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Subject: Scary Stuff

Posted by [Javaxcx](#) on Sun, 07 Mar 2004 16:48:16 GMT

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It is a serious problem that needs to be addressed. As that page says, it's alot like the action on how a story is written.

We started really not to long ago relying on oil as a primary fuel source, so it was really inexpensive back then when it was in abundance and fairly easy to obtain. As we got more of it, it just got cheaper, so we used MORE of it -- and thrived. I agree with the author in that we've already passed the climax of this "story" and are starting to receed. Oil will get scarser, and the cost will increase. As the cost becomes so high, that only the very rich can maintain it, supply and demand will cause simple products like lumber, steel, and plastics to shoot up **DRASTICALLY**. People will simply not be able to afford basic things that we take for granted now.

It soon will get to a point where we cannot produce affordable electrocity (if we keep blindly thinking that we have an unlimited amount of petrolium) for the entire world (yes, the US isn't the **ONLY** country out there). When this happens, you'll find you won't have heat one day, then you won't have food, then ultimately, you won't even have clean water -- or water pressure to run your taps for that matter.

I think it's pretty obvious what will happen if all of the above happen in a short time span.

As the author stated, while alternative energy methods can both lower the dependancy on oil, they cannot replace the things such as oil lubricants, plastics, and what not. While I know oil makes a good lubricant, I think a plausible alternative to using oil-based lubricants is to use something basic. For those of you who know anything about Chemistry, bases are slippery. Whether or not they're work for lubrication, I don't know.

Another major factor is time. What was it, 16 years at BEST? Thats not nearly enough time to produce massive amounts of alternative energies... and thats assuming the world finally clues in that this issue **NEEDS** to be addressed... **NOW**. I personally get the feeling that people won't clue in till well after it's too late. I'm talking not 5 or 6 years before oil becomes infeasible.

While I don't believe America invaded Iraq for the oil, (which may or may not remain to be seen), Iraq's oil is only a temperary solution. It is far more likely that America will sign an oil contract between the "new Iraq" and themselves to mine and export oil overseas, which sounds a bit more realistic. Again, a temperary solution. Once people see oil flowing in again, they're totally forget that it is **STILL** in limitted supply.

Of course, I can think of a number of alternative energy plans: Geothermal (which wasn't mentioned on the author's page), oceanic "water wheels", even solar cells installed onto suburban homes to produce energy for the home and releave some of the dependancy on the local power facilities. While I'm sure it doesn't take 16 years to install generators into people's roofs, or mine deep enough to create a geothermic vent, I don't see people doing en masse unless it's appealing to them, and their budgets.

In all likelihood, something probably will not be done. People nowadays conform to what is here and now, and almost never heed warnings. How many people do you see littering daily, even though they know they are hurting the earth? People are buying more cars now than ever, less public transit and so on. I don't know if it's arrogance, but if that's the trend and the way it's going, the only people you'll see not going through DRASTIC change in not 20 years, are those who live off the land.

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