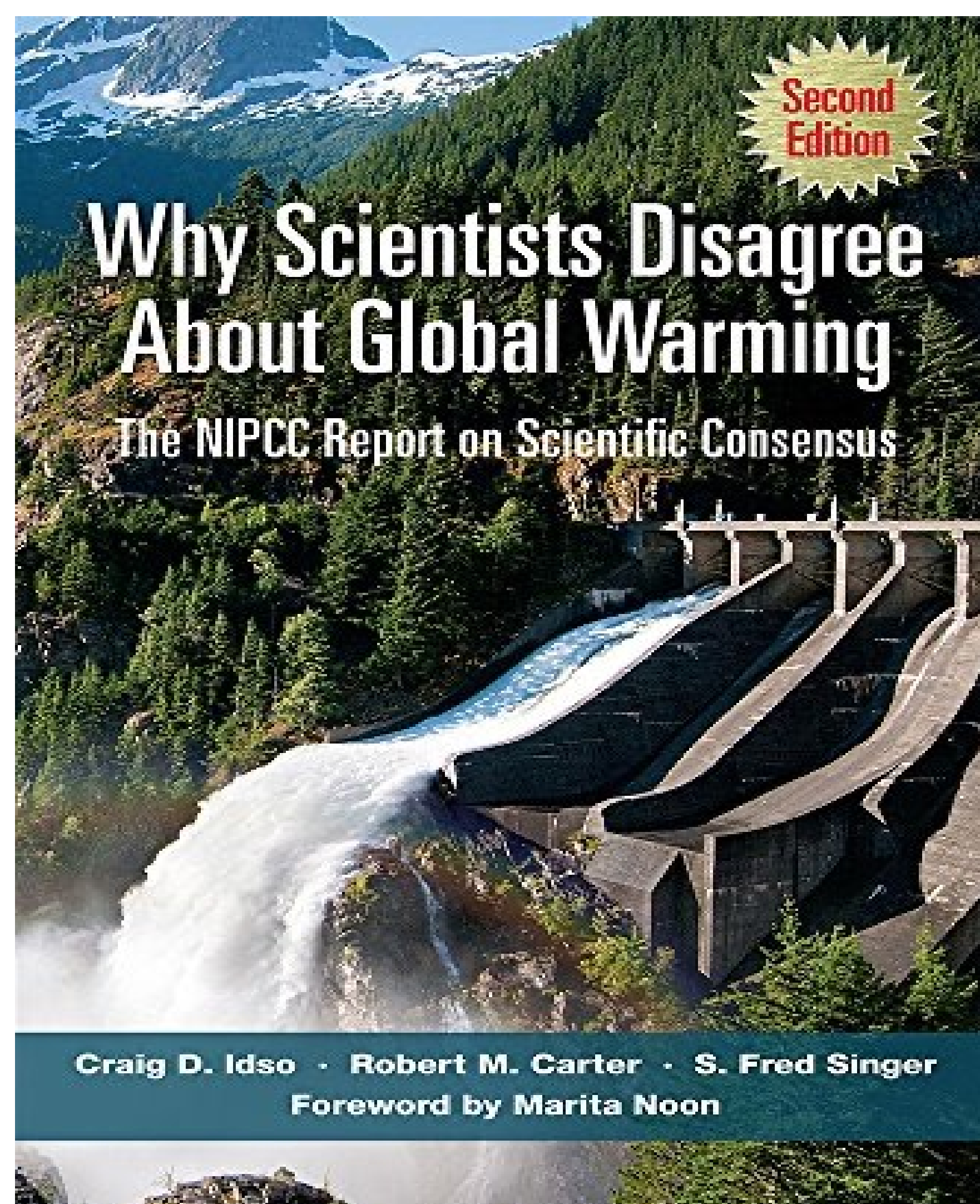




# Climate Change Denial in Books

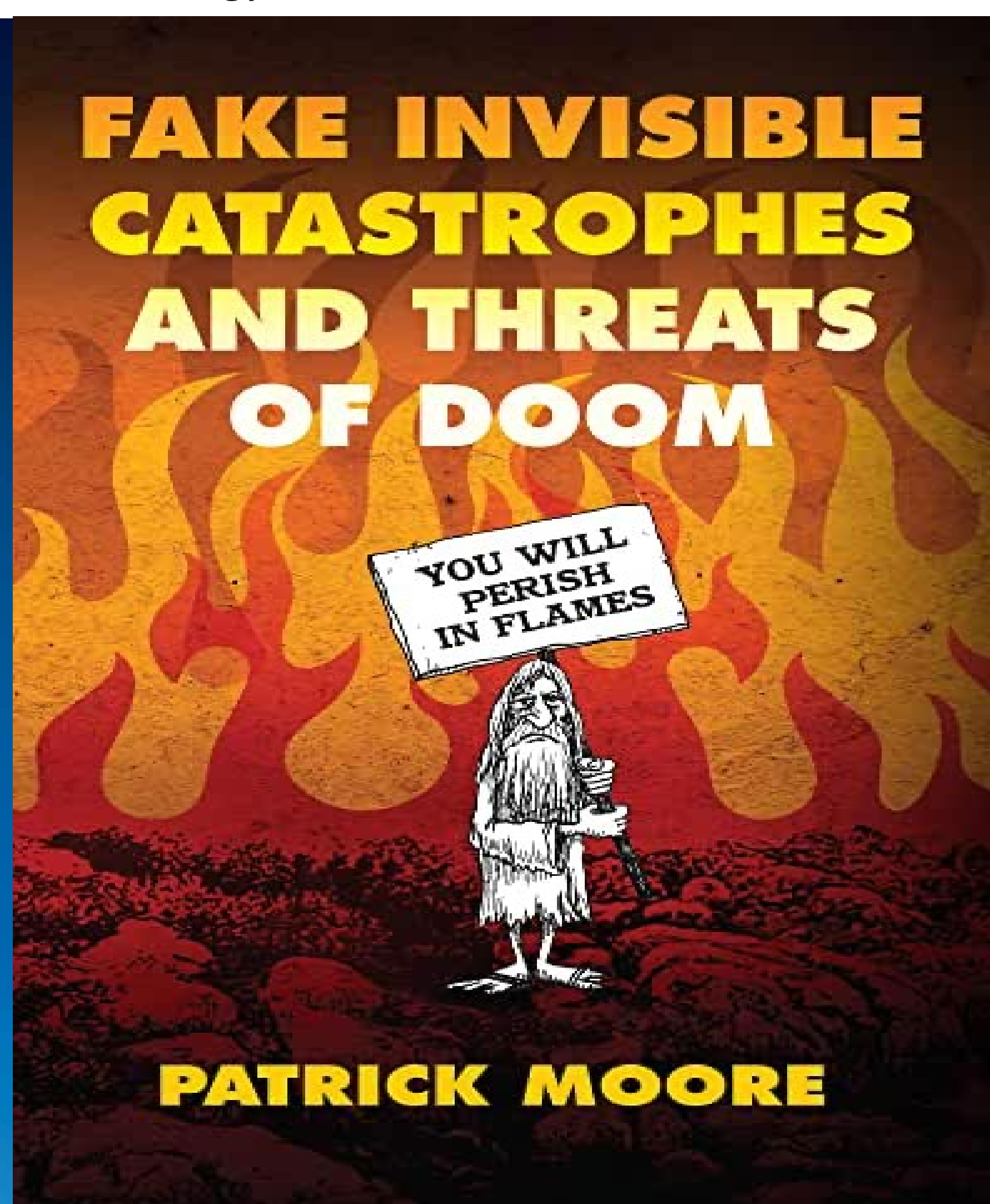
Emily Greenemeier

Political Ecology Lab in the Department of Political Science and Sociology



**Climate change delusion and the great electricity rip-off**  
Ian Plimer

*rip*<sup>1</sup> *v.t. & i. (-pp-)*, cut or tear or split esp. with a single quick motion, strip off or out or away or open up thus, make (hole, passage) thus, (of material) be ripped, (of ship etc.) rush along (let her ~, often transf., do not check speed or interfere); ~ into, (colloq.) attack, fight; ~ off, (sl.) defraud or exploit (someone), steal (something) (so ~ off n.) 2 *n.