



finding local solutions to global challenges

www.walden-in-transition.org.uk

Transition: Preparing for the New Reality Beyond the Industrial Age

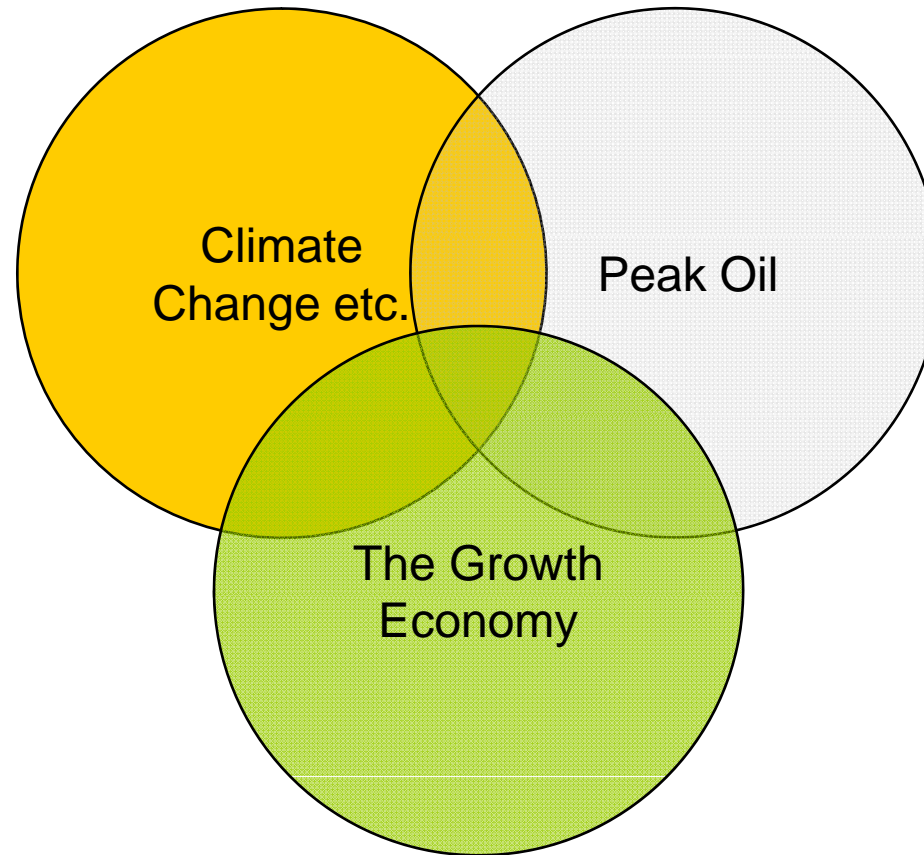
Dr Steve Willoughby



Ambi Pur 3volution

“Ambi Pur 3volution helps you carry on appreciating your great home fragrance – by ensuring you never get used to it. Its three complementary fragrances change every 45 minutes, so you keep enjoying them, again and again and again.”

Interlocking Crises



CAROL LOOMIS ON MORE TROUBLE AT AIG

FORTUNE

EUROPE EDITION // DISPLAY UNTIL JANUARY 26, 2009 // NO. 1

SENDING WALL STREET TO JAIL

They took your money. They wrecked the economy. Now it's payback time. BY ROGER PARLOFF

"Never has so much been owed by so few to so many"

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SOARING OIL IS THERE DANGER OF A SHORTAGE? (P. 38)
 BONUS FEATURE LIVING THE EXECUTIVE LIFESTYLE (P. 56)

