

Blase Bonpane on WORLD FOCUS,

Dr. Helen Caldicott

Aired on PACIFICA RADIO NETWORK by way of KPFK, Los Angeles

January 25, 2015

Hello, this is Blase Bonpane with World Focus, produced by the Office of the Americas and available at KPFK.org, where we are heard internationally.

Today, I'm honored to have Dr. Helen Caldicott as a guest. Dr. Caldicott is a physician who previously taught pediatrics at Harvard Medical School. Nobel Laureate Linus Pauley nominated her for the Nobel Prize. Helen Caldicott is also the founding president of Physicians for Social Responsibility, which is part of International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War - an organization that was awarded a Nobel Prize in 1985. Actually, Dr. Helen Caldicott has become the strongest and most knowledgeable international spokesperson to demand an end to nuclear weapons and nuclear power. She is the recipient of 21 honorary doctoral degrees as a result of her efforts to end the clear and present danger of nuclear annihilation. Her latest book focuses on the medical and ecological consequences of the Fukushima nuclear catastrophe, a crisis without end.

Welcome, Dr. Caldicott.

Helen: Thank you, Blase.

Blase: I'm so happy to hear of your announcement of a symposium on the dynamics of possible nuclear extinction. Tell me about it.

Helen: One of the ways - we could have a nuclear war - I was compelled to do this because I read an article in the Atlantic Monthly some months ago quoting Stephen Hawking and Max Tegmark, both of whom are deeply involved in artificial intelligence. They were saying that within ten to twenty years, computers will be so autonomous that they'll be able to reproduce

themselves. They will take over almost every function that people do - like planting crops, harvesting, everything - but they were most concerned that the computers themselves could initiate a nuclear war. And I got a very big shock when I read that. I thought, my God, I'd better do something about this. I knew nothing about it. I got in touch with Max Tegmark, one of the people who made that statement, and he's speaking at the symposium. I gather a lot of other people from many perspectives to address how we could be blown off the face of the earth - like tomorrow. We've lived with this for many many years, but the risk is actually higher now because of the fact that America and Russia are getting hostile toward each other because of the Ukraine, where the coup was orchestrated by America. And so, things are tenuous, and no one knows about it, no one is talking about it, not even Obama now, not other elected officials or even the public. We're living on the edge of a nuclear precipice without understanding or knowing anything about it.

Blase: Many of our intellectuals seem to be aware...we have a Bulletin of the Atomic Scientist that just came out saying it's now three minutes to midnight. Kenneth Benedict, executive director of the Bulletin of Atomic Scientists said it at a news conference yesterday. "The probability of global catastrophe is very high." This is about the end of civilization as we know it. Now the three minutes is the closest to midnight that the clock has been since 1984 during the Cold War. The closest it's ever been was two minutes in 1953 when the hydrogen bomb was first tested. It keeps getting closer and closer to nuclear disaster and, as the song goes, When Will They Ever Learn.

Helen: Yes. Kenneth Benedict is going to be the moderator during the first day of the symposium, which is very good. I've got a lot of very interesting people addressing many subjects. I'm hoping - and praying, really - that the major media, mainstream media, will cover this conference. Last year I had a conference on Fukushima, as you mentioned, and I couldn't attract any mainstream media at all. It's very, very frustrating. FOX is a good indicator of where the media go. Even the New York Times is really bad on Ukraine, same with the Washington Post, and they need a kick in the pants, really. I don't know where their heads are.

Blase: It's a critical moment, and here, your recent book is not about the immediate danger of the nuclear bomb, but about the horror of Fukushima, which you make clear is worse than Chernobyl. We have radiation in the Pacific Ocean, is that correct?

Helen: Every day since the accident nearly four years ago now, four hundred tons of extremely radioactive water has poured consistently into the Pacific every day. And what happens is, although the Pacific is a very deep body of water and the radiation becomes diluted, the food chain concentrates radiation. For instance, whether it's cesium or strontium or over a hundred other isotopes, they concentrate in the algae, and then concentrate more in the crustaceans that eat the algae, and then concentrate more in the little fish that eat the crustaceans, and further concentrate when big fish eat the little fish. So we're the top of the food chain, and these isotopes concentrate most highly in us. So, if you catch a fish - and radiation is starting to appear in fish off California now -- you know that all these isotopes are in the fish. You can't taste, smell or see it, and if you eat it, then the isotopes would lodge in your brain, in your muscles, in your heart, strontium in your bones, tritium all over your body. And you know it's in your body and these isotopes irradiate a few cells over many years. And it takes 2-80 years to develop a cancer post radiation. The incubation period for cancer is a very long time.

