

# Let's Understand and Dismantle What Caused and Perpetuates the Climate Crisis

The climate crisis is the culmination of various forces (economic, political, cultural, and others) that have been entrenched for a long time. In order to solve the climate crisis we must identify the forces that created and are perpetuating the climate crisis. Then we must devise strategies to weaken or eliminate those problematic forces. This group activity can help us do that.

This group activity helps people understand more deeply the problems that we want to solve. If we can figure out what has been keeping the problems in place, we can figure out how to weaken or eliminate those root causes.

**Imagine the climate crisis as the big horizontal top part of an ancient Greek temple.**

**A number of pillars prop up the climate crisis, as shown in this photo and the diagram below:**



## The Climate Crisis

Mania for individual consumer goods, automobiles, air travel, etc.	Economic and political power of fossil fuel industry	Electoral system based on Big Money donations	Capitalism and wealth are valued more than nature, health or science	Inertia of the status quo rather than consciously choosing alternatives	<i>What else?</i>					
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### How to dismantle the “pillars” that sustain the climate crisis:

- (1) Identify the pillars that actually caused the climate crisis – and that continue to support it and prop it up. Five of those pillars are labeled above. What additional pillars can we identify? Write them in the blank spaces above.
- (2) Deal separately with **each specific** pillar. For **each** pillar we can analyze, strategize, and organize how to effectively weaken or remove that particular pillar.
- (3) When we weaken or remove enough pillars, the climate crisis will collapse. While we’re weakening and removing the existing pillars, we can also be building alternative new pillars to support a sustainable society to instead of this crisis.
- (4) In doing this work we will reach out to wider and wider concentric circles of **strategic allies** (those who agree with our goals) and **tactical allies** (those who share a common interest in weakening or removing that particular pillar).
- (5) Simultaneously start **building fair, just, effective alternatives** to replace the pillars, so we can create, build and sustain clean energy alternatives, a new economy, new politics, a new culture, and other changes that will be healthy, humane, scientifically valid, satisfying, and sustainable for the U.S. and the rest of the world.