

economics

[THE HAMMER PROJECT]

This was especially important to me because I typically engage with the more direct and semidirect issues (like zero waste and embodied water, respectively), but let the effects of my investments go by the wayside. When my parents told me I should apply for a credit card, I specifically looked up where I could make the most impact, and looked at a number of banks that would allow me to directly donate any money made to charity. However, after a lot of research I decided to bank with Capitol One (a big bank, bad but not the worst) and pledged to pay off my balance immediately every month so that they don't make any money off me and donate all of the cash back bonuses to environmental organizations. This challenge allows me to confront this more directly instead of shirking away from a complicated issue.

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I bank with First Republic, and they're a relatively small bank with little notable investments. From what I was able to find, I believe that their investment practices do align with my beliefs, since the Sunflower Alliance, who notably encourage bay area investors to move their money from banks who supported DAPL and big oil to more ethical banks. Since they have a history of activism and environmental aims, I mostly trust their judgment and am happy banking with First Republic. If I had found problematic investment practices, I would have definitely said it was time to talk with my parents about moving all of our accounts, since my mom especially is receptive to socially conscious lifestyle choices.

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Remember DAPL? It got built. It's an insidious snake piping millions of gallons of climate-destabilizing oil and has an extremely high propensity (if this hasn't happened quite a bit already) for leaking toxic chemicals into the drinking water of the Dakota tribe and other indigenous people.

Get ANGRY. This is an assault on human rights. This is a tragedy that the world has forgotten because Big Oil won. The CEOs are sipping cocktails on their yachts laughing about the money they're making at the expense of human lives, at the expense of entire cultures, and at the expense of the environment that they forget we all share.

Today's topic in Project Green Challenge is Economics, and my plea is two-fold.

One, look up what your bank does with your money. It takes some digging. Consider the magnitude of the evil or good they can do with your money, and switch to a more ethical bank if you can.

Two, don't stop caring about these environmental and human rights catastrophes. Here's another example of profit at the expense of people, and another chance to funnel your anger and frustration into trying to be that straw that breaks an arrogant, malicious, Big Oil-funding bank's back.

The Dakota Access Pipeline's completion is an abomination. Take 2 minutes and do the bare minimum to push for it to be the beginning of the end.

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Travis Kwee

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Stop the Destructive "Back Forty" Mine

Toronto-based Aquila Resources is planning to dig an open-pit sulfide mine 150 feet from the Menominee River, which runs along the Wisconsin-Upper Michigan border. This is an outrageous assault on the drinking water of a good portion of the upper...

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Travis Kwee

Just now · Houston · 🌐 ▼

As a follow up to my last post, the Dakota Access Pipeline has faded from people's minds and in relevance, but it shouldn't.

Here's a list of alternative options because the banks that funded DAPL are going to continue funding these unconscionable humanitarian disasters unless we start doing something about it. Most of you are not yet making a significant amount of money, so now's the perfect chance to start off on a good foot.

Turning Green #PGC2017



Is Your Bank Funding DAPL? Here's How to Find One That Isn't

There's an entire industry of ethically minded banks and financial institutions out there to choose from.

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In case any of my friends decide to take immediate action with regards to their banking practices, I did a little digging and came up with this nice guide to finding alternative banks based on your geographic region, and felt compelled to share it as well.