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Resolved: The University of Denver Should Divest From the Top 200 Fossil Fuel Companies
A Debate Presented by the DU Debate Team to the DU Faculty Senate
April 22, 2016

On Friday April 22, 2016 the University of Denver Debate Team held a debate on the topic of fossil-fuel divestment for the University of Denver Faculty Senate. The debate featured seven speeches addressing three broad issues currently animating the divestment controversy. The first two speeches addressed the efficacy of divestment as a response to climate change (Mohler and Ober). The next two speeches addressed the ethical implications of divestment (Sunshine and Tolleson). The following two speeches addressed the financial implications of divestment in regards to the university's endowment (Pauls and Hickert). The final speech summarized the debate and presented several questions for consideration as the deliberations over divestment continues across campus (Towles).

Jordan Mohler--Pro Divestment I

Today I am going to talk about the responsibility DU has as an ethical actor, providing three areas in which fossil fuel companies have proven to be morally bankrupt. Exploring first, their egregious contribution to climate change, second, their use of violence to ensure profits, and third, their production of fraudulent science.

To begin, DU ought prioritize its role as an ethical actor. Universities are trusted to be the arbiters of truth and knowledge. This institution has been trusted with the responsibility of helping students become productive members of society and more importantly, educating young minds. As an institution boasting outstanding grants for scientific research and a dedication to the education of future leaders, it has become the expectation and the goal of the University of Denver to always stand in favor of sound ethical research. DU in particular is known for our strong Business Ethics program, professors on the forefront of Human Rights research and policy development, and researchers including some of the world's most influential scientific minds.

DU should divest not only because the science supports it, but also because fossil fuel companies for decades have committed acts of violence and fraud that oppose the ethical and educational principles of the university.

First, DU should divest from fossil fuel companies because of their substantial

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the 1990s, the number of people in the world who are illiterate has increased from 1.1 billion to 1.5 billion (UNESCO 2003).

There are a number of reasons for this increase. One of the main reasons is that the population of the world is growing rapidly. In 1990, the world population was 5.3 billion. In 2003, it was 6.1 billion. This means that there are now 800 million more people in the world than there were in 1990. This increase in population has led to a corresponding increase in the number of people who are illiterate.

Another reason for the increase in illiteracy is that the quality of education has declined in many parts of the world. In the 1990s, many countries were unable to provide their citizens with a basic education. This was due to a number of factors, including a lack of funding, a shortage of teachers, and a lack of infrastructure. As a result, many people who were born in the 1990s are now illiterate.

A third reason for the increase in illiteracy is that the number of people who are unable to read and write has increased. This is due to a number of factors, including a lack of access to education, a lack of motivation, and a lack of resources. As a result, many people who are unable to read and write are now illiterate.

The increase in illiteracy has a number of negative consequences. One of the most significant is that it limits the economic and social opportunities available to illiterate people. Illiterate people are often unable to find work, and they are often paid less than literate people. This leads to a cycle of poverty and illiteracy.

Another negative consequence of illiteracy is that it limits the ability of illiterate people to participate in society. Illiterate people are often unable to understand the news, and they are often unable to participate in community activities. This leads to a sense of isolation and marginalization.

The increase in illiteracy is a global problem that needs to be addressed. There are a number of ways in which this problem can be addressed. One way is to increase the number of people who are able to read and write. This can be done by providing more people with access to education, and by improving the quality of education.

Another way to address the problem of illiteracy is to provide illiterate people with the resources they need to learn to read and write. This can be done by providing illiterate people with books, and by providing them with access to literacy programs. This can help illiterate people to gain the skills they need to participate in society.

The increase in illiteracy is a serious problem that has a number of negative consequences. It is important that we take steps to address this problem, so that we can ensure that everyone has the opportunity to learn to read and write. This will help to improve the lives of illiterate people, and it will help to create a more just and equitable world.

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unethical products only at highly discounted rates. This effect is even stronger for people who already have high expectations for ethical business practices.

For The University of Denver, this becomes an extremely important part of the equation. DU is trying to appeal to a generation of students who grew up with more access to information than ever before. The proliferation of information on the internet has created the most politically active generation ever. Nearly every study on the consumer habits of the millennial generation shows that things such as sustainability and social responsibility matter now more than ever. Price and quality simply aren't enough anymore.

Imagine an undecided prospective student touring DU for the first time. She's told about DU's world-

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Lauren Pauls—Pro Divest III

Universities makes political choices all the time. A decade ago, the University of Denver chose to divest all holdings from companies affiliated with the Sudanese government after it committed deplorable acts against its population amidst a civil war. Divesting from Sudan did not mean choosing sides. It meant DU was not complicit, financially or otherwise, in the human rights abuses that occurred. It meant DU committed to the public good.

When our values are political, we make political choices about how to allocate finite resources. A dollar that spent in the name of public good is necessarily one that is NOT spent

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Megan Towles—Summary

Today, I've been asked to give a Whip speech. In our format of British Parliamentary debate which takes its inspiration from the British house of commons, uses this speech as summation speech meant to help sort through the arguments presented today in a way that w