* act of ripping, long tear or opening (a ~ for releasing parachute from its pack or ~ from a band); 3 *v.i.* (sl.) to be vigorously, wildly busy; ~ saw, for sawing wood; 4 *v.i.* (sl.) violent or intense person or thing. [orig. unkn.] 5 *v.t.* to use or abuse (a person. [perh. reprobate cf. REP<sup>1</sup>]) 6 *n.* stretch of broken water in sea or river; the R~, (Aust.) tidal race at entrance to Port Phillip Bay; ~ tide, fast-flowing tide or current. [perh. rel. to RIPPLE] 7 *abbr.* may he, or she, or they, rest in peace [L. *requiesca(n)t in pace*]. 8 *abbr.* of or on river-bank



## METHODS

- ❖ Books in the English language that denied climate change from 2010 – present were collected.
- ❖ Descriptions of climate denial books are used to discover patterns.
- ❖ The backgrounds of the authors and publications of these books are investigated.



## CONCLUSIONS

- ❖ Despite the climate countermovement, 57% of all registered voters would prefer to vote for a candidate who supports action on global warming (Yale Program on Climate Change Communication).
- ❖ Still, 16% would prefer to vote for a candidate who opposes action (Yale Program on Climate Change Communication).
- ❖ Although climate change deniers constitute a minority, their influence remains significant.

