

# Combatting the Methods of State Capture

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Capture of the nation-state – government, opposition, public service, other institutions, & mass media – by powerful vested interests

## Captors

- ★ Fossil fuel, armaments, finance, property, pharmaceutical & gambling industries
- ★ Neoclassical economists promoting neoliberal ideologies
- ★ Foreign governments or the military-industrial complex ruling those governments



# Existential Threat to Civilisation: Nuclear War



Position of clock hands based on climate change and threat of nuclear war.

- USA Vs China;
- NATO Vs Russia;
- USA & Israel Vs Iran

Australia would be involved & impacted

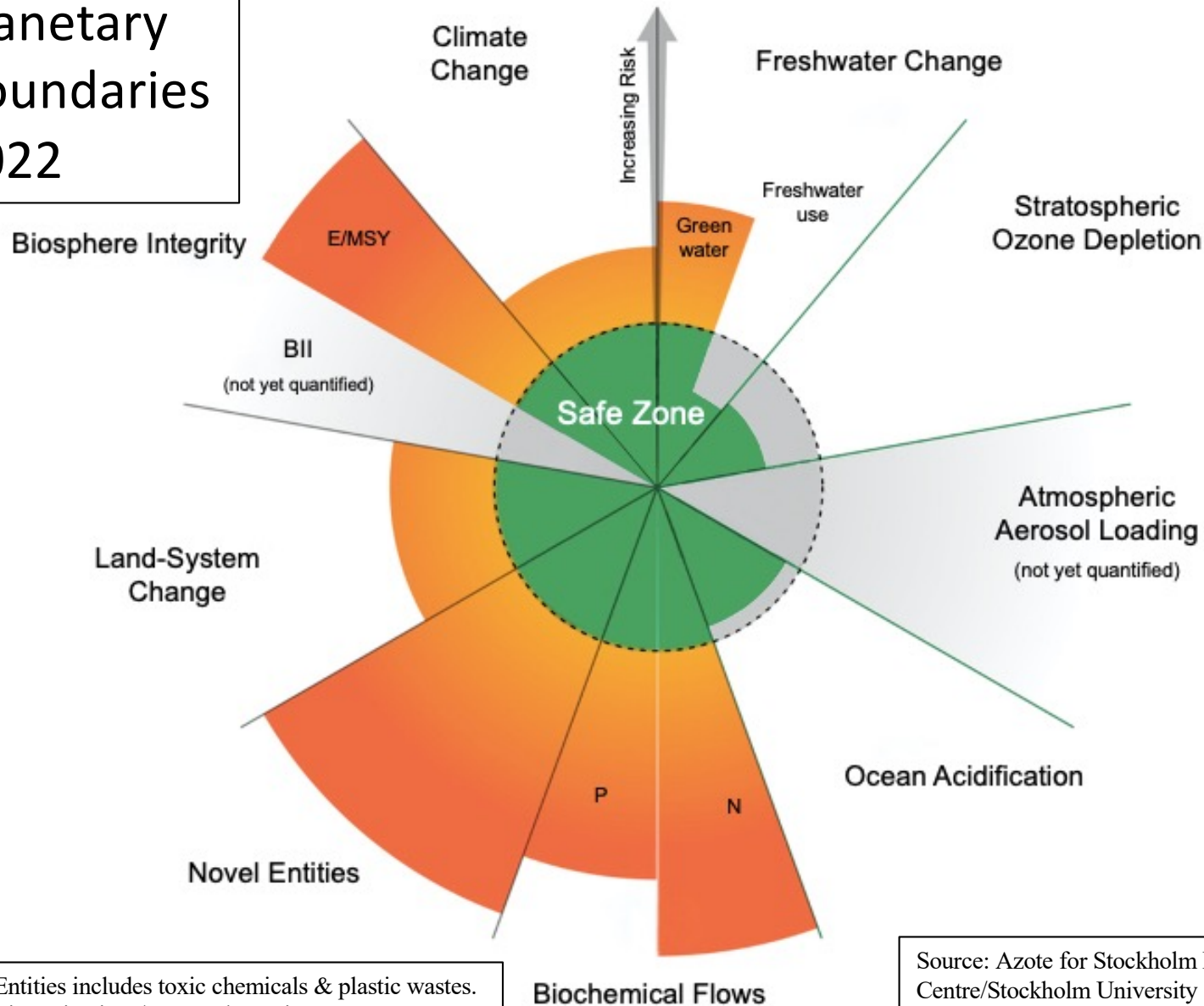
Doomsday clock  
In 2025, moved to  
89 seconds to  
midnight

