

ECN 001 INTRO

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SPEAKERS

DAVID VAGNETTI, INTRO



INTRO 00:00

Welcome to Environmentally Concerned Nation, the environmental show that goes way beyond water cooler climate debate. This podcast features the science, policy, politics, law, engineering, and public opinion that matters to you. Why? Because you are in control of the environment and no one else. Yes, you decide to go green or vegan. Our collective choices will determine the fate of our children. Welcome our host DJ Vagnetti. DJ is an environmental civil and water resources engineer. But this show is not about him, but about the fate of young and future generations to come.



DAVID VAGNETTI 00:43

Welcome everybody to Episode 001 of Environmentally Concerned Nation. I'm so excited, I've been very anxious to release this podcast that means so much to me personally and professionally. This is an intro of what we hope to have every Thursday for a very, very long time. Let's get this party started! This episode, we will cover the format of the show, what this show is what is not, why we started this show, the first seven or eight guests that will be here with us in the very near future. This show will have a mixture of exciting guests and solo shows like the one you're listening to right now. And I'll tell you that this show is an environmental discussion and not exclusively a climate show. Yes, climate change is of course part of the show. But climate change is as polarizing as religion. If we limit

ourselves to the climate, we're gonna leave most environmental issues on the table, only limit ourselves to a debate show. Plus, I don't think you need to listen to me or any of our guests to learn more about climate change. You're probably sick and tired of climate news and debates already. Yet most environmental issues of today revolve around global warming. But if we look a bit closer, you may notice that not even the huge global organizations can sum up our climate issues into one context. See, the United Nations says they are where the world nations can gather, discuss common problems and find shared solutions. That is very, very in line with what we're trying to do here a much smaller scale, though. I mean, absolutely. I mean, just for that reason we will take the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals or SDGs as a framework, there are 17 SDGs, that sum up the world's shared plan to end extreme poverty, reduced inequality and protect the planet by 2030. See, the reason that I find these frameworks so excellent, is that it has an agenda. So why are we going to be so naive as to reinvent the wheel? When the plan with specific goals and a timeframe are already laid out in front of our eyes? That doesn't mean that we're not going to agree with them, because we're surely gonna dissect them, discuss them, refute them and come up with our own conclusions. That is the difference between reading a newspaper and listening to this show. With that said, let me tell you why I started this show. Back in 1985. I was 12 years old. At that time, my little brother was seven. My father, who's an architect, was also a developer and contractor. He bought about 30 acres of land in a lovely and pricey neighborhood at a very low price. He designed and constructed 47 mansions, my brother's best friend dad was a prominent young doctor, and they were going to live next to us in a brand new hood, but on the night of October 7 of 1985, a storm registered more than 24 inches of rain in 24 hours, a bridge foundation at PR-52 the main highway in Puerto Rico, where I live, was the subject of continuous scour until it collapsed at 3:30am. Only three of the 29 bodies that dropped through the precipice were recovered, among those bodies, the mother and father of my stepbrother. That is why today My brother is a structural engineer, and I am a water resources engineer; back then we knew what we wanted to do. Yes, it got really personal, now that, the future of our children and the fate of generations to come is the reason that this podcast exists. So let's see who's gonna be here during the next few weeks. First, we have Lisa Gieso-Bauer. She's a social sustainability expert, marketer and storyteller, and has a company named evolution marketing. This lady said that her company has a B certification, certified B corporations are a new kind of business that balances purpose and profit, they are legally required to consider the impact of the decisions on their workers, customers, suppliers community and their environment. Is this a community of leaders driving a global movement of people using business as a force for good, she will unpack what social sustainability is and the opportunities online and offline for entrepreneurs in the sustainability field. She says that her Corporation implements 14 of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. I cannot wait to hear what she has to say I have a lot of questions. She better explained to me what social sustainability is how does it relate

to marketing



DAVID VAGNETTI 05:00

I just can't wait. Before I continue with the guests let me get something out of my system because it really bothers me. See, I have some skepticism towards two terms abused in today's economy and market: Those are sustainability and renewables. Everywhere you look today, there is something that has to do with Sustainability or renewables. See, everybody would love to have a sustainable income; better yet, I would love to have a renewable income; how about that! Ha Ha.