## THE PROBLEM

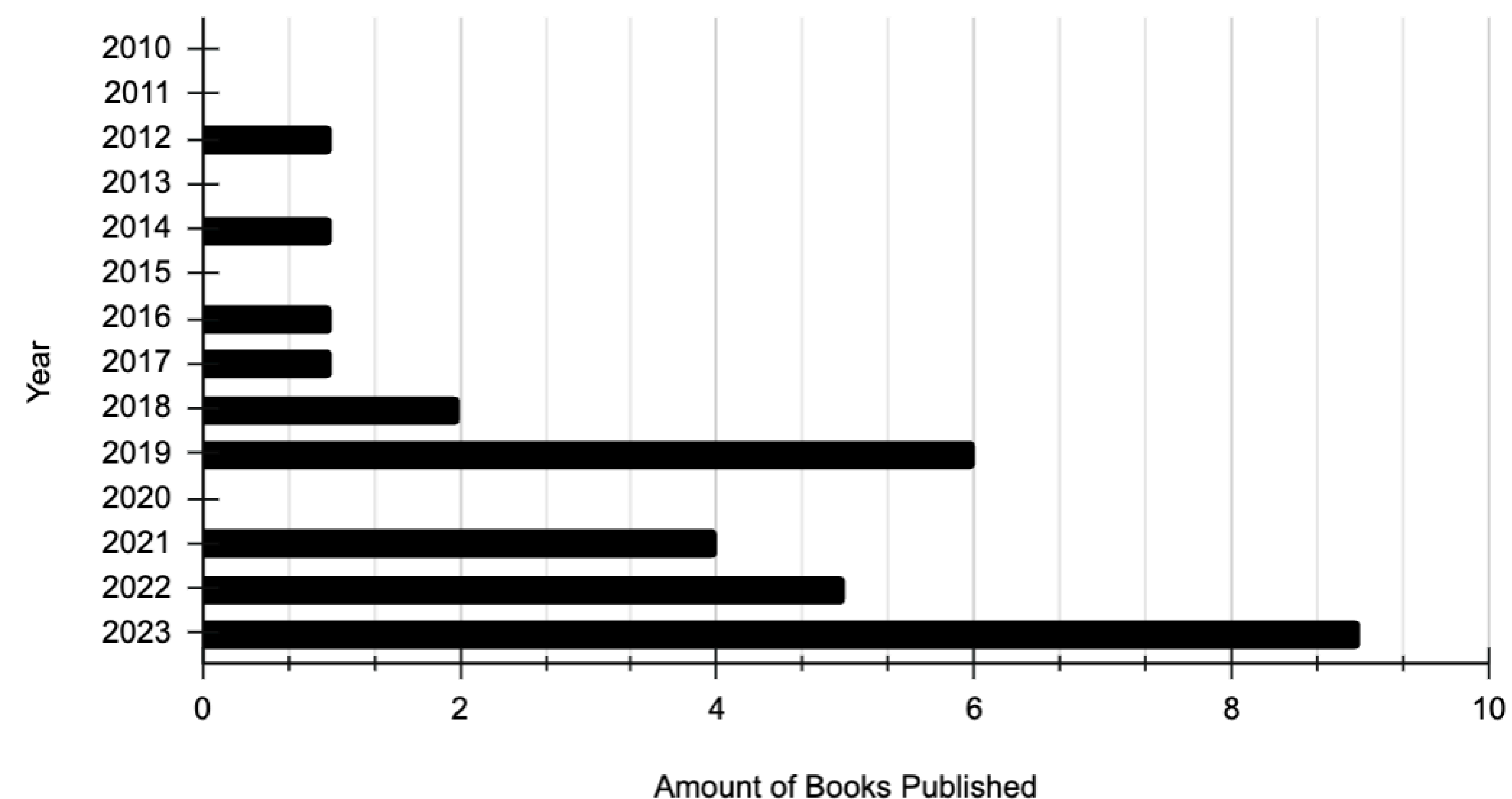
- ❖ There is a scientific consensus about anthropogenic climate change.
- ❖ The consensus:
  - ❖ The trend is warming
  - ❖ The cause is humans
  - ❖ The impacts will be dangerous
- ❖ Despite the consensus, there continue to be those who reject climate change.
- ❖ The conservative movement maintains its own strong opinion on the reality and significance of anthropogenic climate change.

## COUNTERMOVEMENT

- ❖ A great amount of the American public remains unconcerned and dismissive about climate change, and many policymakers deny taking the necessary steps to reduce emissions (Dunlap 2013).
- ❖ The climate countermovement has been pioneered by a loose coalition of industrial interests and conservative foundations and think tanks (Dunlap 2013).
- ❖ Conservative think tanks have contributed to the decline of U.S. support for environmental protection (Jacques et al. 2008).
- ❖ Their ability to influence environmental policy replicated their accomplishments in other policy domains (Jacques et al. 2008).

