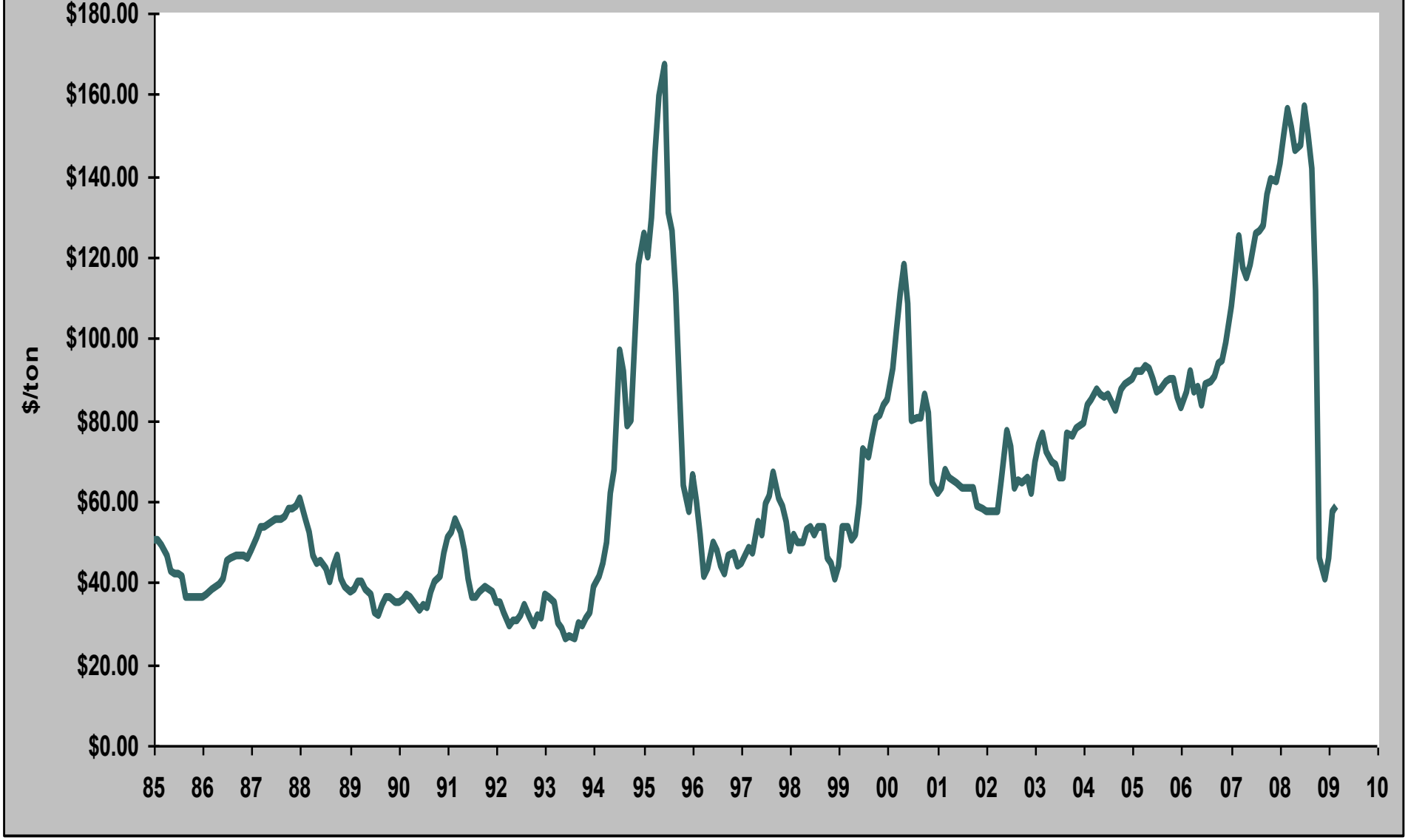
Kurt Vonnegut, *The Sirens of Titan*

What Can We Do?

Life Cycle Analysis (LCA)



