

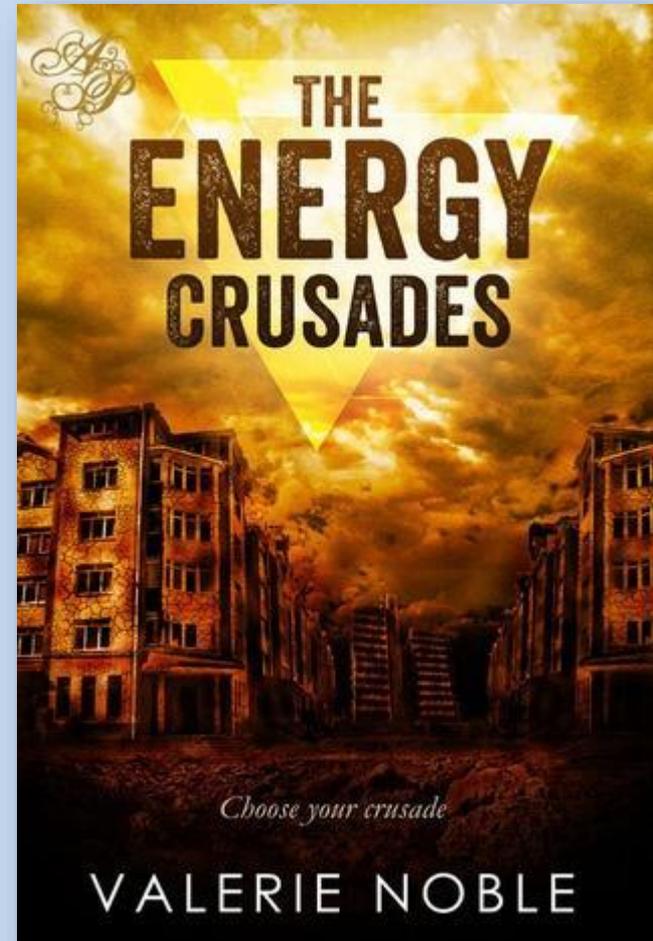
Energy Geographies



Agendas for the 21st Century

Outline

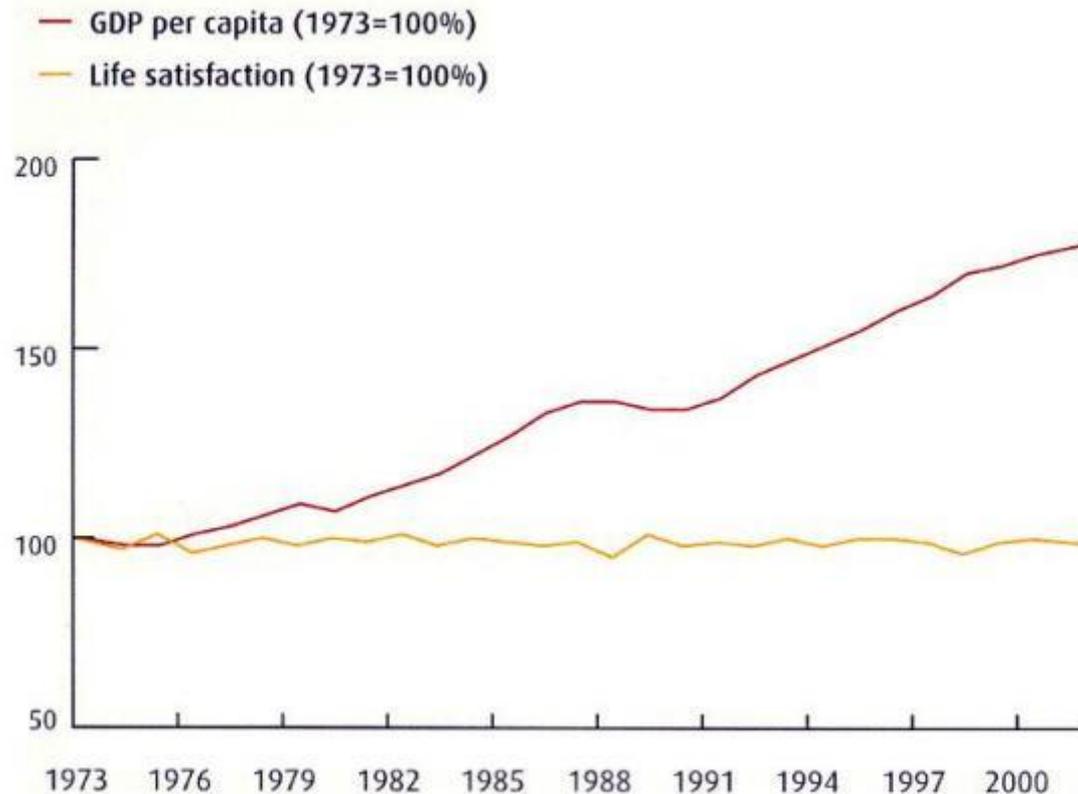
- Our predicament;
- Why energy matters: the underpinning discipline;
- Why energy matters: getting us beyond a handmaiden of the sciences & social sciences;
- Key intellectual agendas in energy geographies;
- Key impact agendas for energy geographers;
- Pedagogies of energy geographies
- Our own agendas.