Blase: The ocean certainly can die. And it's good for us to think about the fact that there is only one ocean. We call part the Pacific, but it's the same ocean around the world, and there is very much concern that the ocean may be dying, not only for this reason, but for many other reasons. We have to realize it's not a garbage can, and that the great forms of life, greater than those on the land, are able to pass away rather quickly. Now how is it that people who are allegedly sane can promote this kind of energy so avidly, not only in the United States but also in Japan? How are they thinking?

Helen: Well, Atoms for Peace was devised by people in the Pentagon. Eisenhower launched Atoms for Peace in the 50s, and it was postulated by psychologists in the Pentagon that if people thought, oh, nuclear powers produces electricity (and not nuclear bombs...) they'd get

over their big fear of nuclear weapons. It was a kind of Trojan Horse. It was also almost forced upon Japan by America, because the Japanese were incredibly allergic - anaflectic - to nuclear weapons after Hiroshima and Nagasaki. But they postulated that if Japan had nuclear power, it would resolve some of the fear of anything nuclear, and it was foisted upon them by the United States. In fact, the six reactors at Fukushima Daichi are GE reactors - Mark One GE reactors - and I know three of the engineers who designed those reactors who resigned in 1975 because they said they were too dangerous. And they testified before Congress, but it made no difference. So, nuclear power has been sort of set up by the nuclear industries - weapons and power - so people would accept nuclear in general. Japan now is a very big major exporter of components of nuclear reactors, like the steel reactor vessels, which are made by Japan alone, except for South Korea is now making them. Their economy partly depends upon export of parts for nuclear reactors, and Prime Minister Abe has been pushing this on Turkey and the UAE and the like. But the problem is that any country that has a nuclear power plant has a bomb factory. Two things - reactors make about five hundred pounds of plutonium every year, and plutonium lasts for a half a million years. You need only ten pounds to make a bomb. Therefore any country that has a reactor can make bombs now or 50 years from now or a hundred years from now. And the second thing is that a nuclear reactor generates 30 tons of nuclear waste every year. High level, horrible toxic wastes which must be isolated from the ecosystem for one million years, according to the EPA - a situation which is scientifically implausible and impossible. In other words, it has to be isolated for eternity.

Blase: The propaganda, Dr. Caldicott, has been intensive over the years. I can remember decades ago when the power companies were saying, we're going to be able to take the meters out of your house, this is the cheapest form of energy ever devised. And, of course, it came off as the most expensive and the most dangerous. But they're still grinding on with the propaganda - that this is the type of thing we have to deal with. I'm so happy about your new book. There have been many people involved in putting that book together, from many different perspectives...

Helen: Yes, the book is a compilation of the symposium I set up last year called the Medical and Ecological Consequences of Fukushima. I had some of the leading scientists in the world discussing what was happening. There are no studies at all being conducted on the people of Fukushima who were heavily irradiated. And Tepco, the Tokyo Electric Power Company, said it was wrong. In fact, there was four times as much radiation released as they originally said. They're lying to the public, in other words. The only studies being done are being done by a man named Timothy Muso, an evolutionary biologist, and he's looking at the birds and insects and plants around the explosion zones of Fukushima and Chernobyl, and finding that these animals have tumors, they have mutations, 40 percent are sterile, they have smaller than normal brains, etc etc. And what happens to them is what happens to us. And that was indeed seen post-Chernobyl where there are homes full of grossly deformed children who were in utero at the time of the accident, or whose mothers ate enough contaminated food. 40 percent of Europe is radioactive now. And the work that Timothy Muso has been doing for 30 years is absolutely imperative and will change the notion of radiation exposure. I think he should probably get a Nobel Prize. But the doctors in Japan have been cautioned not to tell their patients that the diagnosis they have could be related to radiation, and the Abe government has passed a law saying that any journalist who writes about Fukushima can be jailed for ten years. The situation in Japan is obscene.

Blase: The people of Japan suffered so much as a result of the bombs over Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and the horrible death that resulted. It seems so strange that even their leadership appears to be trying to soften the impact of this disaster.