The image of the Doomsday  
Clock is reproduced with the  
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# Environmental Existential Threats to Civilisation

## Planetary Boundaries 2022



Novel Entities includes toxic chemicals & plastic wastes.  
E/MSY is Extinctions/Mammal Species Years

Source: Azote for Stockholm Resilience Centre/Stockholm University

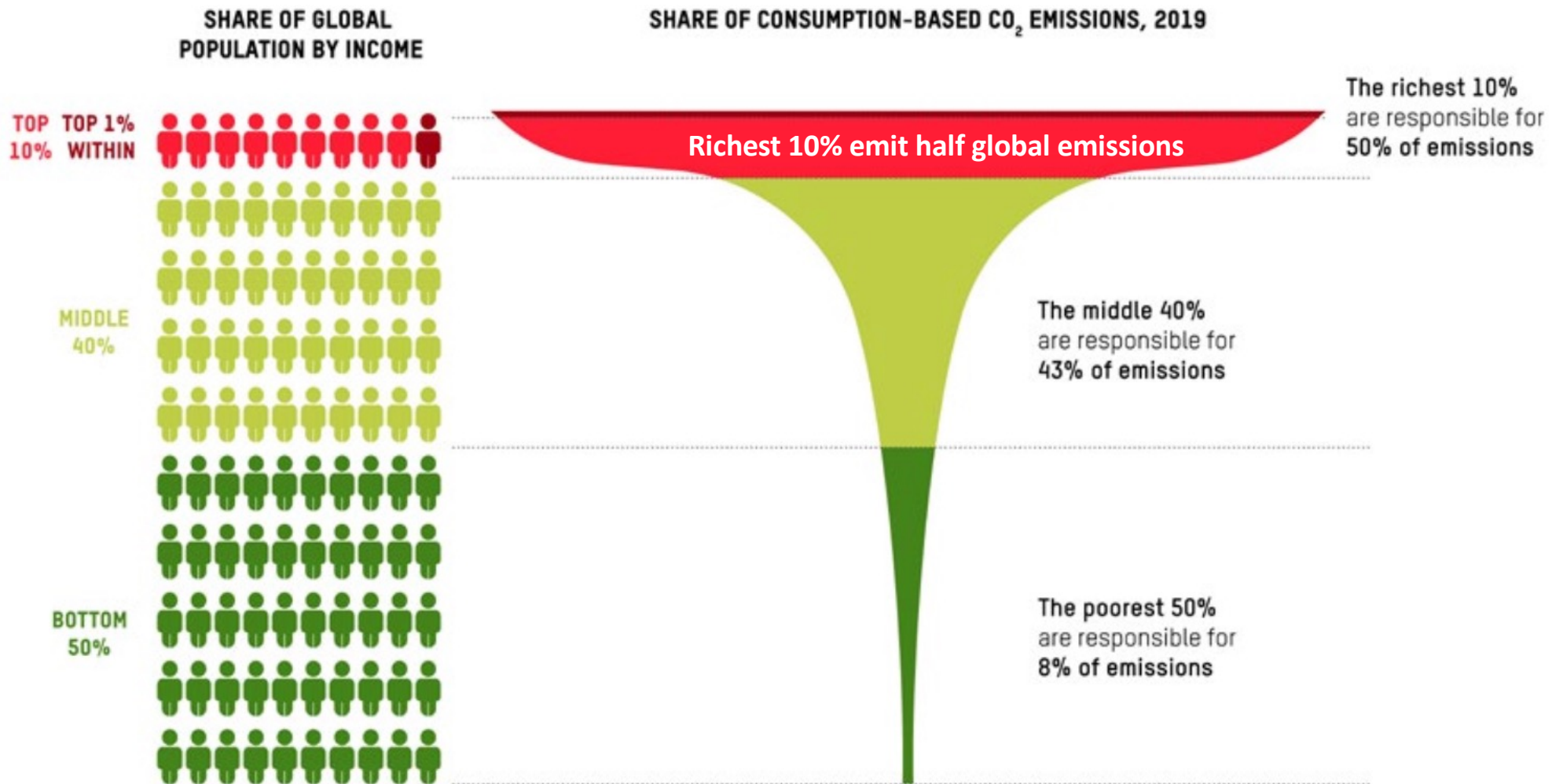
# Inequality in Australia

Source: ACOSS & UNSW (2024)  
2019 data

	Lowest 20%	Highest 20%	Factor
Average weekly income	\$794	\$4,306	5.4
Average wealth net of debt	\$41,000	\$3,627,000	88.5

