



Date aired: 2/28 Time Aired:

Weekly Public Affairs Program

Show # 2021-09

Total running time: 29:30 (with optional exit at 24:00)

1. **Gregory Koufacos**, Licensed Clinical Alcohol and Drug Counselor who specializes in working with young men, Nationally Certified Recovery Coach, Founder & CEO of Velocity Mentoring, author of "*The Primal Method: A Book for Emerging Men*"

Social isolation related to the pandemic lockdowns has had a severe impact on teens and young adults, as research has detected more stress, anxiety and depression than other groups. Mr. Koufacos talked about the critical importance of providing support for young people. He also discussed the problems caused by limited schooling, and the surprising value of video gaming, outdoor activities and jobs for young men who are struggling.

Issues covered:

Length: 9:06

Youth at Risk

Mental Health

Education

Substance Abuse

Suicide

2. **Akito Y. Kawahara, PhD**, Associate Professor at the University of Florida, Curator of the Florida Museum of Natural History's McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Biodiversity, research associate at the Smithsonian Institution, National Museum of Natural History

Prof. Kawahara shared a straightforward message: We can't live without insects. They're in trouble. And there's something all of us can do to help. He explained why everyone should be concerned by studies that sound the alarm about plummeting insect numbers and diversity. He offered simple steps that anyone can take to contribute to insect conservation.

Issues covered:

Length: 8:08

Environment

Climate Change

3. **Ed Hirs, PhD**, Lecturer and Energy Fellow at the University of Houston Department of Economics

Prof. Hirs discussed the reasons behind the recent failure of the Texas electrical grid, and whether other areas of the country are at risk of similar outages. He said regulatory incentives should be put in place for private companies to stand ready to fill gaps during periods of peak demand, and to add infrastructure capacity as electricity demand rapidly increases from electric cars and other demands.

Issues covered:

Length: 5:03

Energy

Government Regulations

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