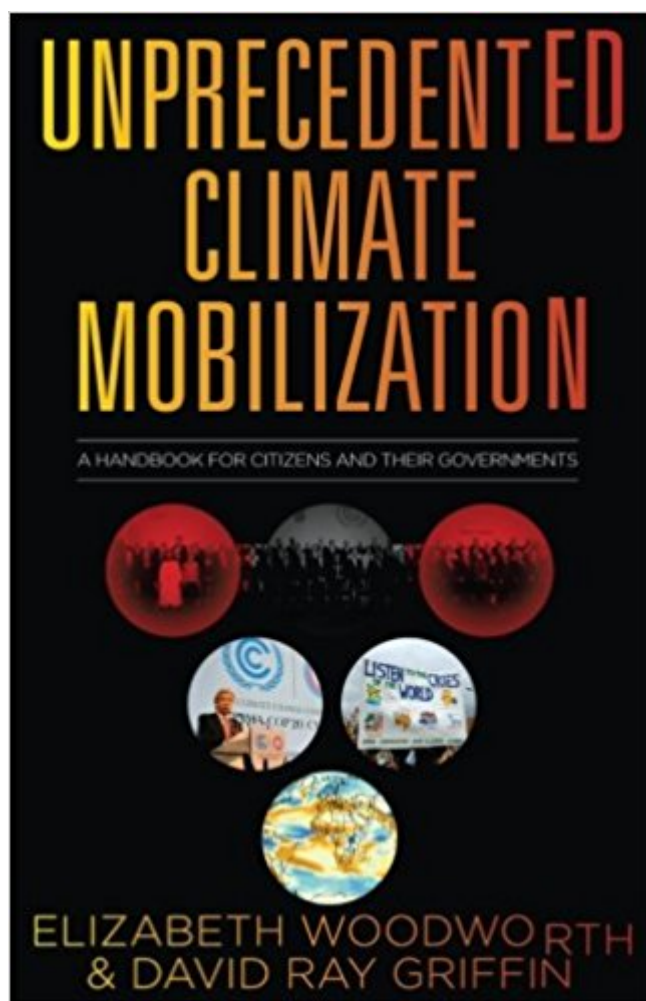


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# Unprecedented Climate Mobilization: A Handbook For Citizens And Their Governments



## Synopsis

It is now widely recognized that global warming poses an existential threat to the world as serious as nuclear war. And yet, despite the urgency, despite UN engagement, governments have not stepped up to the plate. The world desperately needs a deeply committed leadership and program of action to deal with climate change. The global public's growing presentiment of the horrific impact of global warming has enormous potential to shift it into "emergency mode." In this context, pointing to America's WWII mobilization to battle the Fascist threat, *Unprecedented Climate Mobilization* urges and informs a full WWII-style climate mobilization, suggesting ways in which the United States can exercise leadership. This book shows how the American people have historically risen and adapted to "long emergencies", demonstrated in particular by President Roosevelt's ability to mobilize Americans a full two years before the United States declared war on Japan and Germany. Then, as an example of what is possible, US automakers became a cornerstone of the war effort; having built three million cars in 1941 they quickly converted their factories to making tanks and airplanes, producing only 139 passenger vehicles until the war ended in 1945. Today, a similar sweeping conversion of America's outdated energy system to clean energy could take place, if the political will were there. *Unprecedented Climate Mobilization* offers a comprehensive guide to citizens and governments on the scope of that engagement and how to generate that will. As in the WWII effort, it advocates that all sectors of society be engaged: media, business, labor, religious groups, government national, state and local, and the public at large. This handbook suggests constructive leadership strategies for every sector of civil society, along with networking opportunities and information resources to help build the climate effort. This handbook surveys the lost arts of civil disobedience and nonviolent action to assemble effective tools that civil society will need—the kinds of tools that won civil rights, brought an end to the Vietnam War, served in anti-nuclear campaigns and that have been updated by more recent movements such as Occupy. Not least, it suggests ways in which activists can maximize personal influence by using Twitter, Facebook and other social media tools now so powerful that governments and news agencies monitor carefully.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Read this to understand the challenge we face and what you yourself can do to help." -- Dr.

Michael Mann, Prof. of Meteorology; Dir., Earth System Science Center, Penn State  
"This powerful book by Woodworth and Griffin is an inspiring rallying cry, a call to action grounded in the truth. It can, and must, spur a massive people-led climate insurgency... Like Naomi Klein's *This Changes Everything*, this book will be a guide for activists for many years to come."  
-- DR. JILL STEIN, 2016 presidential candidate for the Green Party of the United States

Elizabeth Woodworth is a writer on climate change science and activism publishing on Global Research, and co-producer of the COP21 video *"A Climate Revolution For All."* She is author of the popular handbook on nuclear weapons activism, *"What Can I Do?"* and the novel, *The November Deep*. For 25 years, she served as head medical librarian for the BC Government. She holds a BA from Queen's and a Library Sciences Degree from UBC. David Ray Griffin is Professor of Philosophy of Religion and Theology, Emeritus, Claremont School of Theology and Claremont Graduate University (1973-2004); Co-Director, Center for Process Studies. He is author of *Unprecedented: Can Civilization Survive the C)2 Crisis?* He edited the SUNY Series in Constructive Postmodern Thought (1987-2004), which published 31 volumes. He has written 30 books, edited 13 books, and authored 250 articles and chapters. Dr. Peter Carter is a Canadian physician, climate activist, and Expert Reviewer, IPCC 5th Assessment, 2014. He is the coordinator of the International Climate Health Council for Canada. He has developed and manages a suite of educational websites on global climate change. His most recent endeavor is the development of the international on line Climate Emergency Institute based in Canada, which was a major group in the

recent UN Rio+20 sustainable development conference.