The McGraw-Hill Companies

BusinessWeek

EUROPEAN EDITION / AUGUST 23-30, 2004

www.businessweek.com

GLOBAL WARMING

Why Business Is Taking It So Seriously

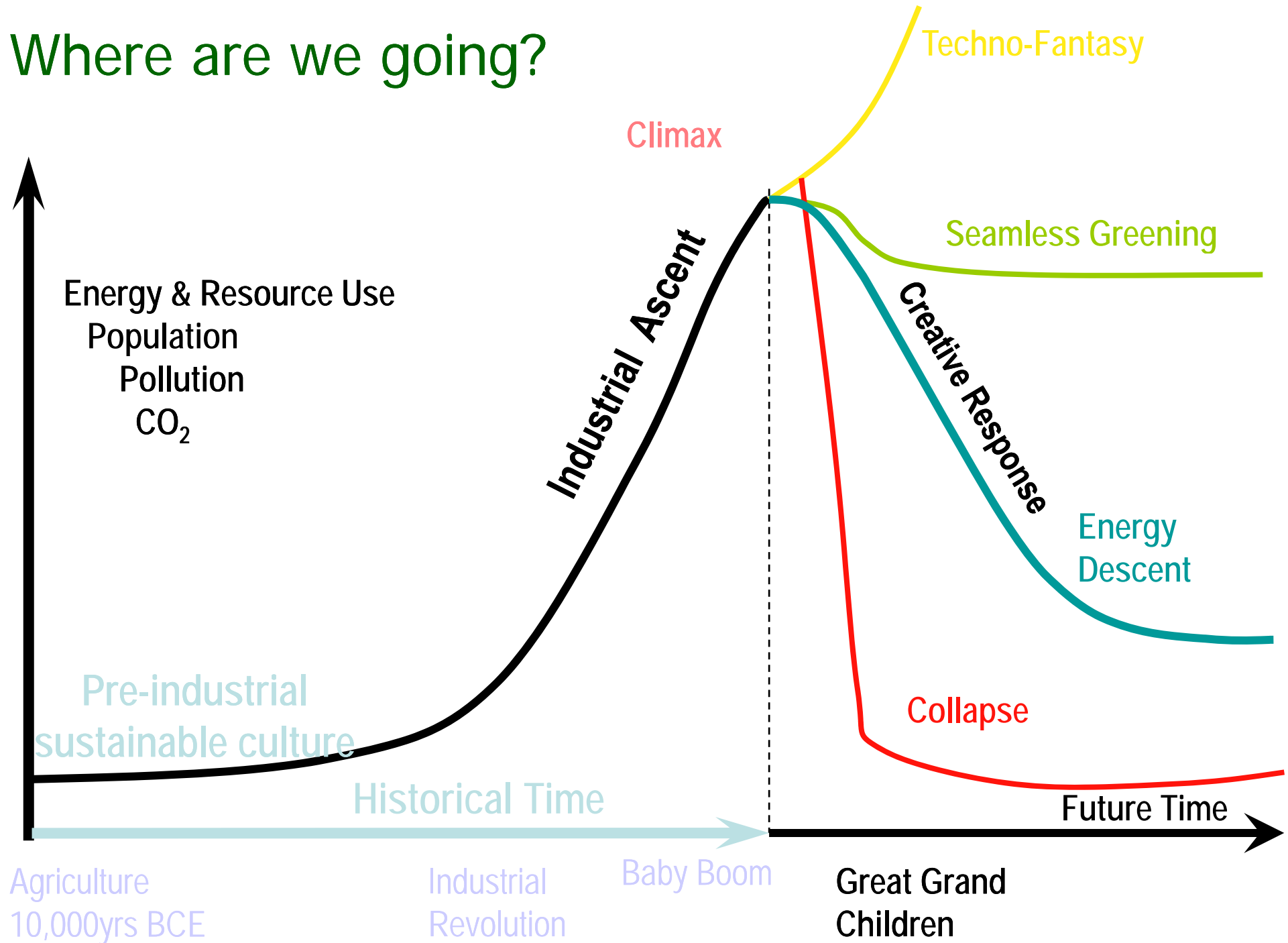
BY JOHN CAREY (P. 48)

SPECIAL DOUBLE ISSUE

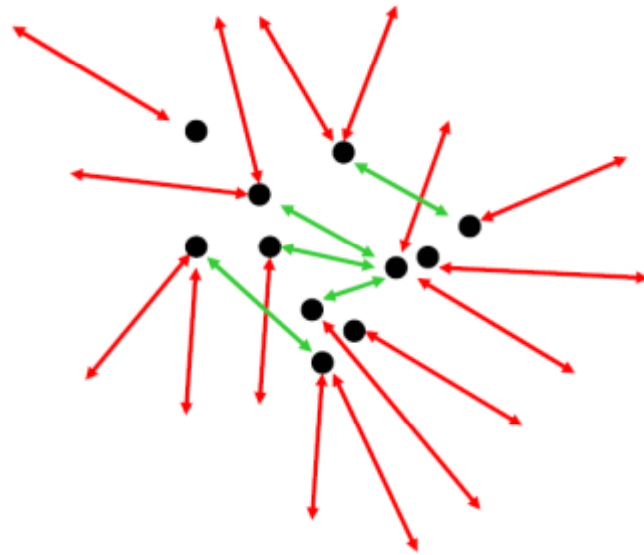
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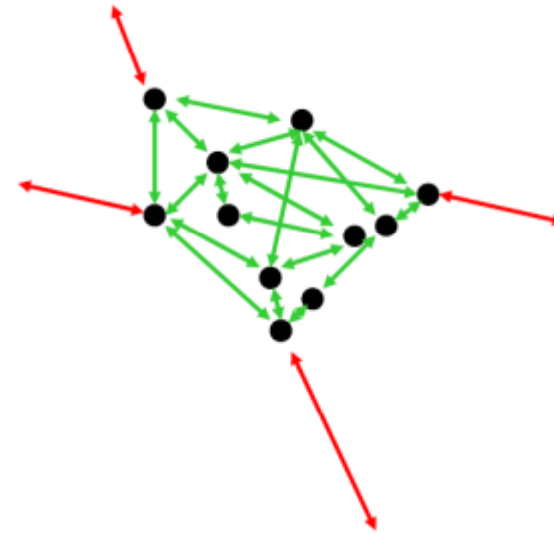
Where are we going?