What do you want from life?

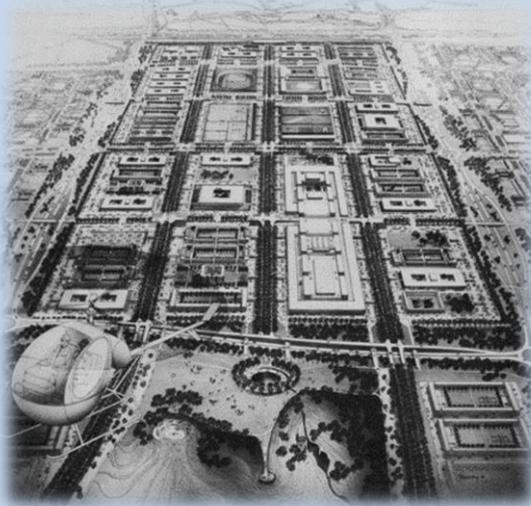
What does leading a 'good life' mean?

The life satisfaction paradox



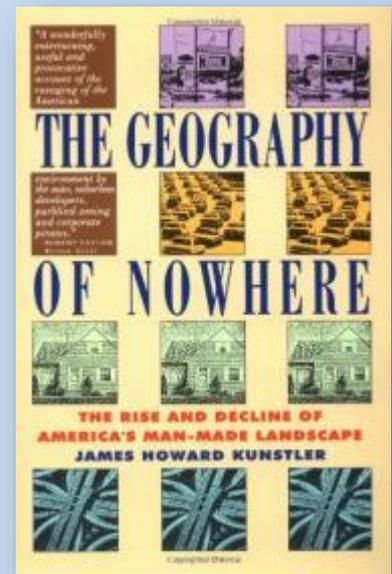
Reproduced from 'Chasing Progress', New Economics Foundation, 2004. Based on data from the World Database of Happiness, Erasmus University.

'The Good Life'



“It’s a construction plan of epic proportions,” he intones. “They’re calling it [portentous pause] a freeway! Eight lanes of shimmering cement running from here to Pasadena! I see a place where people get on and off the freeway, off and on, off and on, all day and all night. . . . I see a street of gas stations, inexpensive motels, restaurants that serve rapidly prepared food, tire salons, automobile dealerships, and wonderful, wonderful billboards as far as the eye can see. My god, it’ll be beautiful!”

“It is hard to imagine a culture less concerned than ours with the things that make life worth living. Much of what we esteem as life enhancing and pleasure giving tends towards the childishly self-destructive: fast cars, goopy microwaved cheesy snacks, prolonged television viewing, compulsive shopping, playing with guns, heavy drinking, kinky sex, to name a few. These are the fruits of political liberty in our time...” (Kunstler, 1998, p. 81. *The Geography of Nowhere*, Simon and Schuster, New York)



The American Dream?



