Climate change: Ecosocialist social movement responses to the interrelated environmental, economic, political and social justice crises of the early 21st century

For interview participants

1. Invitation
My name is Eve Croeser, and I am a PhD candidate enrolled in the Faculty of Arts at the University of Tasmania (UTAS). In this research, which will contribute towards my PhD studies in Political Science, I would like to explore the potential contributions ecosocialism could make to the interrelated environmental, economic and social global challenges humanity currently faces as it seems clear that existing institutional structures are inadequate to the task of addressing these pressing crises. My supervisor is Associate Professor Fred Gale, whose research areas include critical political economy and whose work includes environmental and sustainability issues such as sustainable consumption and production.

2. What is the purpose of this study?
This study of ecosocialist social movements aims to:

- understand the relationship between ecosocialist social movements and the wider environmental and climate justice movements; and
- identify some of the current and potential strengths and weaknesses of the ecosocialist social movement.

3. Why have I been invited to participate?
Having read about your group’s work on your website, I would like to interview you to find out more about your group: its history, aims, and activities. Your participation in this research is, of course, completely voluntary.

4. What will I be asked to do?
As a participant in my research, I would like to interview you in order to discuss your group’s work and how it relates to other ecosocialist groups and the broader ecosocialist social movement with regard to climate change and future directions. The interviews will be semi-structured so that you can raise issues of importance I may be unaware of at this point in time; my attitude to this research is one of working closely with participants and is intended to be collaborative.

The interviews will take place at a time and place of your choosing and, if this suits you better, could also be conducted via electronic communication media (e.g. Skype). Initial interviews will be about an hour long, and subsequent communications (and the form these take) will be negotiated with you. If you agree, I would also appreciate your permission to audio-record the interviews as this will enable me to prepare an accurate transcript of our discussions and will also allow me to engage in discussions without the distraction of taking notes as we talk.
To ensure that all my data correctly represent your views and the work of your group, I will provide a copy of the transcripts of the interviews as well as a copy of the draft chapter that interprets and analyses your group for comment and feedback.

The sorts of questions I will ask during the interviews relate to the history, organizational structure and current activities of your group, where it fits in within the broader global justice movement, and its strengths and how these are being developed. As noted previously, the research is designed to be collaborative and I am prepared to consider issues raised by you as needing urgent attention.

5. **Are there any possible benefits from participation in this study?**
I believe that the opportunity for critical reflection that your participation in this research project would provide could benefit your group and the larger social and ecological justice movement. This research could also contribute a growing awareness in the wider ecosocialist and global justice movements of common issues being debated within them.

6. **Are there any possible risks from participation in this study?**
I will do my utmost to ensure that this research study does not present any risks either to you, your group or the wider ecosocialist movement. Data obtained from you during interviews will be de-identified and coded, and will be stored securely; however, because I will be interviewing a relatively small sample of individuals active in the movement, it is possible that you could be personally identified despite my attempts to ensure your anonymity and it is important that you be aware of this when deciding whether or not to participate in this research. Having worked in the student anti-Apartheid movement myself as an undergraduate student in South Africa in the late 1970s and the early 1980s, I have a keen awareness of the sensitivity of some information about social movements and will ensure that published work takes this into account. Another safeguard I have put in place is the process of providing you with opportunities to provide feedback at different stages of the research project so that you can alert me to potentially sensitive information.

7. **What if I change my mind during or after the study?**
Your participation in this research is at all times entirely voluntary, and you are free to withdraw your participation at any time. In addition, you can withdraw without providing any explanations to me. Should you wish to withdraw your participation, any data I have collected from you will not be used as part of the research and all copies of it (such as audio recordings and interview transcripts) will be destroyed. As I plan to submit the dissertation for review and publication by June 2016, you can withdraw your personal data up to and including 29 February 2016.

8. **What will happen to the information when this study is over?**
Data obtained in the interviews will be treated with high confidentiality and will be stored securely. University regulations require that such research data be kept for 5 years from the date of first publication of the PhD thesis; after this period, I will ensure that the data are securely destroyed.

9. **How will the results of the study be published?**
The results of this research study will be published primarily in the form of a PhD dissertation, but may also be published in the form of academic papers in academic journals.
and presentations at academic conferences. I also intend to publish a book on the ecosocialist movement based on the dissertation. I will provide you with copies of written drafts of dissertation chapters that describe and analyse your group and will invite your feedback and comments on this work. Unless you provide specific permission to be identified in any of the published work, I will make every attempt to ensure that your contributions to the research is anonymous.

10. What if I have questions about this study?
If you have any questions about this study, please feel free to send me an email; if need be, we could organize to discuss the questions by telephone or via Skype or, if this is appropriate, I could respond via email. My email address is ecroeser@utas.edu.au. If you prefer to discuss any issues arising from this research with someone else, or are for some reason not able to contact me, you could contact my PhD supervisor (this research project’s chief investigator), Associate Professor Fred Gale. Fred’s email address is Fred.Gale@utas.edu.au.

This study has been approved by the Tasmanian Social Sciences Human Research Ethics Committee. If you have concerns or complaints about the conduct of this study, please contact the Executive Officer of the HREC (Tasmania) Network on +61 3 6226 6254 or email human.ethics@utas.edu.au. The Executive Officer is the person nominated to receive complaints from research participants. Please quote ethics reference number H0014070.

Please note that this information sheet is yours and does not need to be returned to me. If, however, you decide to participate in this research, you will need to sign the attached consent form and return the signed copy to me. I look forward to working with you on this project should you decide to participate.
Cuban Revolution, armed uprising in Cuba that overthrew the government of Fulgencio Batista on January 1, 1959. The revolution had as its genesis a failed assault on the Santiago de Cuba army barracks on July 26, 1953. That attack’s leader, Fidel Castro, went on to rule Cuba from 1959 to 2008. U.S. rule and the creation of the Cuban Republic. Independence, instability, and continued U.S. intervention. The rule of Fulgencio Batista. The rise of Castro and the outbreak of revolution. Castro returns to Cuba. 1958, the decisive year. The Nicaraguan Revolution began in the early 1960s with the founding of the FSLN and ended with the 1979 overthrow of the Somoza dictatorship. The Nicaraguan Revolution was a decades-long process meant to liberate the small Central American country from both U.S. imperialism and the repressive Somoza dictatorship. It began in the early 1960s with the founding of the Sandinista National Liberation front (FSLN), but didn't truly ramp up until the mid-1970s. It culminated in fighting between the Sandinista rebels and the National Guard from 1978 to 1979, when the FSLN succeeded in overthrowing the dictatorship. The Sandinistas ruled from 1979 to 1990, which is considered to be the year the Revolution ended. Fast Facts: The Nicaraguan Re... Number 174 RELIGION AND REVOLUTION: CUBA AND NICARAGUA Margaret Crahan, Henry R. Luce Professor of Religion, Power and Political Process Occidental College. Number 174 RELIGION AND REVOLUTION: CUBA AND NICARAGUA Margaret Crahan, Henry R. Luce Professor of Religion, Power and Political Process Occidental College. Charges that the Cuban and Nicaraguan governments were intent on creating docile national churches have been made repeatedly. In the fall of 1959 two Cuban priests in Miami mounted a campaign charging that Castro planned to create a national church. This was strongly denied by the Bishop of Pinar del Rio, Evelio Diaz, on behalf of the Cuban hierarchy.