Denialism
God regularly intervenes in world affairs

Miracles happen all the time
James Inhofe -- US Senator from Oklahoma (current chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee)
My point is God’s still up there. And this is -- the arrogance of people who think that we human beings would be able to change what He is doing in the climate is to me outrageous.

VCY America, Christian Information Radio
James Inhofe -- US Senator from Oklahoma

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Dollars (in millions)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agribusiness</td>
<td>$196.5K</td>
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<tr>
<td>Communications/Electronics</td>
<td>$122K</td>
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<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>$253.3K</td>
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<tr>
<td>Defense</td>
<td>$231K</td>
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<tr>
<td>Energy &amp; Natural Resources</td>
<td>$772.1K</td>
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<td>Finance, Insurance &amp; Real Estate</td>
<td>$404.8K</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lawyers &amp; Lobbyists</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>$272.5K</td>
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<tr>
<td>Misc Business</td>
<td>$288.1K</td>
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<td>Labor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ideological/Single-Issue</td>
<td>$319.5K</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
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<td><strong>Total (in millions)</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,806.6K</strong></td>
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</table>
But it is deeper than just corporate shills
There was a consensus on the reality of climate change by the early 1990s (Orestes article in Science in 2004).

Why deniers? Where did they come from? Are they nothing more than corporate shills?
Frank Luntz (Republican party strategist)

• “The scientific debate remains open. Voters believe that there is no consensus about global warming within the scientific community. Should the public come to believe that the scientific issues are settled, their views about global warming will change accordingly. Therefore you need to make the lack of scientific certainty a primary issue in the debate.” 2006

• Persistent contemporary utility: Climate denial as a tool for winning elections. Current form “I’m not a scientist.”
Campaign to cast doubt by claiming the science is unsettled.

Where does the strategy come from? It’s not just an invention of Lutz. Its origins can be traced back to a few influential individuals, and previous similar campaigns.
Campaign to cast doubt by claiming the science is unsettled.

Frederick Seitz

President of National Science Foundation, Rockefeller University, consultant to A. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co.
December 1953. CEOs of Philip Morris, Benson and Hedges, American Tobacco and US Tobacco met at the Plaza Hotel in New York, following the publication of research on the carcinogenic effects of cigarettes.

Contracted the PR firm Hill and Knowlton.

H and K recommend establishment of a Tobacco Industry “Committee for Public Information.” It would promote ‘general awareness of the big IF issues involved’ with the aim of ‘establishing a controversy at the public level.’

Establishment of the Tobacco Industry Research Committee
Seitz, as a consultant to the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co.,
helped develop the strategy of the tobacco industry to defend its product through “doubt-mongering”
insisting that the science was unsettled.
Distinguished authorities point out:

1. That medical research of recent years indicates many possible causes of lung cancer.
2. That there is no agreement among the authorities regarding what the cause is.
3. That there is no proof that cigarette smoking is one of the causes.
4. That statistics purporting to link cigarette smoking with the disease could apply with equal force to any one of many other aspects of modern life. Indeed, the validity of the statistics themselves is questioned by numerous scientists.

These statements with some have given cigarette smoking in some unscientific way a fictitious standing, and I believe that any serious attempt to educate the public interest in calling for research and research in calling for research and research on the significance of these findings is not consistent with the interest of scientific research in calling for research and research on the significance of these findings.

1. We are pledging aid and assistance to the research effort into all phases of tobacco use and health. This joint financial aid will of course be in addition to what is already being contributed by individual companies.
2. For this purpose we are establishing a joint industry group consisting initially of the undersigned. This group will be known as TOBACCO INDUSTRY RESEARCH COMMITTEE.
3. In charge of the research activities of the Committee will be a scientific staff of research and research in calling for research and research on the significance of these findings.

This statement is being issued because we believe the people are entitled to know where we stand on this matter and what we intend to do about it.

TOBACCO INDUSTRY RESEARCH COMMITTEE
5499 EMPIRE STATE BUILDING, NEW YORK 1, N.Y.

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‘Silent Spring’ Is
Pesticides Industry
Up in Arms Over a New Book

By JOHN M. LEE

The $300,000,000 pesticides industry has been highly irritated by a quiet woman author whose previous works on science have been praised for the beauty and precision of the writing.

The author is Rachel Carson, whose “The Sea Around Us” and “The Edge of the Sea” were best sellers in 1951 and 1955. Miss Carson, trained as a marine biologist, wrote gracefully of sea and shore life.

In her latest work, however, Miss Carson is not so gentle, fending the use of their products. Meetings have been held in Washington and New York. Statements are being drafted and counter-attacks plotted.

A drowsy midsummer has suddenly been enlivened by the greatest uproar in the pesticides industry since the cranberry scare of 1959.

