

ASPO 2009

International Peak Oil Conference

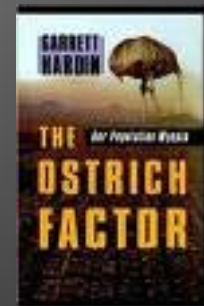
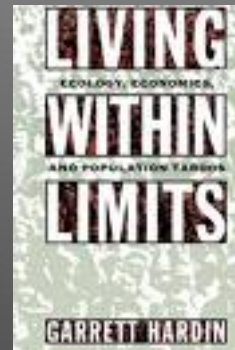


ASPO-USA/International, Denver
“Stalking The Wild Taboo”

Albert A. Bartlett, University of Colorado
Richard D. Lamm, University of Denver

Sunday, October 11, 2009

ASPO-USA/International, Denver
“Stalking The Wild Taboo”



The origin of “taboo”

- **Definition:** “A taboo is a strong social prohibition relating to an area of human activity or thought that is sacred and forbidden.”
- **Language origin:** Tongan. [occurs in many Polynesian cultures]
- **Introduced into English:** 1777 by explorer/Captain James Cook.

Garrett Hardin on Taboo

- "An effective taboo is worth more than the most skillful argument."
- " An effective gatekeeper of the mind does not call attention to itself. It actuates a psychological mechanism called a taboo."

Lifestyle

Growth

Economy

Business

LIMITS

POPULATION

ENERGY

Resources

Culture

Development

Immigration

Taboos . . .

. . . are contextual

Taboos . . .

. . . are contextual

. . . change with time

Taboos . . .

. . . are contextual

. . . change with time

. . . have a sanction for their violation

Taboo

the Game of
Unspeakable Fun



Stalking The Wild Taboo: The Missing Discussions About Population and Energy

*thoughts from Richard Lamm
an interview with Al Bartlett
and a conversation with both*