*Oh, this city's changed so much
Since I was a little child.
Pray to God I won't live to see
The death of everything that's wild.*

*Living in the sprawl, dead shopping malls
rise*

*Like mountains beyond mountains
And there's no end in sight*

*I need the darkness, someone please cut
the lights*

Arcade Fire, *The Suburbs*, 2010



Why energy matters: the underpinning discipline



Drone footage shows one of India's many open-cast coal mines

Why energy matters: getting us beyond a handmaiden of the sciences & social sciences



Energy Geographies Research Group

A research group of the Royal Geographical Society (with the Institute of British Geographers)

Home About Us News and Events Gallery Committee and Reports Resources How to Join

Home

Welcome to the Energy Geographies Research Group (EnGRG)

We are a group of enthusiastic geographers from academia, education, non-governmental organisations, industry and other sectors who are united by our passion for energy geography (the study of energy issues using a geographical lens). Our members range from those at an early career stage through to those at a very senior level, and those with a casual interest in the area through to those who are leaders in the field. We invite you to explore our website to learn more about the group, its events and activities.

The group promotes energy geographies through regular events such as sessions at the RGS-IBG Annual Conference and other energy-related workshops and conferences. The group has an active postgraduate membership and is keen to support events aimed at new career and emerging researchers. We advertise our activities and opportunities on our news and events page, our Twitter feed and through our mailing list - for more info, please look at our ['How to Join'](#) page. If you have any questions or suggestions for the group please don't hesitate to get in touch. We look forward to hearing from you.

Join EnGRG

Tweets

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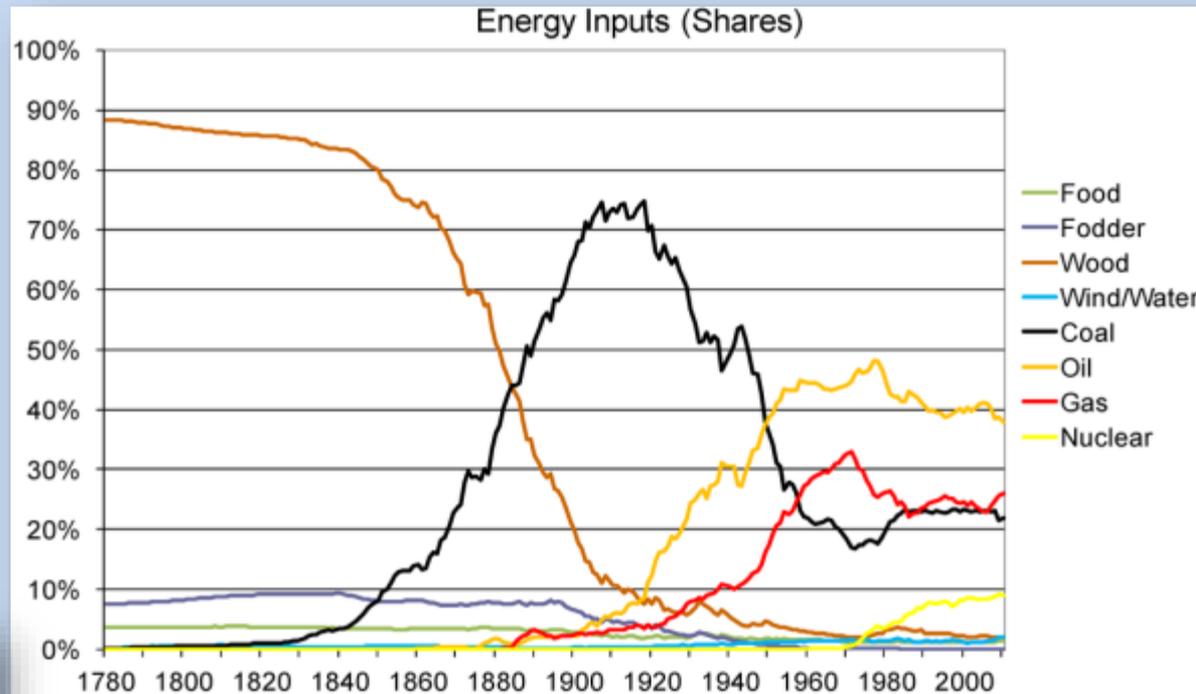
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Don't forget to register for our fantastic early careers/PhD research/teaching DEADLINE IS FRIDAY. energygeographies.org/#inews-and-eve...
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 **UKERC** 18 Nov
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The UK is harking back to the energy system of the last century gu.com/p/4earnz/stw
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Key intellectual agendas in energy geographies

