This story is about
the end of the world
by Ross Gelbspan

The end will come within the next 100 years, under the weight of population and industrial over-growth, according to a team of MIT scientists, unless we stop all growth within the next few years. Otherwise civilization will collapse.

The equilibrium state goes against a fundamental American instinct—the drive for growth. The changes that will be required in our mentality are staggering. It means we must be willing to give away much of what we have. It means the whole world would be living at about the same standard of living—approximately that of middle-class Europeans—if we act quickly. It means that people will probably be working only a scant portion of the hours they now work. It means a tremendous shift of capital from material and industrial goods into service areas—education, health, the arts, sports, etc.—which do not yield increasing capital dividends. It means the end of the marketplace economy, the equalization of wealth throughout the world. It means a totally new global consciousness which is as remote from the mainstream of American thought as Copernicus' conception of the universe was from the church-dominated mentality of his time. Only we have a very few years to make the adjustment.

Forced by the intensified discussion of the Conditions of Life on Our Limited Planet, Politicians, Governments, Corporations, and International Organizations have begun to talk about the "human environment." With this title the United Nation is planning a huge conference to be held in Stockholm, Sweden, during June 5-16. The conference will be visited by some 1200 delegates—primarily politicians—from more than a hundred countries. They will formulate the issues so that the task appears to be to modify the consequences of the current development rather than to create a new way of life. They will present endless resolutions to convince us and maybe even themselves that our future is in good hands.

The "message" from the conference will be propagated all over the world. At least 500 journalists from newspapers, magazines, radio, and television, will be present.

Our task is clear:
Get together and do some thing during June 5-16, 1972.
Join these actions, which will be decentralized.

Every group undertakes the kinds of actions they prefer, and no one will act as international bureaucrats.

In Stockholm many events are planned under the common name of POWWOW.

We have been working with the POWWOW for some time in Stockholm.
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So write and tell us about your ideas and plans (or just anything). Then we can pass it around to all groups that want to participate for mutual inspiration and to enable all of us to get in contact with each other.