Teachers and Educators!

We are so thrilled that you are picking up this guide and thinking about how to introduce critical thinking about climate change and economics to your students. The biggest driver for us in creating the book, film and engagement project *This Changes Everything* was to find ways to share and explore these ideas with others. Of course that includes creating tools to help people to talk about climate and economics in their communities.

We firmly believe that it is not books and films that change the world, but people.

And we see teachers and students as critical to this conversation. After all, it will be the students of today that will inherit the world we have created, and become the leaders navigating the many challenges created by climate change and economic inequality.

We believe that answers to deep-running, high-stakes, convoluted questions about a better world can be found in the stories of people, including the hundreds who opened up their hearts and heartbreak to us during the making of this project over five years. All around the world, we found that people were connecting the dots between the economic system and the environmental havoc it’s wreaking on their lives and the planet. In seeing the emergence of a new climate movement - breaking out of economic and environmental silos, making new alliances, and building the next economy in the rubble of the old one, we found hope growing in the cracks of our broken system.

There is a story we’ve been told about ourselves for hundreds of years: that we are nothing but selfish, greedy, self-gratifying agents, and that the earth is a machine to be manipulated instead of a life-giving force to be respected and revered. You are poised uniquely as educators to start the long, intangible process of questioning and re-imagining this narrative with your students.

Our most passionate hope for this project is that it can be useful to you as concerned educators, to be a tool for students to burst out of isolation and avoidance and find a way to engage.

**Because to change everything, we need everyone.**

Thank you for the work that you do. We look forward to hearing how you and your students explore these ideas in your classrooms.

Avi Lewis & Naomi Klein