# Share of Consumption-Based Global CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions, 2019

Source: Oxfam (2023)



Trying to kill 10 flies simultaneously with 10 fingers



# Threats and Vested Interests Responsible

Threat	Principal vested interests
Environmental, incl. climate change	Fossil fuel, nuclear, aluminium, steel, forestry, agriculture industries
Social injustice & oppression	Big business; rich individuals; financial services & property industries; autocratic governments; gov'ts of the Global North;
All war	Armaments industry; military industrial complex; powerful nation-states grabbing land & other resources
Nuclear war	As for All War + nuclear energy industry
All threats	Economic system, with ideologies of endless growth, leave it to the market, trickle-down wealth, money-based values

# State Capture: Methods

**Billionaires, betting companies and 'dark' donations: 2023-24's political finance data released**

- ✦ Political donations & election expenditure
- ✦ Revolving door jobs
- ✦ Concentrated media ownership
- ✦ Social media campaigns
- ✦ Think tanks (e.g. IPA; ASPI)
- ✦ Consultancies to government
- ✦ Loans by foreign governments & international agencies
- ✦ Trade dependence
- ✦ Neoliberal ideologies
- ✦ Subversion, assassination, threats, invasion



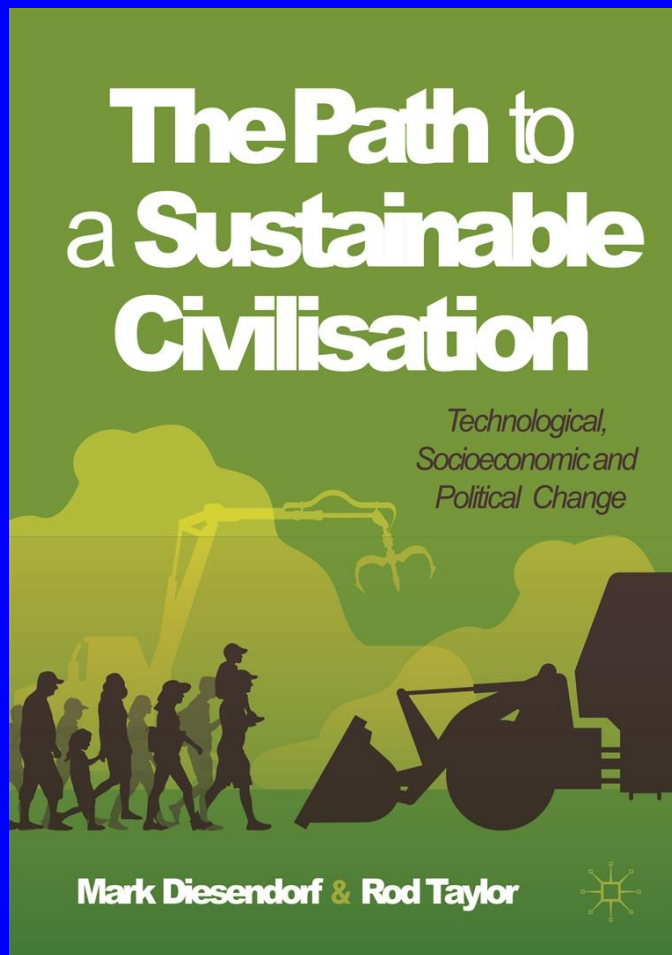
# The Need for a Stronger Social Change Movement

- ★ Form alliances of environmental, public health, social justice, trade union and peace organizations to pressure governments to combat the driving forces of common to all these issues



- ★ The driving forces are state capture by vested interests and the dominant economic system that supports these interests

# Further Information



Mark Diesendorf (2025). A strategy for resisting  
the vested interests driving the collapse of the  
biosphere and civilisation

*Ecological Civilisation 2:10005.*

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