

## Race, Faith and Climate Change:

How Global Warming is a Civil Rights Issue

Rev. Gerald Durley

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TgEO5GkBuQY>

Kentucky Interfaith power and Light (under 5 min)

Watch first:

**Connect the Dots** - A video created by a teen environmental group. The video highlights the signs of climate change as they are evident today.

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A\\_uzo2-HjdU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A_uzo2-HjdU)

Kentucky Interfaith power and Light (under 5 min)

Watch second:

**Race, Faith and Climate Change....** A challenging short sermon-type call to recognize the human rights issues involved in climate change

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TgEO5GkBuQY>

Kentucky Interfaith power and Light (under 5 min)



### For Discussion:

1. What issues were raised or you in these two videos?
2. How is climate change a Human Rights issue?
3. How is climate change a Spiritual / Faith issue?
4. How is climate change a Christian issue?
5. What now?

## other video resources TED

⇒ **Emmanuel Jal: The music of a war child** (18 minutes) The former child soldier in the Sudan, aid worker and hip-hop musician tells his story.

[http://www.ted.com/talks/emmanuel\\_jal\\_the\\_music\\_of\\_a\\_war\\_child.html](http://www.ted.com/talks/emmanuel_jal_the_music_of_a_war_child.html)

⇒ **Alanna Mitchell - Sea Sick: Ocean in Crisis** -(20 min) An environmental video by the author of *Sea Sick*

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=crPiV4C\\_t7k](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=crPiV4C_t7k)

⇒ **Sheryl WuDunn -Our Century's Greatest injustice** (author of *Half the Sky*) (18 min) "... more women discriminated to death than all the people killed in all the battle-fields in the 20th century."

[http://www.ted.com/talks/sheryl\\_wudunn\\_our\\_century\\_s\\_greatest\\_injustice.html](http://www.ted.com/talks/sheryl_wudunn_our_century_s_greatest_injustice.html)

⇒ **Ernesto Sirolli: Want to help someone? Shut up and listen!**

(19 minutes) An aid worker re-thinks aid strategies and community transformation. These concepts are translatable to church context.  
[http://www.ted.com/talks/ernesto\\_sirolli\\_want\\_to\\_help\\_someone\\_shut\\_up\\_and\\_listen.html](http://www.ted.com/talks/ernesto_sirolli_want_to_help_someone_shut_up_and_listen.html)

**HINT-** comments underneath TED videos are sometimes helpful aids to conversation



How do we connect our story or family story with that of another?

How do we live out our faith in the midst of current realities?

**Free, on-line video resources** to encourage small group discussion engaging issues before our church and wider community.



**HAMILTON CONFERENCE**  
The United Church of Canada

The desk of  
Lorna MacQueen

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## A Sorry State

By Mitch Miyagawa

<http://ww3.tvo.org/video/184814/sorry-state>  
TVO (47 minutes)

Mitch Miyagawa undertakes a personal exploration and journey into the meaning of State 'apology' and its power and lack of power in the lives of those to whom it is offered. From a family who has received three Canadian government apologies for the betrayal of the democratic process in racist policies, Mitch's story encourages reflection on justice, victimization, accountability, democracy, re-dress and hope.

### For discussion:

1. What were your 'ah ha' moments?
2. What questions did this film raise for you?
3. Can you find intersection in this film with your own story or family story? Is there any learning from that?
4. Comment on:
  - "Talk is cheap" (The Sorry Exhibit)
  - "The system of democracy was betrayed" and the apology made this visible.
  - Apologies are about beginnings not endings
  - Apologies are for those giving the apology
5. How does the 1986 United Church apology to First Nations people relate to this?
6. What does it mean to share our stories with one another?



### Interview with the film-maker:

[http://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2013/01/07/sorry\\_but\\_this\\_film\\_had\\_to\\_be\\_done.html](http://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2013/01/07/sorry_but_this_film_had_to_be_done.html)

## I'm a Gambler

True Life

<http://www.nyproblemgambling.org/resources/videos/>  
MTV (50 minutes in 3 Acts)

In three Acts the video introduces us to the life, decisions and challenges of three men who are self-defined gamblers.

### For discussion:



1. What issues were raised for you in this video?
2. What is the place of disconnect with the underlying Christian Good News?
3. Can you find intersection in this film with your own story or community story?
4. Does the church still have a responsibility to voice concerns over 'gaming' / gambling as it makes greater inroads into our municipalities and communities, and if so, how best might we do this?

### United Church Resources and Position on Gambling:

<http://www.united-church.ca/economic/gambling>

5. What are the ethical questions for a people who *hope in God*, when invited to accept funds from an industry that relies on *false hope*? (Trillium Fund)

### More Resources:

#### Deal or No Deal—A resource for youth

<http://www.united-church.ca/files/economic/gambling/deal-or-no-deal.pdf>

#### Gambling and the Use of Gambling Money in Local UC Fundraising

<http://www.united-church.ca/files/economic/gambling/gambling-and-fundraising.pdf>

## I'm not Les:

*A Transgender Story*

<http://kcts9.org/im-not-les>  
KCTS9 VMA (26 minutes) by Daniel Kopec

Sherri, who lived more than fifty years as a man, tells her deeply personal story of gender struggle and transition.

**WARNING:** The story telling is explicit in places but for the sake of honest vulnerability and not in a gratuitous manner. **Viewer discretion is advised.**



### For discussion:

1. Was there a moment in this story that touched your heart?
2. Where is the *Holy Community* in this story? Where is the church?
3. Where is the presence of God?

### The United Church—Transgender and Gender Identity:

<http://www.united-church.ca/exploring/trans>

### Ruth's Story:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FD4X1TKjtL4&feature=youtu.be>  
(-7 minutes) A UCC minister shares some of her story .

4. How are we called as Church to be safe and sacred space for all people?
5. Can you find a place where your story connects with this story?



**Scripture: Luke 13:10-17**

6. Envision Sherri as the bent woman in the temple, the Daughter of Abraham. What is Jesus' hope for Sherri who has been bent and bound by a culture's gender discrimination?