Helen: Well, they're lying. It's a huge cover up. And Abe is a very dangerous prime minister. I had Naoto Kan, who was Prime Minister at the time of the Fukushima accident. He actually opened the symposium, and is now personally anti-nuclear. He's a fine man. But it's amazing how people contract the psychic numbing - and some of them are sociopaths too, they have no moral conscience at all - and also many of the people promoting nuclear power know no radiobiology, no genetics, do not understand the medical implications at all, nor do they realize

that nuclear waste will over time lead to an epidemic of cancer, leukemia and genetic disease. We're talking about huge public health problems of great magnitude. We work so hard to try to save the life of a person who has cancer. We hardly work on prevention at all, and here is an industry which will hugely increase the incidence of cancer. In fact, we know from studies in Germany, France and England now that children under the age of five who live close to a nuclear power plant have double the incidence of leukemia and a high incidence of solid cancers. And that's from routine relations that occur near every nuclear power plant that's operating. It seems absolutely crazy. And already we know from Chernobyl studies that over a million people have died as a result of Chernobyl. That's only the beginning. The site will remain radioactive for hundreds of years. There are wild boar running around Germany now that are so radioactive they almost glow in the dark. They're eating mushrooms and the truffles and the like. Well, people are to. So a nuclear accident never ends.

Blase: It seems that we have a medical problem here with sociopathic behavior because what has happened in the culture is for you to call a symposium on the dynamics of possible nuclear extinction - that would be categorized as "negative" by people who just refuse to get it. It's an extremely positive statement. You're saying you want to find out if the patient has cancer, and someone is saying that's negative to try to find out if someone has cancer and it's positive to say "have a nice day." I think we have a real problem here.

Helen: (Laughing) I don't want to be told to have a nice day. A rotten day - a fight with the staff, the flu, and it's my prerogative to have a bad day.

Blase: It is very sad for a doctor to make a positive statement, and they're supposed to say something that is false - we can't move forward this way. Another issue that comes up right now that we have to deal with is our administration is moving forward with a nuclear weapons modernization program that will dramatically raise the threat of nuclear war. The program aims to overhaul the entire US nuclear weapons arsenal with particular focus on improving the fusing system and the accuracy of long range land and sea based ballistic missile war heads and increasing the killing power of other nuclear warheads. And this of course, according to a

federal study, is only going to cost us a trillion dollars. That's really a wonderful idea. Talk about sociopathic behavior. How can we justify anything like that?

Helen: You can't. If you listen clearly, America's really a communist country. That'll shock people. But half your budget goes to the Pentagon and to killing. Socialized killing, whereas it's capitalistic healthcare. The nuclear power industry and weapons and the Pentagon are totally socialized. Socialism! The majority of the tax dollars are used for socialism for the huge, huge corporations. It's socialism for the rich and capitalism for the poor. You're on your own if you aren't rich. It's obscene. You are the only country in the western world without a free medical system. I hate that phrase "single payer." We have a free medical care system here and our tax dollars are used for us, and that's how a civilized society should behave.

Blase: The other side of the expense of a trillion dollars in terms of the World Health Organization, we here in the United States are thirtieth in the world in healthcare delivery. We have one of the world's highest cancer rates. We're twenty-sixth in life expectancy, and the Yale University Environment Performance Index calls us thirty-sixth in water sanitation, thirty-eighth in air quality. I mean, it's just becoming so obvious that we are deteriorating as a result of being number one without any competition in violence and war and war making and war promoting. The war has become an addiction. And I think it could be really terminal if we don't turn it around. It's a very serious moment in terms of education. The Program for International Student Assessment, looking at students from 65 nations, put us 17th in reading and 21st in math, and the ranking was even worse for adult education. 20th in education attainment, according to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. So the deterioration is obvious and people should be aware. Again, we have the symptoms of a serious illness, and people are living in denial. Sometimes I hear people say, when we ask them about our engagements in Iraq since 1991 and before, and they'll say I really don't have an opinion. I mean, is that a way of saying I died, or what?

Helen: That's like the Germans living near the gas ovens and saying *it used to snow funny but we didn't know what was happening*. That's really criminal. Everyone should know what is

happening, and in a democracy so-called, everyone should vote. It should be compulsory. You have no right not to vote. And then you have to use your democracy to vote for people who protect your interests, which means you have to know about every issue. That's how a democracy should function. In the vacuum that's left by the people's absence, corporations of course send in their lobbyists, you know, millions and millions of dollars paid by the corporations for lobbyists, and they control the whole agenda of the congress. So it really is the apathy and ignorance of the American people, and the illusion that elected officials are leaders instead of the other way around. Even Obama is not your leader, you are *his* leader and he's your representative. People should understand that and not just sit on their computers all day and do twitter and the like. I admit I tweet articles, and they need to get out and actually use their democracy like the people in Wisconsin did when they took the state house. It's time people rose up, and I don't know how you orchestrate a revolution of people with full bellies.

