

RAISE YOUR VOICE ON OIL SHALE

On Thursday, June 1st at 9:30am, there will be a US Senate Energy Committee Oil Shale Hearing in the auditorium of the Grand Junction City Hall. Here is what three of the expected Senators to be in attendance had to say about Oil Shale development in our region.

— **Chairman Pete Domenici (R-NM)** —
"There are a couple of American aces in the hole. One of those, without question, is shale oil," said Senate energy committee chairman Pete Domenici, R-N.M. "We believe the United States is the Saudi Arabia of shale."

— Denver Post • May 11, 2006 —

— **Senator Orrin Hatch (R-UT)** —
"The size of our nation's energy challenge is enormous, but in Utah, Colorado, and Wyoming we have an answer that more than meets the challenge,"

— press release from Orrin Hatch • May 19, 2005 —

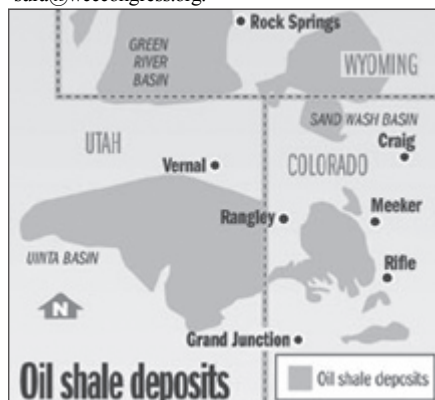
— **Senator Ken Salazar (D-CO)** —
"This hearing and tour will provide an opportunity for local communities to lend their voice to this issue and an opportunity to hear from government and business officials. We must address oil shale development in a thorough and thoughtful way. It is critical that we avoid the boom and bust Colorado experienced 25 years ago."

— Senate Press Release • May 23, 2006 —

This is your opportunity to let your voice be heard. Oil Shale development will have huge impacts to our region including, effects on water supplies, not to mention the increased use of water for oil shale extraction, effects on wildlife habitat, population growth, as well as other harmful environmental and health impacts.

Those around in the early 80s to experience the first oil shale boom and subsequent bust, know all to well what it is like to rush into something that has such a large impact on the region and communities. We must know all the environmental, health, and economical impacts that increased oil shale production will have on the areas, people, and other life involved.

Get Involved! Join Senators and fellow citizens on Thursday, June 1st, 2006 at 9:30am in the auditorium of Grand Junction City Hall, 250 N. 5th St. For more information and to RSVP contact Matt Sura at Western Colorado Congress, (970)256-7650 or sura@wcccongress.org.



State of Disunion

ANNUAL NUMBER
OF PEOPLE WORLD
wide that have been
trafficked across
borders:
800,000

NUMBER OF
AMERICANS THAT
have died in America's
war in Iraq:
2,464

NUMBER OF
PEOPLE THAT
died on 9/11:
2,986

PERCENT OF
WORLD'S
OIL SHALE
that is located
within 150 miles
in Grand Junction:
50

NUMBER OF
AMERICANS THAT
have died since
'mission accomplished'
2,327

ANNUAL NUMBER
OF PEOPLE
TRAFFICKED
into the US:
17,500

NUMBER OF
AFGHANIS
that have died in
the 'war on terrorism'
as of July 2004:
12,072

NUMBER OF
DEATHS FROM
terrorist attacks since
1968:
36,869

NUMBER OF
BARRELS
of oil shale that is
'recoverable' in the
west:
800,000,000,000

PERCENT OF
trafficking victims
that are female:
80

CALL TO ACTION

The Red Pill is looking for volunteers: graphic designers, writers, poets, cartoonists, artists, and photographers are needed. Get your work published now. Help distribute The Red Pill in your community, church, and school: contact us at editor@gjredpill.org. You can also do your part to keep us in print by donating time, paper, film, copies, and of course money (it doesn't print itself).



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editor@gjredpill.org

IF YOU WANT TO KNOW THE TRUTH TAKE

GRAND JUNCTION,
COLORADO

The Red Pill



RISE

UP!

MAY 2006

VOL. 4 NO. 10

WHEN IN SALT LAKE, CHECK OUT THE BOING! COLLECTIVE

An old brick house constructed during the early 20th century stands at the corner of 500 E & 600 S in Salt Lake City Utah. A banner for Food Not Bombs is draped over the rickety porch that is cluttered with salvaged furniture. Also on the porch are boxes full of bananas, oranges, corn, and other produce, including a bin of free bread with the anarchy symbol in place of the "A" in bread. The smell of rotting compost complements the decor. It is obvious to anyone passing by that has any familiarity with radical organizations and collective living what this house is. It is the Boing! Collective, founded four years ago to be a community center that offers a radical lending library, free computer lab, and a local musicians' library. A garden is scattered through the front and back lawns, with the intent to provide house members and the community with subsistence through the winter.