Miss Carson’s new book is entitled “Silent Spring.” The title is derived from an idealized situation in which Miss Carson envisions an imaginary town where chemical pollution has silenced “the voices of spring.”
The good hearted folks who worry about environmental damage of X are simply wrong about the science. Thus far there is no credible scientific evidence that X is harmful. But it is clear that X would have major benefits for you and yours.
Star Wars (SDI)

6500 scientists and engineers signed a petition and declared a boycott of program funds for SDI.

In opposition were Seitz, and a couple of others who insisted that SDI was feasible, necessary and urgent.
George C. Marshall Institute
Think tank in DC, established in 1984

Robert Jastrow
Astrophysicist, Head of Goddard Space Institute.

Frederick Seitz
President of National Science Foundation,
Rockefeller University, consultant to A. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co.

William Nierenburg
Asst. Prof of Physics, University of Michigan

Nuclear Physicist and long time director of Scripps Institute of Oceanography
• All three joined an advisory panel to the Reagan Administration on SDI (Star Wars)

• Founded the George C. Marshall Institute to defend SDI against scientists’ boycott (1984)
1984 – 1989

Jastrow, Seitz and Nierenberg worked to defend SDI by promoting an alarming view of Soviet strength and a frightening picture of American weakness.
1989 – SDI support and tobacco strategy merge in support of a new enemy
Environmental “extremism”: the exaggeration of environmental threats by people with a left wing agenda.
Application of the “tobacco strategy”
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Robert Jastrow
"Now we see how the astronomical evidence leads to a Biblical view of the Origin of the world: the chain of events leading to man commenced suddenly and sharply in a definite moment of light..." 1989

Frederick Seitz
"Research data on climate change do not show that human use of hydrocarbons is harmful. To the contrary, there is good evidence that increased atmospheric carbon dioxide is environmentally helpful."

William Nierenburg
"The available data on climate change do not support these predictions, nor do they support the idea that human activity has or will cause, a dangerous increase in global temperatures. Theoretical estimates of the greenhouse problem have greatly exaggerated its seriousness."
Environmental “extremism”

Health consequences of tobacco
Reality of acid rain
The Ozone hole
DDT and other pesticides
Concerns over GMOs in agriculture
Climate change

Orestes and Conway – it is not just corporate shills and money matters.
Environmental “extremism” versus Free Market Fundamentalism

Government regulation associated with environmentalism represents a slippery slope to Socialism

Relationship to cold war hysteria and SDI
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“And then there are probably those with hidden agendas of their own—not just to ‘save the environment’ but to change our economic system. Some of these ‘coercive utopians’ are socialists, some are technology-hating Luddites; most have a great desire to regulate—on as large a scale as possible.”

George C. Marshal Institute

• “Many of the temperature data and computer models used to predict climate change are . . . uncertain as are our understanding of important interaction in the natural climate, . . . Reducing these many uncertainties requires a significant shift in the way climate change research is carried out in the U. S. and elsewhere.”

• 2010
S. Fred Singer

The second threat to Europe came from the post-1945 Soviet Union; it was dominated by the specter of ballistic missiles and nuclear weapons. . . . This “Cold-War” threat was neutralized thanks to the steadfastness of the United States — but also by the internal economic problems brought about by the planned economy of the Soviet empire.

The new threat of course is Islamo-Fascism and its aim to introduce Sharia [into] the world. This new threat uses a method of warfare that is different from the past and more insidious. Terrorism has come into its own, partly based on large Islamic populations in Western Europe.

Coupled with this external threat is the internal one from Islamic fanatics, many of them born in Europe — and even from converts. We have seen this happen in Spain, and more recently in Britain. Their methods have been crude and their weapons have been primitive; but with nuclear proliferation and with the possibility of chemical and biological warfare, these threats have to be taken very seriously. Fighting these threats takes resources . . . [requiring] above all a strong economy. And one cannot have a strong economy without adequate energy resources – which gets us back to the issue of climate fears.
The problem now is that while the threat of terrorism is growing, so is the suicidal drive to limit the use of energy and thereby also economic growth. This internal threat is particularly strong in Europe and has been called, quite properly, eco-Bolshevism. It would have all the earmarks of the failed Soviet system, with government involvement in every facet of the economy and with energy restrictions reducing economic growth.

There is no question that the policies being discussed now in Europe and in the United States would be extremely costly, would force industrial cutbacks and of course massive job losses. All of these exacerbate social tension in nations that have a large number of immigrants, who traditionally have the highest unemployment levels.
Naomi Oreskes “Merchants of Doubt”

• Story of selling “uncertainty” to stave off government regulation and protect the free market (as certain people understood it).

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P6LZ8_kjF_0