# Climate Change Denial

Amount of Books Published vs. Year



# in Books

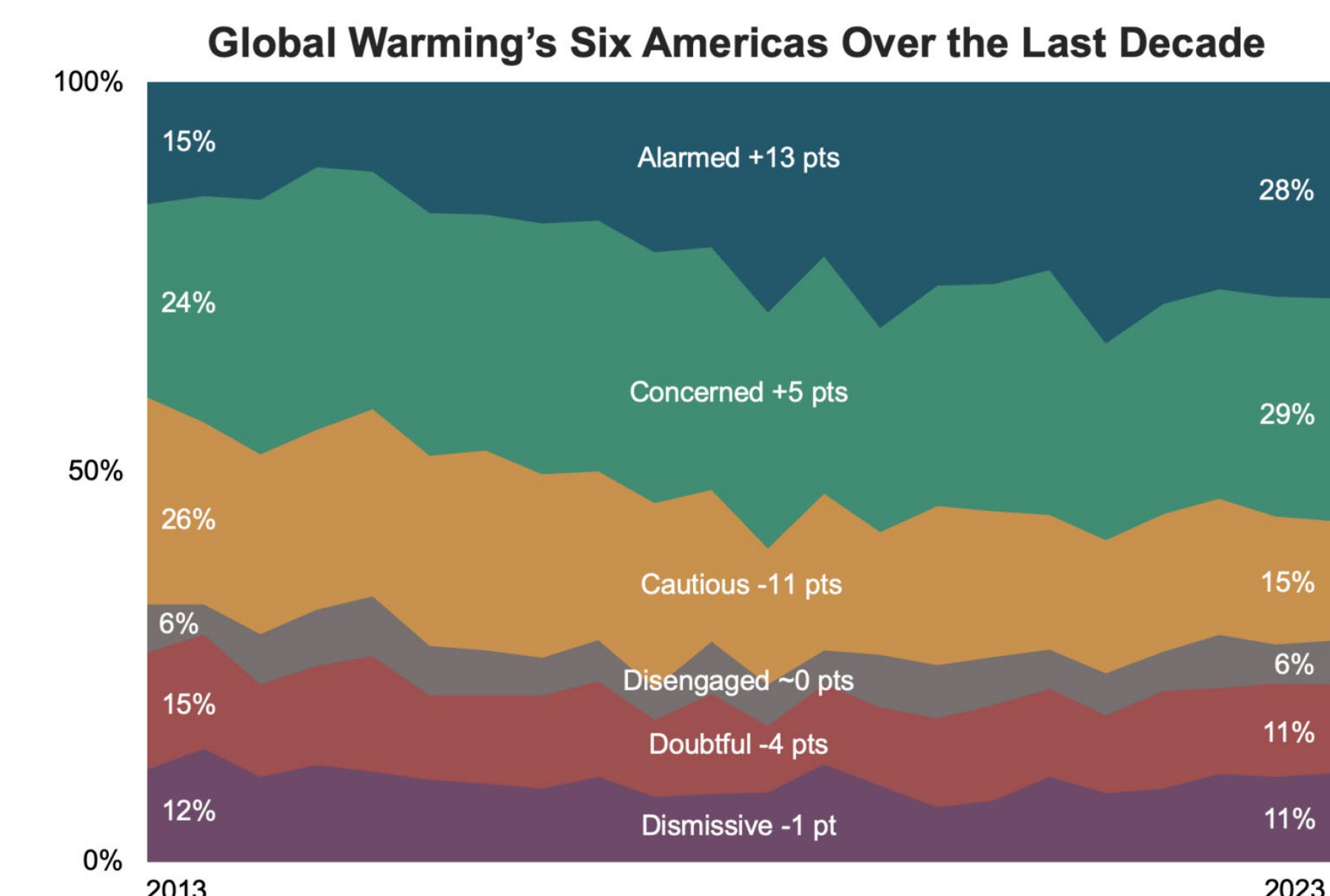


Figure 1. 25,367 U.S. adults' opinions through 22 waves of national surveys spanning April 2013 – October 2023 (Yale Program on Climate Change Communication).

