

# AUDIENCE GUIDE



# Tidy

by

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## **WE HAVE A CHOICE**

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Climate change and our current environmental crisis are an opportunity for us to reflect. We are being called to reconnect back to the earth, to the soil, to biodiversity to insure our planet's continued fertility. Mother Nature, and the environment need our help to flourish.

It's no coincidence that the final draft of Idaszak's play Tidy, is dated Earth Day 2021, as our playwright was influenced by the great crime writer PD James and her book 'Children of Men', which is a dystopian novel, published in 1992 and set in England in 2021. It centers on the results of mass human infertility, and a country that is steadily depopulating as it focuses on a small group of resistors who do not share the disillusionment of the masses and fight to evade incarceration in the 'Climate Centers'.

**What are the effects of climate change on young people?**

**"Many young people feel the burden of shouldering the responsibility of climate action, which can lead to feelings of overwhelm and burnout; We see young people from around the world express the crushing uncertainty of inheriting a future they didn't create.**

Young people are not only victims of climate change. They are also valuable contributors to climate action. They are agents of change, entrepreneurs and innovators. Whether through education, science or technology, young people are scaling up their efforts and using their skills to accelerate climate action.

**BRING ON THE WARRIORS OF HOPE!**

# **HOW CAN WE BE MORE TIDY?**

## **Things we can do better to combat Climate Change**

Each of us , one small act at a time, can continue to make a difference right in our own homes. Just taking an attitude and being thoughtful about our planet will permeate into all areas of our daily lives. A few attainable suggestions:

1. Bring our own bags to the store,
2. Reuse and recycle.
3. Eliminate or limit single use plastics. Invest in BPA free storage containers and cups, and lunchboxes. Sistema is a great brand.
4. Shop and prepare more mindfully to avoid food waste.
5. Support sustainable fashion, and fair trade practice. THRIFT!
6. Get a washing line for the milder months, and enjoy breezy line dried washing! The neighbors will be impressed.
7. Shop Locally.
8. Walk to the shops if you can, carpool, take the bus.
9. Eat more plant based meals and less red meat.
10. Read the ingredients on store bought items. Less is more.
11. Use chemical free detergents and cleaning products to help keep our water less polluted.
12. Use compostable pet waste bags.
13. Be curious, research your suppliers and providers.
14. Shop cruelty free and chemical free beauty brands
15. If you fly, limit commercial air travel to companies with lower emission rates.

## **Invest, Improve, Incentivize**

1. Invest in education around sustainability.
2. Invest in and improve public transport, incentivizing us to reduce our reliance on personalized vehicles.
3. Invest in hybrid and electric vehicles.
4. Increase investment in renewable energy.
5. Increased investment in technology that improves how we recycle encourages us to reduce waste.
6. Invest in sustainable architectural design, and improve and update existing buildings.

## **Diet, farming, and sourcing for a healthy future**

**Diet is a key factor. One of the biggest agricultural causes of global warming is chemical farming. In North America, as early as the 1920s farmers used chemical fertilizers to artificially feed the crops, creating a huge yield for the growing demand as cities expanded..Urban sprawl and the new suburbia was born. The soil would then be tilled releasing trapped carbon, which contributed enormously to global warming, along with moisture loss. Over time this leads to top soil drying out and eventually being blown away. This was evident in the 1930s Dust Bowl, where a huge portion was blown away in the Midwest from excess monocropping.**

**The quality of our soil is closely linked to our economies. Poor land leads to poor food, which leads to poor health and poorer economies, as we over burden our health care systems.**

**If you had good land with rich healthy soil you could grow more food which correlates to increased sales. According to research in 2021 from the National Academy of Sciences more than a third of the farmland in the Midwest has completely lost its topsoil due to erosion. This loss has resulted in yields of corn and soybeans decreasing by 6%, meaning a loss of nearly \$3 Billion a year for farmers.**

**As our soil erodes we are essentially changing the microclimate, when we do this to a large portion of the earth's land by cutting down trees and ecosystems, we are changing the microclimate of the whole planet.**

**Industrialization and over-farming has diminished the nutritional value in most of our foods. A study from the British Food Journal found that in twenty vegetables the average calcium content had declined by 19%, potassium by 14%, and iron by 22%. Another study concluded you would have to eat twenty one oranges to get the same amount of Vitamin C that our grandparents would have got from a single orange.**

**Over-farming is also a product of our personal and social evolution and a fear of food scarcity. Overestimating how much we may eat leads to waste in vast quantities and in turn pollution, as we saturate our landfills, and perpetuate the use of energy sucking monster trucks to disseminate and dispose of perfectly usable food. Food waste costs the average US household \$1500 a year. An estimated aggregate value of \$240 billion annually.**