The Boing! Collective house is currently undergoing a metamorphosis, as the carpet has been ripped out revealing raw worn hardwood floors. The living room is in disarray as it is being converted into an anarchist coffee shop. There is a map of Salt Lake City near the computer lab that identifies places to harvest free food, and soon to include good dumpster diving spots. The house is occupied by Chris, James and Eric, three young anarchists. "Our focus is to build a tighter knit community of anarchists and others. We want a community we can trust and feel confident in."

Chris,
who
has

lived at the Boing! Collective for two years, tells The Red Pill.

James has lived at the Boing! Collective for a year and half and is active with the local Food Not Bombs chapter that operates from the house. Most of the food collected by the organization is donated by Wild Oats, a local grocer. The food is slightly expired, or damaged, or in some way not sellable but still edible. James brings it to the porch of The Boing! Collective on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Saturdays, and Sundays. Food Not Bombs used to serve people in some of the local parks, but has ceased doing so due to a lack of participation. The last meal served in public by Food Not Bombs was the past May Day celebration.

Liberation Clothing is also headquartered out of Boing! It was started by Mark and Eric who provide silkscreen t-shirts free of sweatshop labor. They donate one-third of the proceeds to nonprofit civil rights organizations. Eric has been involved with Boing! for just over a year and is just moving into the house. At the time he was a member of a band called American Statistic and was invited to hear James play acoustic guitar at the house. Eric likes to build things and is responsible for many of the renovations going on, including the construction of tables and other structural repairs.

"BOING" ON SECOND PAGE



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"BOING" FROM FIRST PAGE

Boing! first started as a basic info-shop and had a more closed off feeling. James and Chris recollect, "It wasn't very friendly. It felt more like a monastery." Then it went through a party house faze for a while. The two of them look at the clutter in the living room and remember how different looking it once was. "When I first came here it felt like it was someone's house," says James, emphasizing they would like it to feel that way again soon. The group likes to seek out individuals who are interested in living at Boing! who have drive, ambition, and motivation to build community, and not just someone who is looking for cheap rent. Decision making is a little less formal in the group, compared to other collective houses. Consensus isn't a hard and fast rule and things are often approached through personal conversation basis. "Some people feel that consensus feels kind of alienating, [how we do it] has a more natural feeling. Besides, it is hard to get everyone together at the same time," says Chris.



If you are ever in Salt Lake City, you must check out the Boing! Collective at 608 E 600 S, tell them The Red Pill sent you.

GET UP OFF THAT THING

We are truly living in dark times in the U.S.A. The amount of issues of concern from the present (Bush) administration are truly staggering. There have been so many lies, so much corruption, so much violence, and such an assault on our Constitution, it's difficult to know where to begin.

For starters, there's the war. This administration didn't accidentally fall into an unnecessary war, they out and out lied to get us into it. There are no weapons of mass destruction, there never was, and the Bush administration knew this from the very beginning.

They worked hard to cover up the truth and to fabricate justification. They worked to crush any opposition, even going so far as to leak the identity of an undercover C.I.A. agent to stifle dissent. Lying to start a war, and disrupting an important foreign intelligence operation for revenge are two powerful, clear examples of impeachable offenses. But, almost unbelievably, there's more.

Bush has been spying on tens of millions of ordinary American telephone calls, without bothering to obtain so much as one search warrant. Are we to believe that tens of millions of Americans are collaborating with Al Qaeda? Bush brags openly about this action and vows to continue it. Who knows how deep his tentacles really reach?

There are whispers in Washington that Congress itself is one of the prime targets for unauthorized information gathering, and it is fear of blackmail from Bush that keeps them quiet. That may be so, and this is a sad state of affairs, but what is your excuse? What keeps you from vigorously and vocally defending your rights in the streets?

If you are over the age of forty, you remember the infinitely creepy and corrupt Richard Nixon. We

have already experienced the great disillusionment of not being able to trust the President. Did you think that it would/could not ever happen again? Not only is it happening again, this time the media is not leading the charge, and in fact, can be seen as collusionary. We are on our own and the response of the average American is silence. Why?

It's difficult to imagine a more corrupt and dangerous administration in America than the one we have now. Still, we are dealing with such a passive and receptive crowd that it is difficult to imagine what it would take to actually pull our collective heads out of the sand and fight back. How bad will it need to get before we fight back at all?

Our problems are of our own making, there is no mystery here. There are people who brag about being a civil rights volunteer, an anti-Vietnam war protester, or a no-nukes activist, yet can't (or won't) write a letter to the editor or attend a rally because it might hurt their business. Talk is cheap when there is so much of it.