Average Value for Curbside Recycled Materials
Pacific Northwest, 1985-2009



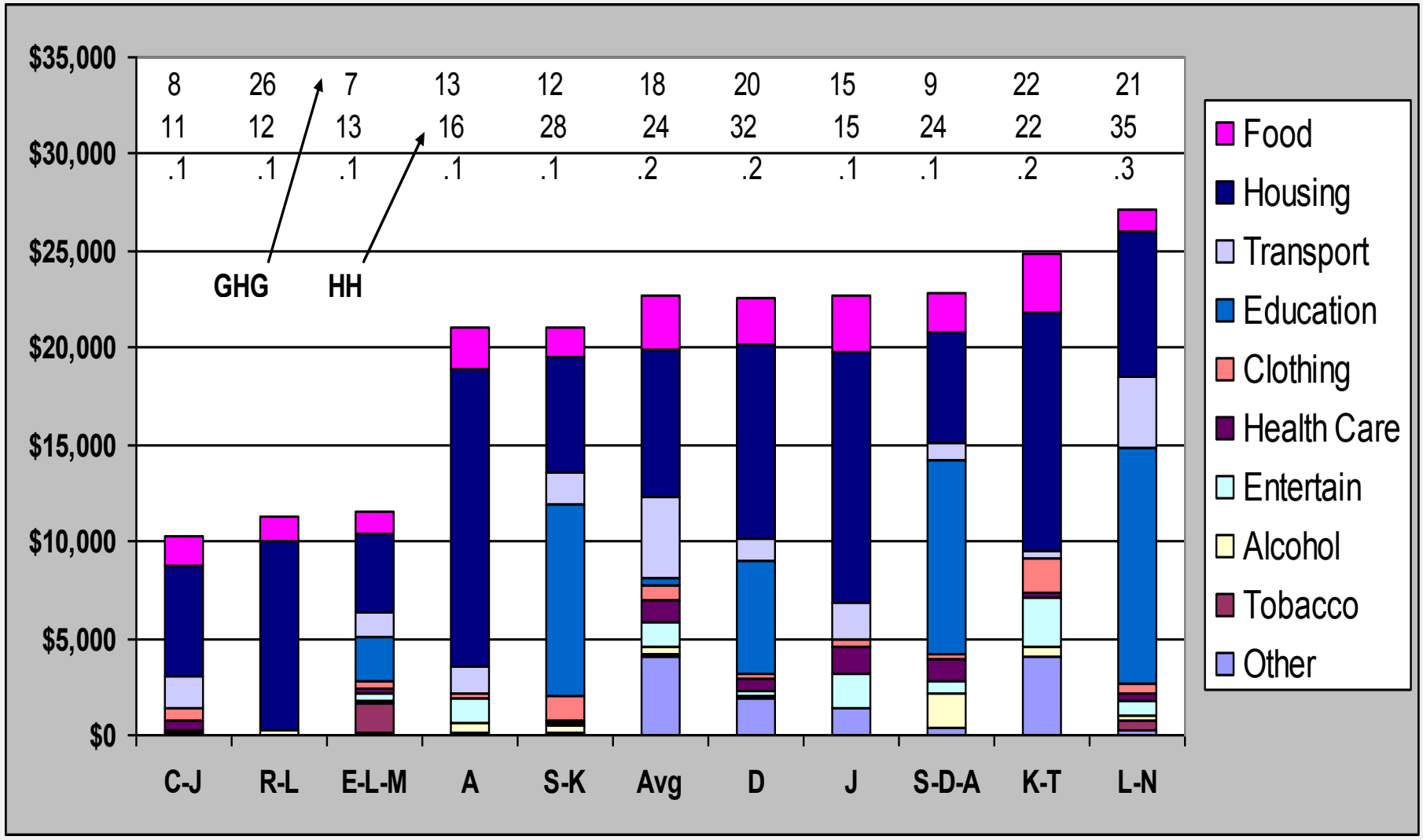
Value of Pollution Reductions

LCA Impact	Economic Cost (Cn$/tonne)
Climate Change	$50 eCO2
Human Health - Particulates	13,800 ePM2.5
Human Health - Toxins	160 eToluene
Human Health - Carcinogens	4,200 eBenzene
Ecosystems Toxics	4,500 e2,4D
Acidification	670 eSO2
Eutrophication	6 eNitrogen

Environmental Value of Reuse & Recycling

Diversion Program	Environmental Value (Cn$/tonne)
Blue Box – average	$370
– range	70 (hdpe bottles) – 1,950 (aluminum)
WEEE Reuse – average	$72,750
– range	3,750 (TV) – 116,250 (laptop)
WEEE Recycling – average	$640
– range	230 (TV) – 980 (desktop)
MHSW – average	$350
– range	60 (hdpe oil bottles) – 740 (paint)

Lifestyles of Evergreen MES Students & Faculty



Twice as much
Ain't twice as good,
And can't sustain
Like one half could.

John Mayer, *Gravity*

Carbon Tax

- US$1 per MTeCO2 implies US$0.01 per gallon gas.
- BC carbon tax is Cn$10 per MTeCO2 up to cn$30 in 2012.
- Stern Review of the economics of climate change estimated current cost of future climate change at US$85 MTeCO2.
- Long run price elasticity of gas consumption is -0.6. This means to get a 60% reduction we have to double the price of gas from US$2 to US$4 per gallon. 50% reduction requires 83% price increase, or US$1.66 per gallon.
- US$1.66 per gallon is a CO2 price of $US166 per MTeCO2, about double the Stern review estimated cost of climate change.

The 3Es of Sustainability

- Economy – bottom line
- Environment – multi-dimensional
- Equity – multi-generational and multi-species

The End

Thank you.