Blase: We have a massive turnout of young people now dealing with the problem of militarization of our police. But this is larger than the great events of Dr. King. Of course, it's his legacy, and the growth of his legacy with hundreds of thousands of young people of all colors in the streets today. And of course, the media is acting as though it didn't happen. And our president didn't choose to mention it in his talk.

Helen: That's true. He didn't.

Blase: So there's life out there. Now, in Australia, are you required to vote?

Helen: Yes, you have to vote.

Blase: That's true in many countries. We have a terrible turnout. I don't know what that terrible turnout expresses. I don't know if it's indifference, or whether it's opposition, but not participating helps the reactionaries take over, we know that from political science. We're going to take a short musical interlude. We'll be back in a moment.

Blase: We have had so many nuclear accidents that three books have been written about them. I don't think we realize how serious these accidents have been. Would you care to comment on what they call "broken arrows?"

Helen: Years ago, in the 50s and 60s, there were accidents. A plane dropped two hydrogen bombs on one of the Carolinas by accident. All of the safety switches were turned off except one. Only one. And it's just amazing that those bombs did not explode. They were hydrogen bombs, they were big. Then over Greenland, America had an accident and a plane went down with bombs on it. They scattered all over the place. Luckily they did not explode. They were cleaned up, but still those areas are contaminated with plutonium. Recently a plane was loaded with hydrogen bombs, and people didn't realize it. The plane flew from one airfield to another, and it wasn't until the plane landed that the bombs were discovered. No one really knew they were onboard. Then 70 of the officers at the missile silos in South Dakota and a couple of other sites were fired because they were cheating on their exams, they were taking drugs, or they were not responding to orders as they should have. And in fact, the man who is in charge of three missile bases went to Moscow - he's a very high officer - and he was cavorting with naughty ladies, he got drunk, and he did some very inappropriate things. He was fired. And it seems like the young men aged 18 to 21, who are in a position to blow up the earth, are very bored. And I met some of their girlfriends and some of them take drugs before they go out on duty. There's no sort of glamour in sitting in missile silos for twelve hours a day waiting to blow up the planet. There are two men in each missile silo, each armed with a pistol to shoot the other if one shows signs of deviant behavior. Well, of course, a deviant one could shoot a normal one, and blow up the world. 60 Minutes did a show on this recently and showed that they still have these floppy discs in the computers, and often the telephones don't work. I mean, it's just amazing that we're still here. And how dare America, which still has thousands of weapons ready to be launched at Russia and China, for what reason? And Russia has the same policy. There are up to ten hydrogen bombs targeted on New York as we speak. Who are the real terrorists in the world? Let's be frank. Russia and America. They are 93 percent of the 16,300 nuclear weapons. 93 percent. And they are the only countries that can produce nuclear

winter and the end of life of earth. How dare they? How dare they? And they say it's for national security. Rubbish. National security? The annihilation of life on earth - that's what it's for.

Blase: It's unacceptable. Back in the 1930s, we had General Smedley Butler. He was ordered as a marine general to intervene time and time and time again in Latin America, and he finally wrote his book *War is a Racket*. And recently we had a general with the same last name, Butler, Lee Butler, who was director of the Strategic Air Command in charge of all the nuclear weapons that were kept in the air twenty four hours a day. Then when he retired he had a press conference at the DC Press Club and he said we have to abolish these weapons. We cannot coexist with them. This is General Lee Butler. And he certainly knew what he was talking about. We have those weapons twenty four hours a day in the air. This is just, as you indicate, absolutely unacceptable. Now, North Korea has made an offer to the United States about limiting their testing and so on. So far I don't believe we've responded.

Helen: Let's talk about North Korea. Half a million people were killed in the Korean War, which is not talked about now. The Americans have failed to recognize North Korea ever since the end of that war.

Blase: It ended in 1953, but it really never ended. There's been a cease fire, that's all. The war is still on.