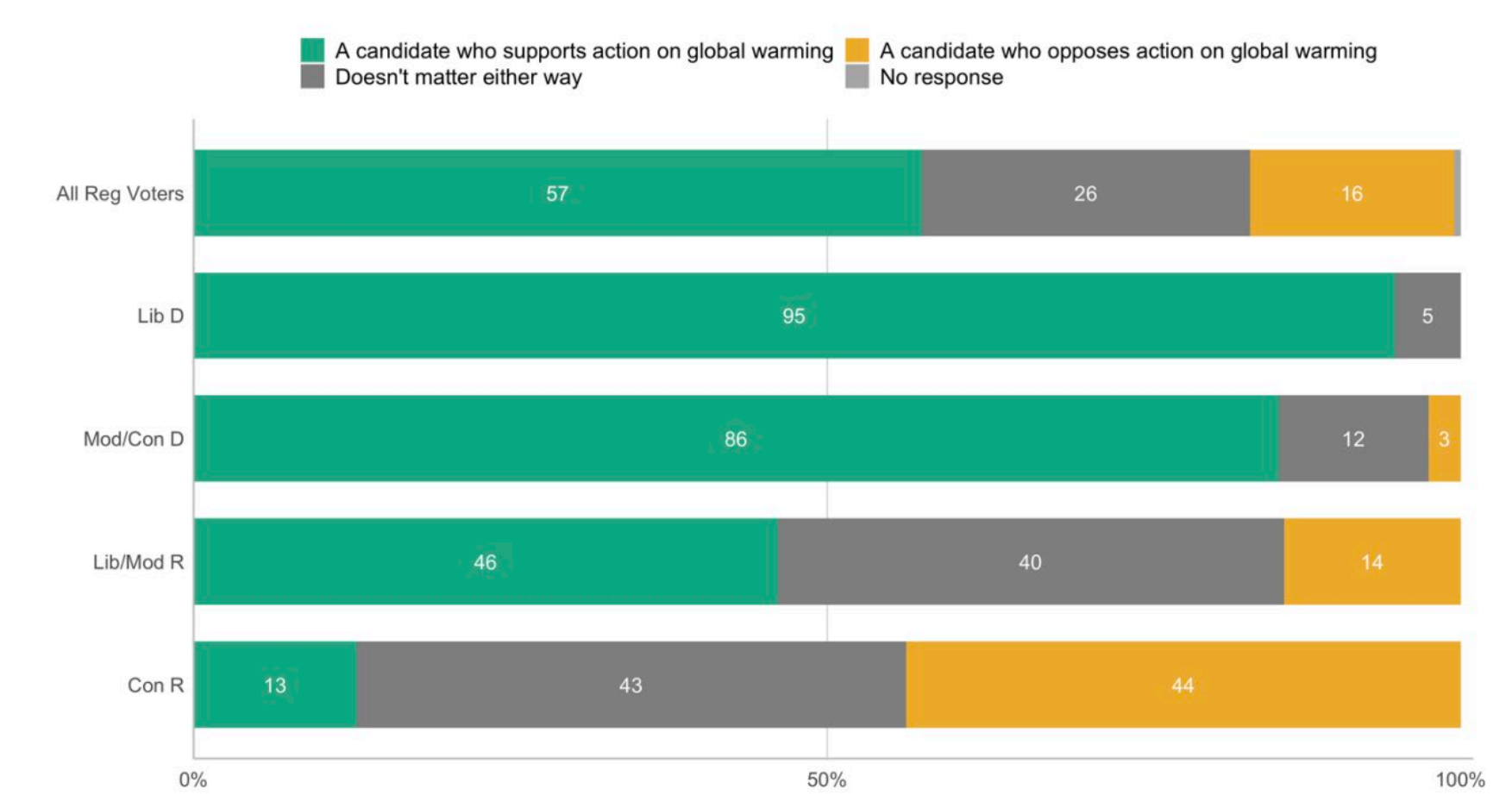
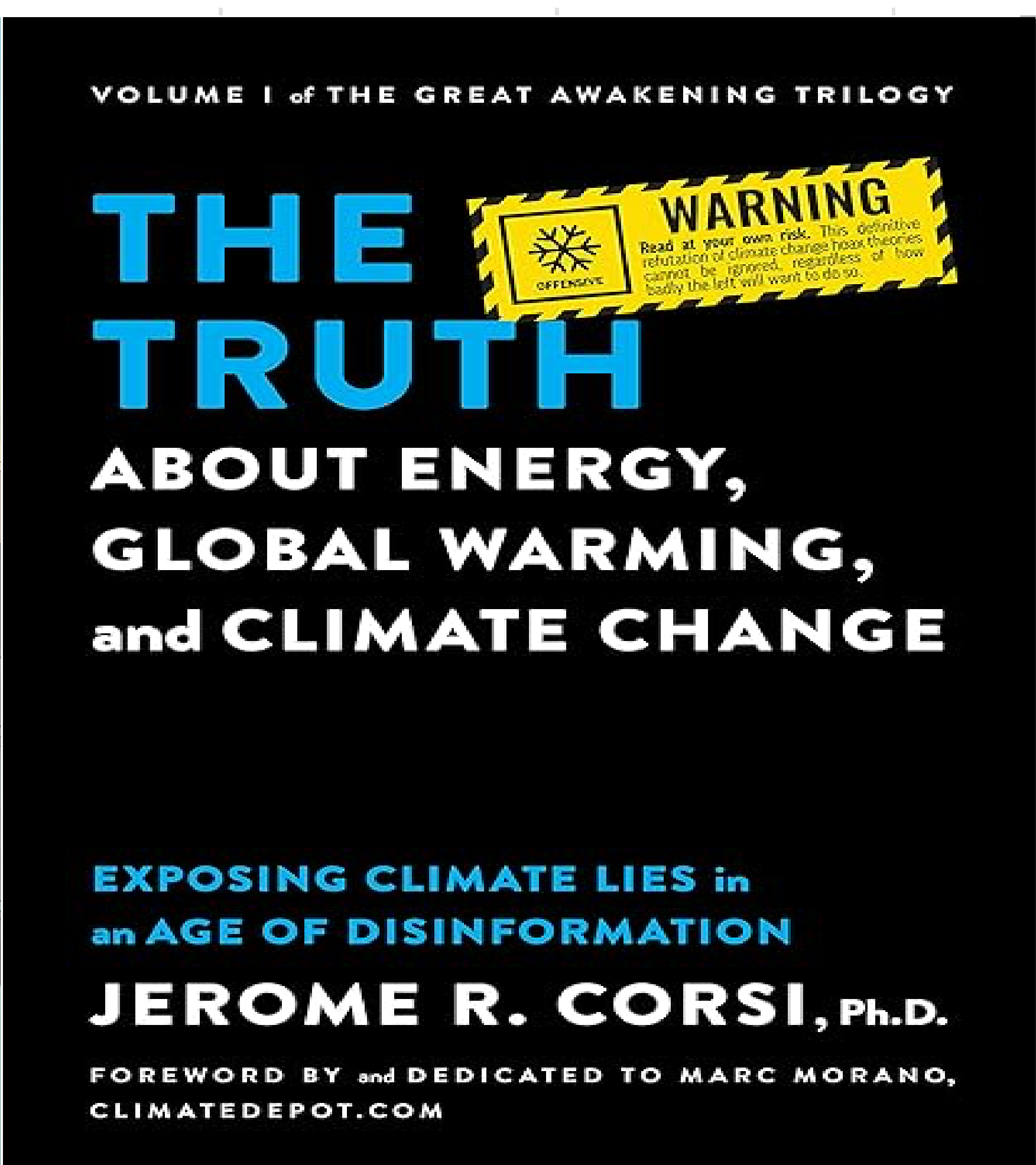
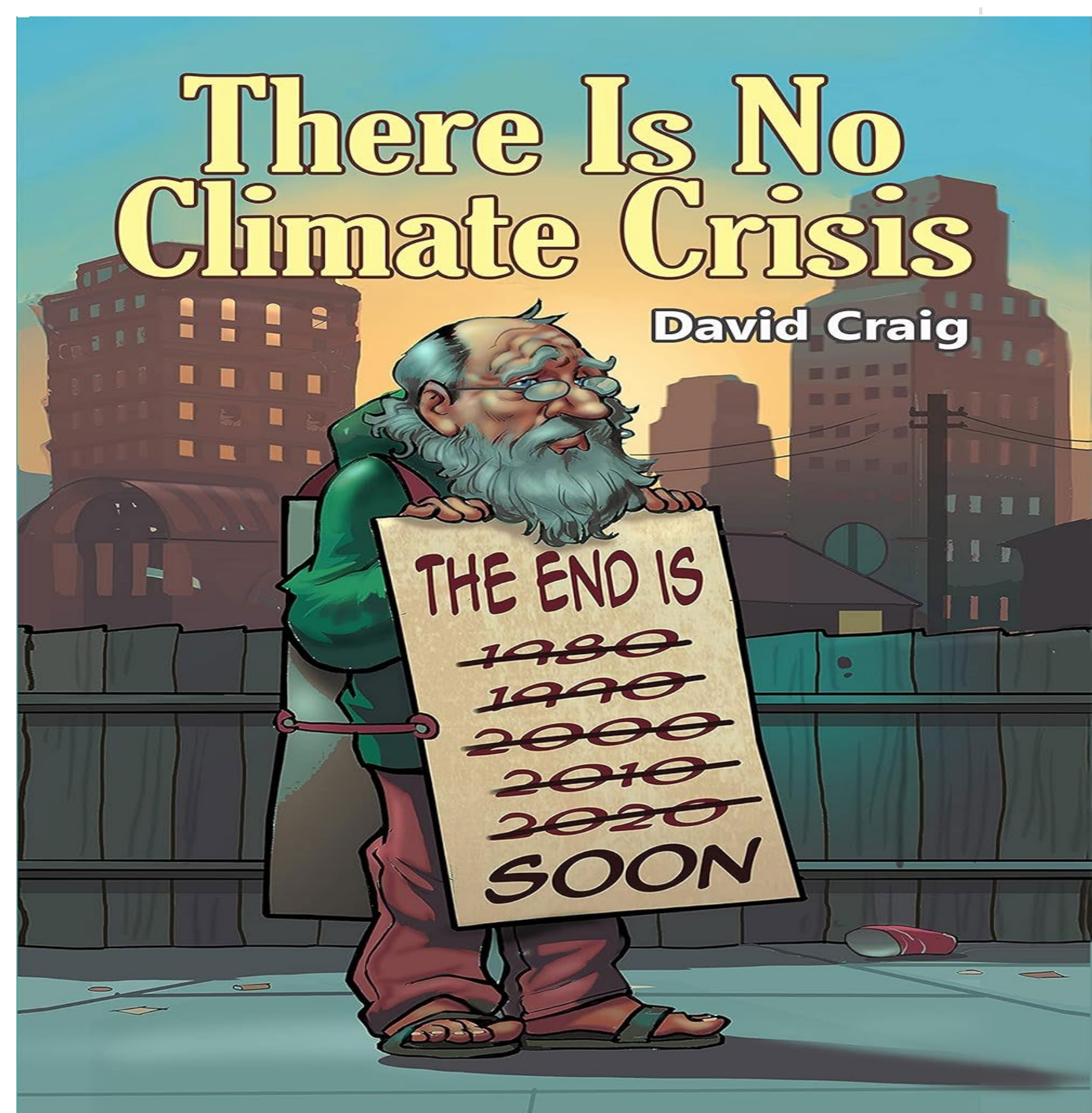


Figure 2. More registered voters would prefer to vote for a candidate who supports action on global warming (Yale Program on Climate Change Communication).

## FOOTNOTES

- Dunlap, R.E. 2013. Climate Change Skepticism and Denial: An Introduction. *American Behavioral Scientist*. 57: 691-698.
- Jacques, P., R.E. Dunlap, and M. Freeman. 2008. The organization of denial: Conservative think tanks and environmental skepticism. *Environmental Politics*. 17: 349-385.
- Yale Program on Climate Change Communication.