Great, authoritative overview!

Climate scientists, the corporate media, fossil fuel companies, the US Government, the citizenry – which are most important to get the climate disaster turned around and heading toward a climate solution? That very question seemed overwhelming to me. It was, until I read this book by Elizabeth Woodworth and David Ray Griffin, *Unprecedented Climate Mobilization: A Handbook for Citizens and Their Governments*. My list above, five groups, turns out to be a much longer list as detailed in the book. But, no matter how long the list, it all comes down to the individual citizen. Citizens have the power, if they use it, to exert such pressure that those doing the governing, those doing the media reporting, those providing the energy, have to respond. This *Handbook for Citizens and Their Governments* tells the citizen how to exert the pressure, and tells the other groups how to kickstart the United States into a WWII-like Emergency Mode. A key feature of the handbook is its description of the WWII Mobilization of the 1940s, a model for the 2020s Climate Mobilization. How it was done then provides a framework for how it can and should be done now. The range of methods available for citizens to demonstrate their level of frustration with climate gradualism, and their call for dynamic results-oriented political action is extensive. As an example, taking just one of eight categories, nonviolent intervention directed towards government, there are eleven types of demonstrations covered. Social media strategies to transform the status quo has a dedicated chapter. I found these strategies so clearly explained, I feel I can start applying them on either the climate crisis, or other pressing issues immediately. This handbook should give citizens and their governments an important tool as they structure and make their commitments to the biggest and most necessary mobilization of them all – the Climate Mobilization.

In their typical style, forthright, straightforward and effective, Elizabeth Woodworth and David Ray Griffin have provided a badly-needed roadmap for the world in dealing with our greatest existential challenge ever - climate change - with particular focus on the United States as one of the three biggest polluters on the planet. Both authors have previously written clear, readable works with practical and workable plans and ideas to achieve objectives, and this one is no exception. I personally own a dozen of Griffin's books, and all of Woodworth's, and I never cease to be impressed with the level of detailed research and fact-checking that has obviously gone into their work. This book is a must for anyone who cares about what kind of world we will leave for our

grandchildren to 'enjoy,' given that as the authors convincingly demonstrate in Griffin's *Unprecedented: Can Civilization Survive the CO2 Crisis?* (edited by Woodworth) if climate change continues unhindered there may not be much for them to 'enjoy.'

It's very encouraging that David Ray Griffin and Elizabeth Woodworth have authored this handbook on how to deal with the global warming crisis. Each author has tremendous credibility, so for anyone on the fence about global warming, but who is adverse to investing a significant amount of time into researching this highly complex and controversial topic (as was my position before learning where Professor Griffin stood on the issue), I suggest that they take a look at this condensed presentation of all you need to know about the global warming controversy, and what to do about it. The problem, of course, is how to get those responsible in government to act. In our contemporary world, where all the real American leaders have been assassinated (JFK, MLK, RFK, etc), it's hard to imagine any of the empty suited/bought and sold political leaders of today being up to the task. But if and when America (and the rest of the civilized world) does decide to wake up, all they need do to begin to set things right, is engage in a quick read of this highly credible handbook, and take it from there. A major theme of the handbook is that the world desperately needs a deeply committed leadership and program of action to deal with climate change. Given the state of the Union, and the absence of true leadership, such a program may be very difficult, if not impossible, to come by. Nevertheless, the authors boldly declare that we should shift into "emergency mode" and implement a sweeping conversion of America's outdated energy system to clean energy. I would agree that such a development would be most welcome even if climate change weren't on the horizon. But the problem becomes, how can those of us who care about the preservation of an Earth that remains habitable to humans, conjure up such political will. Well, *Unprecedented Climate Mobilization* offers a comprehensive guide for citizens and governments on how to generate that political will. The handbook advocates that all sectors of society be engaged: media, business, labor, religious groups, government—national, state and local, and the public at large. The handbook also suggests constructive leadership strategies for every sector of civil society, along with networking opportunities and information resources to help build the climate effort. The handbook also surveys the arts of civil disobedience and nonviolent action to assemble the effective tools that civil society will need—the kinds of tools that won civil rights, brought an end to the Vietnam War, served in anti-nuclear campaigns—and that have

been updated by more recent movements such as Occupy. Can such efforts succeed? Well, for those with the courage and audacity to challenge the dystopia that awaits us if we do nothing, it is certainly worth a try. What, really, is the alternative? Fiddling like Nero, twiddling our thumbs, and playing with our iPhones until The End becomes a reality? Fighting against a monstrous tide of indifference, the authors suggest practical ways in which activists can maximize personal influence by using Twitter, Facebook and other social media. Again, it's just a start, but certainly worth a shot! Take a look at the handbook, see what you think, and learn what you can do.

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