So what shall it be? Will you draw yet another line in the political sand, only to crumble before the establishment kicks sand in your face again? Remember, all that is required for evil to flourish is for good men and women to do nothing.

So do something, whoever you are, wherever you are, whatever the stakes are. Between the wars, Presidential lying, and Presidential spying, you're sure to find something that gets your goat. Write your Congressperson, join the next rally you hear of, boycott a hate radio show's sponsors, just do something. There really is a lot of work to do and it isn't getting done.

Or not. After all, you know what they say about liberty: just ignore it long enough and it will go away.

MODERN DAY SLAVERY: I'M NOT LOVING IT

Human trafficking victims include illegal immigrants, runaways, addicts, and the homeless. In America, cheap labor is needed by giant corporations supporting and continuing human rights exploitation. Our people are forced into farmwork, prostitution, maid and gardening work, and even drug trafficking. Workers are held captive by their employers through acts of violence including pistol-whipping, beatings, and shootings.

The major food-buying corporations i.e. McDonalds, Taco Bell, and KFC profit from the artificially-low cost of US produce picked by abused workers in sweatshop and slavery conditions. The concerns about the nutritional content of fast food have risen in recent years, along with higher obesity rates among both children and adults. McDonalds has responded to complaints by consumer advocates to make its food healthier by offering more salads and fruit items. This has brought to light, the conditions of those workers that pick and pack that produce.

Workers perform back-breaking farmwork and are a prime example of "over-worked and under-paid." A University of Florida study showed that neither the workers' wages nor the wholesale price of tomatoes have risen for 30 years when adjusted for inflation. The workers make poverty wages, have no right to organize, no benefits, and no vacation time. Our people have been forced into slavery by giant fast-food corporations. The McDonalds Corporation is implementing new rules for improving workers' pay and housing except most of the new program is all ready standard for big growers and is required by law. They've already violated the law for hiring illegals in the first place, how much more damage is going to be done to human rights?

Individuals and groups such as the Coalition of the Immokalee Workers in Florida have successfully fought for higher wages from Taco Bell in 2005. Their wages raised from 40 cents to 72 cents per bucket of tomatoes after a boycott of Taco Bell restaurants. This past March they fight again for higher wages, this time against McDonalds. They are asking McDonalds to require that their tomato producers to pay just 'one cent more' to the workers in the fields. We will see if McDonalds listens.



TAKE THE RED PILL

The Red Pill will suppress your appetite for war. Do not take while driving a car.

The Red Pill will increase your vision,

Peace through @narchy,

A one world nation,

No need for the Iraq occupation,

No need for invasion,

No need to illegalize immigration.

Just hunger for hummus,

Freedom for the world around us,

A scoop of couscous at a vegan dinner,

And food and shelter for all humans.

The Red Pill may be a target for hatred,

But better to hate a piece of paper

Than love an oil sucking world raper.

Check out what's being said:

The Red Pill tries to change your view

Without putting a bullet through your head,

Or torturing anyone like American soldiers

Did at Abu Gharib.

We don't know what you're so bent on.

We too dislike any Clinton,

But this is where it gets scary;

We hate every oligarchy

And are naturally drawn toward anarchy.

If you happen to get The Red Pill in your eyes,

Immediately flush with national news coverage,

Remain aware,

And call your local physician to demand socialized health care.

There still isn't a blue pill

To cure all us liberals,

(yes, we encourage expression and free will),

But can you act without being hostile?

Can you give someone democracy?

Without using a single missile?

I wish there was a blue pill

To incapacitate me and make me still,

Pacify my activism and make me chill,

Take away this present day

Take away the thrill

One to annihilate every bill

I wish there was a blue pill

To make me apathetic to the next civilian Bush will kill,

To make me apathetic to the next oil drill,

To make me apathetic to the lack of funding to research a stem cell.

To make me apathetic to the lack of concern from a land of free will.

If this makes you feel a little ill,

Then all is well.

You're beginning to question everything.

Starting with The Red Pill.

To make me apathetic to a national debt increased by 2 trillion

To make me right wing

Blind me from the right thing •

Every Sunday • 6PM

Weekly Vegan Dinner. We'll cook the main dish. Please bring a vegan side dish, dessert, or drink. Dinner starts around 6:00PM. The Confluence Collective (1450 Elm).



Thursday, June 1, 2006 • 9:30AM

US Senate Energy Committee Oil Shale Hearing
Auditorium of Grand Junction City Hall 250 N. 5th St.
For more info & to RSVP contact Matt Sura at: 256-7650
or sura@wcccongress.org

Every Monday • 6PM

A Voice of Reason, the local peace group meets to figure out ways to get the troops home.
MSC College Center 12th & Elm.

RED PILL LOCATIONS

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