- Energy landscapes:
 - Resources;
 - Infrastructures;
 - Economics;
 - Geopolitics.



O'Connor and Cleveland, 2014

COUNTRIES AFFECTED BY CRISIS



Key intellectual agendas in energy geographies

- Energy issues:
 - Vulnerability & poverty;
 - Consumption, inefficiency & excess
 - Disputes;
 - Securities.

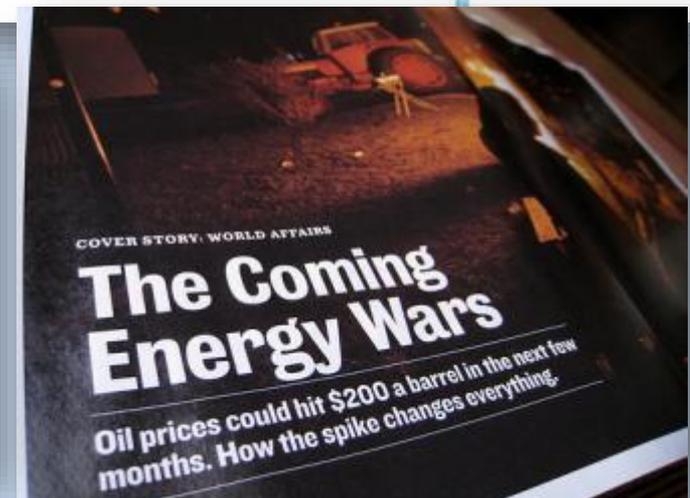
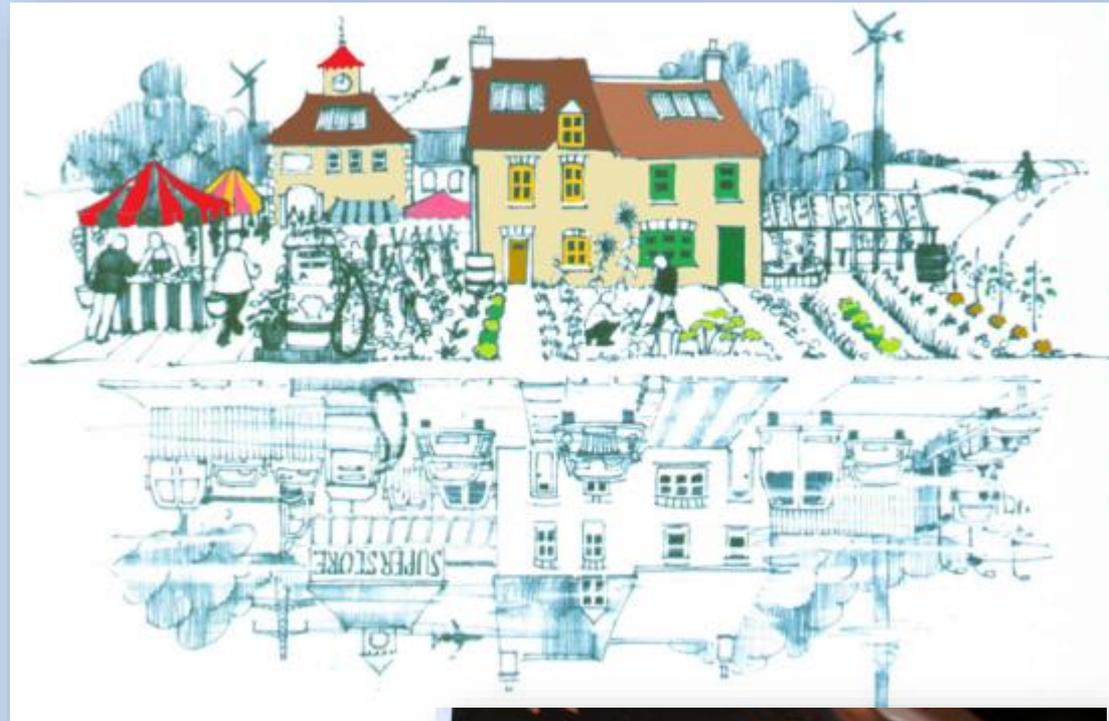