## **Your future, Your children's futures, Your planet**

**Young people lead the way in ethical and sustainable practice and we should be proud of their passionate and strong voices. They champion and campaign to affect not just the way we consume, but also driving for change in public policy. The world is home to 1.8 billion young people between the ages of 10 to 24 — the largest generation of youth in history. Young people are increasingly aware of the challenges and risks presented by the climate crisis and of the opportunity to achieve sustainable development brought by a solution to climate change.**

**Young people's unprecedented mobilization around the world shows the massive power they possess to hold decision-makers accountable. Their message is clear: the older generation has failed, and it is the young who will pay in full — with their very futures.**

**Ever since Swedish teen Greta Thunberg inspired millions of teens to skip school to demonstrate for climate change in 2018, the world's media has been paying attention to youth climate strikes.**

**The protests, filled with passionate young people, and often led by Thunberg, now 19. They have captured the attention of the world's media, reverberating with the anger and angst the young attendees feel about the future.**

**Young people, especially teens, are experts at arguing with their parents, Van Susteren said, adding that, when it comes to the climate crisis, catharsis is "absolutely critical."**

**"Don't hold it in," she said. "If it's churning inside you, let it out. Talk about it. Don't stop talking about it."**

**Just some of our inspirational champions' endeavors are listed below:**

**The Young Climate Warriors Ambassador Programme takes climate change discussions into primary (elementary) schools across the UK. Connecting schools with local Young Climate Warriors Ambassadors to deliver in-person, animated, interactive climate change assemblies, to help children learn about climate change - in a way that's age-appropriate and fun? The program is designed to be fun as well as thought-provoking and informative! Looking for positive messaging about climate change - to encourage and empower, rather than potentially trigger eco-anxiety?**

**Youth in Action. The United Nations YOUNGO: UNFCCC constituency of Youth Non-Governmental Organizations**YOUNGO is the official children and youth constituency of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). YOUNGO is a vibrant, global network of children and youth activists (up to 35 years) as well as youth NGOs, who contribute to shaping the intergovernmental climate change policies and strive to empower youth to formally bring their voices to the UNFCCC processes.

In 2009, the UNFCCC secretariat extended constituency status to admitted youth NGOs. YOUNGO's vision is to empower children and youth to take action and work to enhance their skills and capacity to drive the necessary and ambitious climate actions and policies at all levels towards a livable climate future. YOUNGO representatives make official statements, provide technical and policy input to negotiations and engage with decision-makers at the UN climate change conferences, and promote youth participation in climate change projects at local and national levels.

**YOUNGO** focuses on the following areas:

- 1) Awareness, Knowledge and Capacity Building**
- 2) Collaboration, Cooperation and Network**
- 3) Policy, Lobby and Advocacy**
- 4) Youth Action**

**Unicef, Voices of Youth,** offers varied programs and opportunities to become climate game changers, and offers toolkits for Young climate Activists. They include social media platforms for Global advocacy and vital resources like understanding the Paris Agreement, and climate negotiations.

**The Paris Agreement, often referred to as the Paris Accords or the Paris Climate Accords, is an international treaty on climate change. Adopted in 2015, the agreement covers climate change mitigation, adaptation, and finance.**

**Signed: 22 April 2016**

**Effective: 4 November 2016**

**Signatories: 195**

**Drafted: 30 November – 12 December 2015 in Le Bourget, France**

**Location: Paris, France**

**Condition: Ratification and accession by 55 UNFCCC parties, accounting for 55% of global greenhouse gas emissions**

**Here are five of the agreement's key points.**

**Limit temperature rise 'well below' 2 C. ...**

**First universal climate agreement. ...**

**Helping poorer nations. ...**

**Publishing greenhouse gas reduction targets. ...**

**Carbon neutral by 2050?**

## **MOTHER EARTH**

*There is a difference of opinion between the academic and the popular conception of the term Mother goddess. The popular view is mainly driven by the Goddess movement and reads that primitive societies initially were matriarchal, worshipping a sovereign, nurturing, motherly earth goddess. For a long time, feminist authors claimed that these peaceful, matriarchal agrarian societies were exterminated or subjugated by nomadic, patriarchal warrior tribes. Since the 1960s, especially in popular culture, the alleged worship of the mother goddess and the social position that women in prehistoric societies supposedly assumed were linked. This made the debate a political one. According to the goddess movement, the current male-dominated society should return to the egalitarian matriarchy of earlier times.*