DAVID VAGNETTI 05:35

Somehow, it seems that these verbs turned into adjectives turned nouns like all the words that end in ability are BIG words, indeed! So in the case of Sustainability, its literal meaning would be the ability to sustain. But to sustain what? See, to me, Sustainability is "to manage and use without depletion in favor of." Some 20 or 30 years ago, the United Nations being the global consensus authority, gave it an environmental contextual meaning to the term, which is to use and manage a natural resource without depletion in favor of future generations based on three pillars which are the economy, the society, and the environment. These three principles are informally referred also as profit, people, planet. the three P's.



DAVID VAGNETTI 06:22

This is very important because it will be the basis of almost everything we will discuss in this podcast. Renewables, on the other hand, are processes that are constantly replenished. In the case of renewable energy. This word might be used interchangeably with clean energy. But be very wary because if you look closely at the naming of the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG-7 is Affordable & Clean Energy.



DAVID VAGNETTI 06:52

why is that? Why not sustainable or renewable energy? Well, I believe that there is no possible way to ignore the power of nuclear energy, which is technically non-renewable BUT as clean as sunlight in the processing and exponentially more sustainable than any other. As polarizing as the subject may be, nuclear energy must be part of the holistic approach to attaining SDG-7 since it is the most efficient energy resource known to

mankind. IT IS Too exotic and powerful to ignore, PERIOD! Don't worry; this will be a topic to be covered here very soon, indeed! But for now, let's get back to our fantastic list of guests. We have Shawn Oueinstein, a fiction novelist and author that claims that the climate crisis will take out 7 billion lives. Really? Let's see about that! Micene Fontain, an American Institute of Architects, approved continued education provider in Sustainable Design, among other things. He will show you how his Changed by Design courses and seminars support all the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, and I certainly have many questions for this individual. Wajid Hassan a humanitarian and environmentalist, engineer, author, speaker, and stand-up comedian. This guy is hilarious; I can tell you that much! Dr. Sam Goodman, a chemical engineer and author of bestseller Beyond Zero Neutral, claims to have the answers to the climate crisis. It is not by conducting more research but by the global and social commitment and sacrifices. I am looking forward to this one, indeed! Dr. Sajel Bellon, psychotherapist, speaker, and author. Works with first responders and other high-stress sectors globally, across North America, Europe, and Oceania. Angel Ribo, known as the CEO Confidant, has empowered more than 1500 CEOs in 33 different countries. Born near Barcelona, he has lived in eight countries around the world and speaks five languages. Currently based in Texas, he runs an international business, Wisdom for Kids, which helps underprivileged kids in Latin America become entrepreneurs using their local resources. Twyla Dell, longtime EPA policymaker author Goodnight Gasoline, Fueling Change: How we created climate change one fuel at a time, Gasoline Diet claims that Fueling change is the Bible. Gasoline Diet is the gospel. And Goodnight Gasoline is the verse. Interesting! Phillipe Guichard, a speaker, appeared at TEDtalk and thinks that we can do better, be better and change the way to design and consume. All we need is a mind shift. George Siegal, a documentary filmmaker, creator of the last house standing, is a great documentary film about construction resiliency for environmental disasters, including hurricanes, tornados, fires, and earthquakes. Watch it, and you will go running to buy your homeowners insurance if you do not have it. Well, maybe not, but you will look at your FEMA flood zone map. I can tell you that much.



DAVID VAGNETTI 10:01

Neil Kitching, a geographer and author of Carbon Choices. This book is about people. It is for those who care, care for their communities, care for nature, care for people living today that they will never meet, and care for future generations. This book will help businesses and consumers influence governments to set the right regulatory framework, encourage businesses to offer consumers better choices, and empower individuals to make better choices for our climate and wildlife. These are just some of the guests that we will have during the next few weeks, and I hope that if you think and know you do, everybody does, even if you think not. But everybody has something to contribute to the environmental issues that we are facing today, and you are not exempt! Maybe you did not write a book

or create a film about environmental issues or not an engineer, scientist, or policymaker. That does not matter! All that matters is that you have a genuine feeling for the future of young and future generations to come. And if you have a different point of view, then we are incredibly interested in what that is and what you have to say, indeed!



DAVID VAGNETTI 11:04

Do not forget to subscribe if you have not yet done so, and please go and check all the excellent content at Land & Watersheds, our company at landwaters.com May God Bless you all, and I see you next Thursday with another episode of Environmentally Concerned Nation!



DAVID VAGNETTI 11:19

Thank you.