

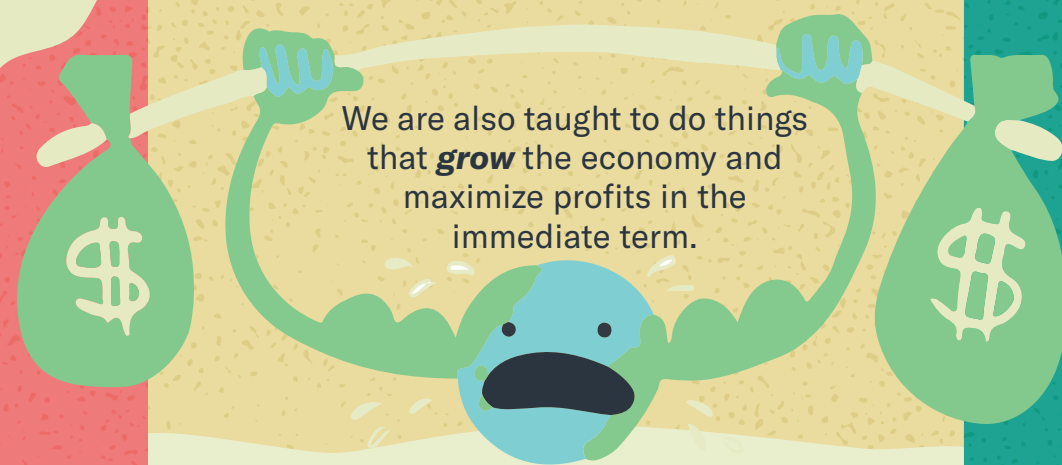
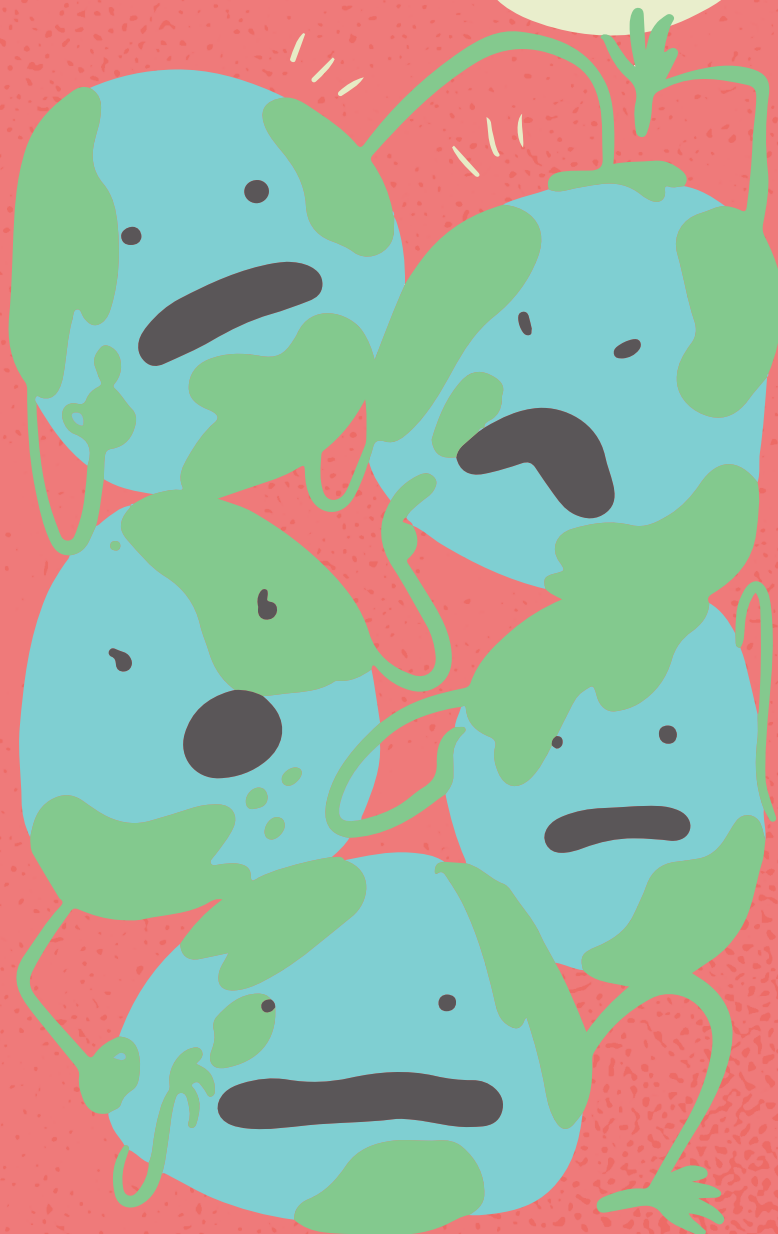
Demystifying Degrowth