Helen: North Korea wants the United States to sign a non-aggression treaty, and to start trading with it and treat it as a normal country. And America will not. And the reason is that the Pentagon likes North Korea because it can be seen as an enemy and because every year they conduct very aggressive war games right up to the border of North Korea. How dare they? In fact, many days people in the Pentagon actually practice war games on their computers. Like North Korea invades South Korea, what will happen? And almost always these war games end up in nuclear war. So they keep an enemy to practice their really evil war games, and actual war exercises, every year. It's obscene, and no one talks about it. My brother was a diplomat in

South Korea, and he knows all about it and talks about how wicked it is. What do you do about a country that maintains so much power in the hands of a tiny group of people? In the 80s, we led a huge campaign, Physicians for Social Responsibility and many other organizations, against nuclear weapons. And that was part instigated by Reagan, who was very belligerent and joked about pressing a button and he didn't like the Russians and the communists, and when I first came to America in 1978, almost every person I talked to said they'd rather be dead than red. I said, what, you'd rather be blown up in a nuclear war? Yes, we don't want to be communists is what they'd respond. I thought, this is psychopathic. So I organized the Physicians and we got 23,000 doctors and 153 chapters and we started telling people about the medical effects of a bomb hitting a city, and very soon people became engaged including Catholic Bishops who drafted a letter against nuclear weapons and said Jesus wouldn't approve of this. The Methodist Bishops did the same. And we mobilized 80 percent of Americans in five years to be opposed to nuclear war. We had the biggest march ever in the history of the United States in 1982 where a million people attended. And then Reagan did something every tricky with Star Wars. He had this naive idea that America would be covered with this shield and Russian missiles would bounce off it. Of course, it will never work, but they spent billions and billions of dollars in this effort for missile defense, which is absolute rubbish. I met with Reagan for an hour and a quarter, and I thought I had had not impact. But then he started to say that nuclear war must never be fought and could never be won, and he started working with Gorbachev, who was also greatly influenced by the doctors. And they met in Reykjavik in 1987 and almost agreed to abolish nuclear weapons between Russian and America. But they got hung up on Star Wars, and the opportunity was lost. I mean, we mobilized the whole nation, and I would call that the second American revolution, and it was peaceful, sagacious and Gandhian.

Blase: It was, and it's just another one of many tragedies. The impact was great; the ripples are still there. It is important that the Korean situation comes back to us, unfortunately, through an absolutely ridiculous propaganda film, but the reality that I understand that I think is without precedent, is that 30 percent of the North Korean people were killed in that war. That's 800 cities that were totally destroyed, and the great general argued that first he turned it into

gravel, and then into sand. I don't know of any other place in the world where 30 percent of the people of one nation - this is not the combatants, this is the entire population - so after we kill 30 percent we identify them as the "axis of evil" and have the most highly militarized border there in the world. And now we're seeing Hollywood come in with these really propagandist films like American Sniper and The Interview which have no factual basis or ethical grounding, nothing. And we have this horrible film about North Korea and its leader. Instead of dealing with reality, we're going off into fantasy and getting into what Dr. King called a death of spirituality by getting into HA HA murder, HA HA rape, HA HA torture, this is a sign of losing one's entire ethical balance because of some kind of constant warmongering....this is a critical situation that we're in, and I think many people understand the dangers here. And to add to that, the nuclear disaster is just overwhelming. I've got to mention that many of our real heroes are in prison - Kathy Kelly is reporting to federal prison camp in Lexington, Kentucky today, she's going to begin serving her sentence for protesting drone killings at Whiteman Air Force Base in Missouri. So we find our heroes in prison, and we find our warmongers, people like Cheney and a thousand others, that are looked upon as leaders, shall we say? I think we have a moral problem here, and our need is for a moral revolution, as Dr. King said. We cannot continue having this kind of technology that destroys the life of the planet. Any thoughts on this?

Helen: Well, I guess I'd say that this pope - they call him Frankie for Francis, St. Francis of Assisi - is taking some very strong moral stands. I don't know how many millions of people belong to the Catholic Church, probably over a billion, and he's saying the things that Jesus would have said about global warming and the immorality of killing and on and on. So that's a cause for hope. You know, Hollywood for years has worked with the Pentagon. The Pentagon provides them with the hardware (tanks) for their films. And so Hollywood is really a propaganda extension of the Pentagon, and the killing is just obscene. And what you don't see is the aftermath of the killing, and being a doctor and working in casualty departments myself, you know the enormous grief for something like a loved one dying in a car accident or the death of a child, the psychological consequence of this ghastly killing that's celebrated by the film

