

## Racism and Societal Collapse

In the past week or so I have stumbled across the book "Breaking Together" by Jem Bendall.

It is an instruction manual or set of recommendations for how to cope with societal breakdown. Bendall has a fascinating history.

Among other things he was a youth delegate to one of the earlier Davos conferences and spent much of his life working to prevent societal breakdown.

Until events convinced him that this was a waste of time and effort.

Because of increasing doubts, he researched the underlying data used by the IPCC to determine that we had until 2100? 2040? 2035? before the trajectory was irreversible. Bendall's research led him to believe that that point had already occurred in 2016 -- according to the IPCC'S own data.

Bendall has no sunny options. He thinks that societal collapse will become more and more obvious in the immediate future and the cost in human lives (to say nothing of human economies) will be staggering. By current measures, it already is; but it will get worse.

Instead, he argues for a steadfast, calm approach to mitigating the disasters and shifting the current directions of the human race. Nothing else will work.

His book "Breaking Together" can be found on the internet and is available in hardback, paperback, audio book and free over the internet - <https://lifeworth.com/BreakingTogetherEPUB.epub>

Minority communities have been hit hardest so far by these global changes. To take just one example, hurricane Katrina impacted the Black community in New Orleans much harder than the White community. In fact, the well-to-do in the White communities began both buying up properties from cash and wealth-strapped Black families and turning them into White enclaves, while Black families who could afford to moved to the suburbs where there were few social services. Public schools became charter schools. Charter schools avoided hiring Black teachers, a staple of the Black middle class. 100,000 Black residents left since the storm.

<https://theconversation.com/disappearing-acts-reflecting-on-new-orleans-10-years-after-katrina-46834>

There are ways to fight back but optimism is a dangerous illusion – it is unrealistic and is too easily appropriated by the oligarchs to keep people from doing what needs to be done. Wisdom, steadfastness, courage, imagination will all be needed.

I encourage you to read the book to find useful strategies – not solutions since at this point there are none, but ways to mitigate the destruction. Changing a politics, a culture, an economy will take huge concerted effort and is not guaranteed to succeed. But the effect on those who try will be significant and will be appreciated by future generations whose existence will be due to those who tried.