We are taught that buying more things—not later, but right now—is **good** for us and good for the economy.



But we aren't taught that if everyone in the world today consumed as much as the average U.S. citizen, we would need **five planets**.



We are also taught to do things that **grow** the economy and maximize profits in the immediate term.

But quarterly earnings increase **quicker** over new luxury condos than community health clinics.

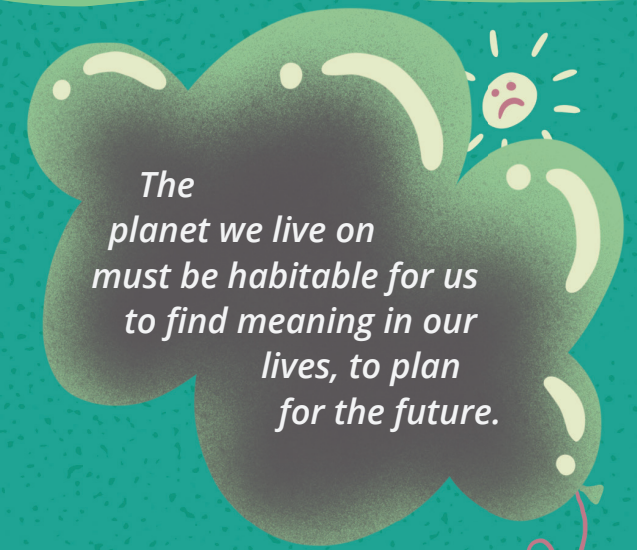
Arming millions of soldiers for war **swells** the economy more than conflict mitigation.



Instead of extending the life of every product to reduce waste, the market encourages us to replace our electronics each year and buy **new** clothes every season.



Our economy is based on our right to consume, but not our right to **live**. It doesn't even recognize our natural world at all. But the soil must be fertile for us to eat. The air and water must be clean for us to sustain ourselves.



The planet we live on must be habitable for us to find meaning in our lives, to plan for the future.

How can the economy be reassembled to grow *these things*?



This is the core of **degrowth**, which embraces a care-based economy. Meaning, **what we produce** is in accordance with ecological limits and **how we divide it up** is to fulfill everyone's needs.



Think of work that does **not** inherently require consumption or mass production, and instead sustains life... Teaching children how to read, helping people heal from trauma, or restoring acres after acres of soil, those are all degrowth!

Taking care of the elderly, building grassroots organization—you fill in the blanks.



A society that defines productivity and labor not in terms of revenue produced, but in terms of time dedicated to oneself, to family, friends, and to activities in which one's humanity is affirmed & confirmed.

Imagine: a world that measures wealth and prosperity not by how life is destroyed, but how life is created, restored, nourished. A world that ensures future generations clean air, water, and soil.

Degrowth is a new vocabulary and a movement, to unlearn the dominant ideology of infinite growth that has been ingrained in every aspect of our individual and collective lives.

It's more than possible.
It is **necessary.**

By organizing ourselves and our priorities around the principles of **care**, **sufficiency**, and **autonomy**, we also reduce our consumption levels of energy and materials.

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