industry - it's obscene, and it turns on young boys who are a very large audience, and Hollywood appeals to them, young adolescent boys whose testosterone has just started to circulate. The whole scene is sickening, and what really sickens me of course is that propaganda is exported all over the world. There's a wonderful book by a man called Jerry Mander called "In the Absence of the Sacred," and he describes an Eskimo Inuit tribe that catches their fish and dries them and hunt for the food. They'd lived their traditional life for thousands of years until they got electricity. And then they started watching television. And they watched Dallas. And then the old ladies started praying for some of the people in Dallas. And then the young people left because they didn't like the traditional way of life. They wanted the new western way of life. And so television totally destroyed their culture, and it's American television that gets into every corner of the earth now and it's obscene. Television is one of the greatest inventions which ever happened, and which could have been used for good, for education and knowledge, etc, and now the public that owns the airways have seen them taken over by huge corporations that produce rubbishy programs to sell hemorrhoid cream and stuff to stick your false teeth to the top of your mouth and erectile dysfunction drugs and all this ghastly stuff...it makes me cringe as a doctor. You know, you just look at it and you have to laugh -- it's so awful.

Blase: The attack in Paris, which was a horrible attack on civilians, but I think more attention has been given to that than the Battle of the Bulge in World War II. That's going on simultaneous with scores of drone attacks that are killing children every day and there's no comment. And they're killing people indiscriminately, and this is being done by pilots in the United States flying the drones, and that's of course what Kathy was complaining about. One of our peace leaders in the country asked what do we have to do, what kind of movement do we have to build, and she said it's one that takes on first the arrogance of power, second, the tyranny of greed, third, the politics of hypocrisy, fourth, the idolatry of national security, fifth, the cancer of hatred, sixth, racism, seventh, sexism, eighth, the hysteria of nationalism, ninth, the sin of torture, tenth, the insanity of destroying the environment. We have to turn all that into a culture of love, compassion and caring for the planet and its people. For that we must lift

our voices as peacemakers, and of course, Medea Benjamin also realizes that nationalism as a religion is an absolute disaster - this belief that God is on our side.

Helen: I'm going to write a book called "Why Men Kill, and Why Women Let Them." Try to explore all of this in a physician-like way, make a diagnosis, and look at all this glorification of war, nationalism, patriotism, which is about tribalism in fact - there's an awful lot to look at. And why God is always on the side of the killers, that sort of thing. And how many people are being killed in the name of God. I could go on and on, but that's my last hurrah I think after this conference. That's what I'm going to do.

Blase: Your books have been so prophetic. I think our listeners should know about it. You begin with Nuclear Madness, 1974, and then the marvelous title, Missile Envy, 1984, then If You Love This Planet, A Plan to Heal the Earth, in 1992. Then A Desperate Passion, your autobiography, in 1996. And then Metal of Dishonor, How Depleted Uranium Penetrates Steel. And we're going to have you know a big burn in this country, we're going to be burning some of the deplete uranium, and you went on to the nuclear danger of George Bush's military industrial complex with Nuclear Power is Not the Answer, War in Heaven, The Arms Race in Outer Space, and now Crisis Without End. We look forward to your next book, because they've all been so prophetic. So often the prophets, as Jesus said, have been stoned and crucified and not listened to, but they're honored later on (laughing). We have to continue to speak this truth, as you are doing, because in the midst of this, we have hundreds of thousands of children that have died in our recent wars. Marie McGuire is saying that in Iraq, 750,000 children have died as a result of sanctions, and 3.3 million have been killed. This is no joke, and it's not sustainable. Any final thoughts for us Dr. Caldicott?

Helen: Well, the war in Iraq created all this terrorism - I mean, the truth is that Iraq was a nation of tribes brought together. Hussein worked for the CIA since he was 21. He was tough and kept the tribe together like Tito in Yugoslavia kept the Bosnians and the Serbs together. But when they die, then the whole thing breaks apart and the tribes are fighting each other and then America goes and bombs and kills people and children and uses uranium weapons and

children are getting cancer, and there are sanctions so doctors can't treat their patients and on and on. And of course that creates a huge amount of animosity and hatred, and that's where the present wave of terrorists were created, in Iraq and Afghanistan, you know what goes around comes around, and so America has brought it on itself. And you know the same goes for the coalition of the willing - Australia and Britain who cooperated in this ghastly killing. So we need to look, we need to open our eyes, and see the emotion in other people's eyes and it's America that's either going to destroy the planet or save the planet, and it doesn't look very hopeful.

Blase: I want to thank you so much, Dr. Helen Caldicott, for being with us today. You are a great international voice for peace and justice, and the elimination of nuclear power and nuclear weapons. We were honored to have you with us.