RELOCALISATION



External links
dominant



Internal links
dominant

But surely technology will step in?

Some false solutions and unhelpful distractions ...

- “Clean coal” - carbon capture & storage
- Nuclear power
- The Hydrogen Economy
- Biofuels
- Green substitutes e.g. electric cars
- Giant oil fields are being discovered
- Geoengineering
- Efficiency gains
- The Market will sort it out

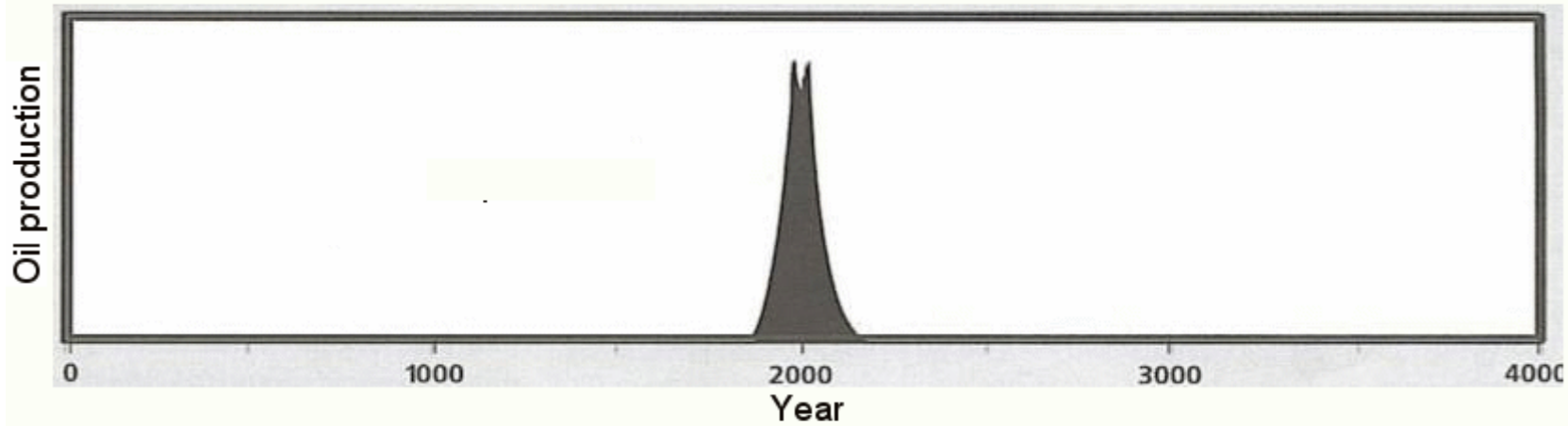
These are desperate attempts to keep the industrial show on the road

Energy and environmental crises are **predicaments**, not problems – they have no “solutions” in the sense that no strategies will enable us to continue as before.