Key intellectual agendas in energy geographies

- Energy futures:
 - Past and future transitions.

Kingsley Dennis and John Urry

after
the car



Key intellectual agendas in energy geographies



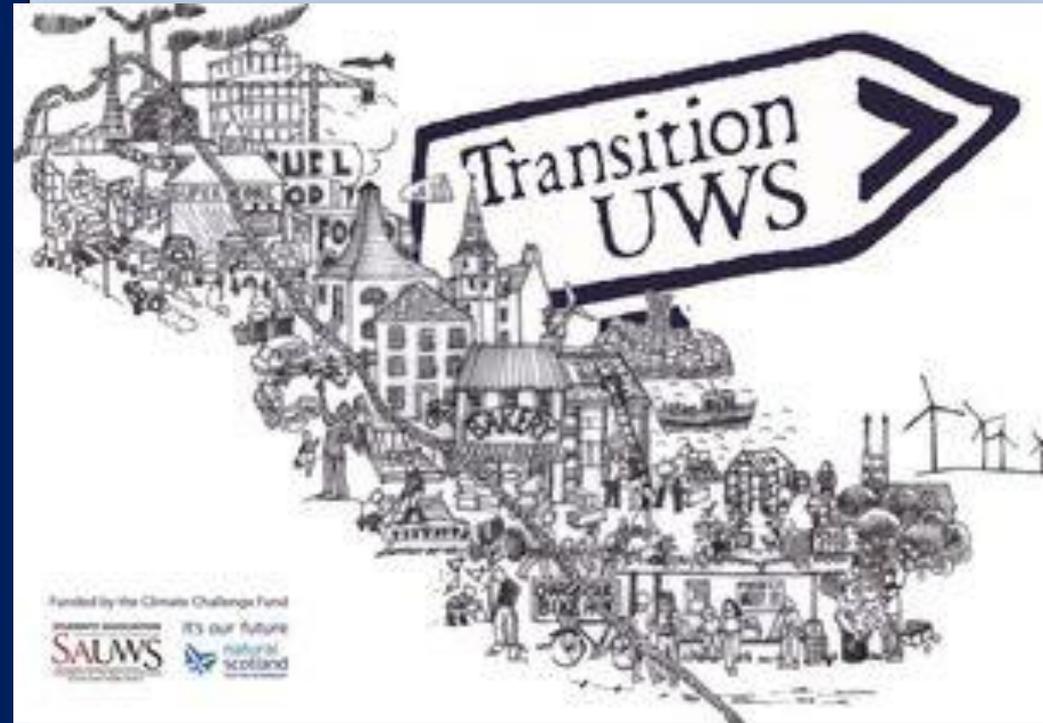
Key impact agendas for energy geographers

- Knowledge acquirers;
- Knowledge translators;
- Knowledge co-creators;
- Academic advocates;
- Emerging practitioners;
- Change agents.



Pedagogies of energy geographies

- Being an enthuser;
- Demonstrating and promoting critical and imaginative thinking;
- Promoting inter-disciplinary learning;
- Linking theory to practice;
- Challenging assumptions.



Your agenda as an energy geographer...