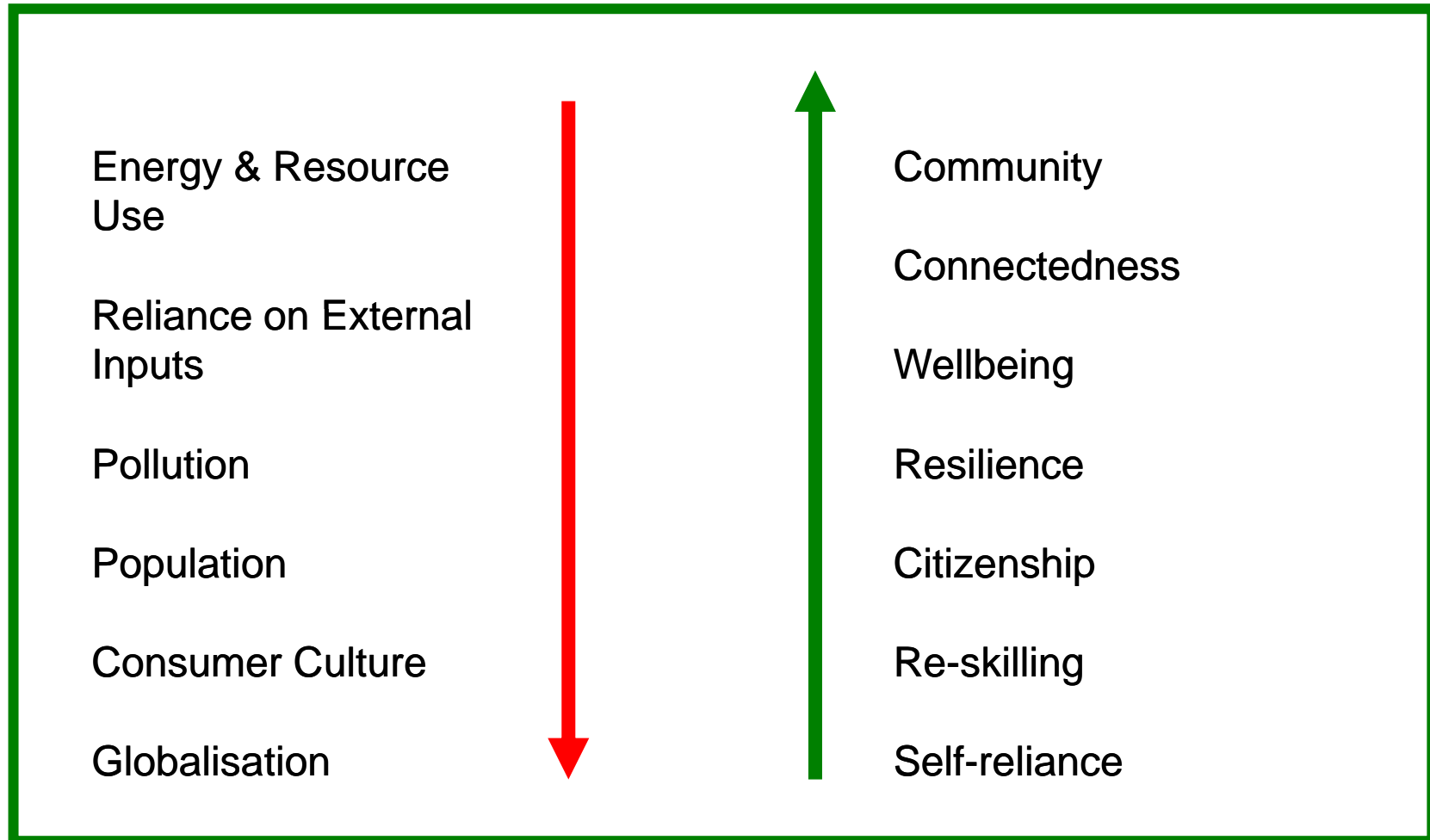
So why aren't we awake to this?

- Distant and abstract risks
- Future discounting
- Free riders
- Policy makers: a) have vested interests, b) don't think outside election cycles, c) are not asking the right questions

Putting it into Perspective: The Petroleum Interval



TRANSITION TRENDS



2009 •



• 2030

What can be done? 1 - Policy makers

- Think outside election cycles
- Acknowledge reality of Peak Oil
- Introduce energy rationing (e.g. TEQs)
- Leave the coal in the ground
- Recognise that cheap energy is addictive, and provide support for withdrawal
- Measure the right things (GDP ✗ GPI ✓)
- Create a steady state economy. Real jobs serving real needs.



Ambi Pur 3volution

What can be done? 2 - Communities

- Assess local resilience and build it
- Raise awareness and educate
- Create a positive vision of the future: hope, determination, common purpose
- Embrace the possibilities of a relocalised future
- Engage people in the adventure and build community (“**I** can’t but **we** can”)
- Develop confidence and remoralise
- Create an Energy Descent Action Plan

Walden in Transition

Core Purpose

“Our core purpose is to take, and inspire others to take, collaborative actions that strengthen our local communities by building resilience, and to respond positively to the challenges of climate change, declining energy supplies and a dysfunctional economy.”

Walden in Transition Working Groups

- Food
- Transport
- Skills
- Open Spaces
- Energy
- Values
- Walden Pound
- Homes

What can be done? 3 - Individuals

- Citizen ✓ vs. Consumer ✗
- Get fit
- Learn to know when you have enough
- Get involved in your local Transition initiative
- Learn new skills. Revitalise old ones.
- Get to know your neighbours
- Find a vocation that's useful to others
- Take an interest in current affairs and inform yourself

“Every crisis is potentially a stimulus to the positive side of the personality and an opportunity to start afresh.” Sigmund Freud

Positive proof of global warming.



**18th
Century**

1900

1950

1970

1980

1990

2009



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