

10 Questions: A Thoughtful Discussion of the Tragedy of the Commons

1. What is the “maximum good”? How do you define it? Who decides?
2. Explain: Freedom in a commons brings ruin to all.
3. In 1968, Hardin predicted ruin for the National Parks. Compare that to today’s reality.
4. Discuss pollution as a “commons” problem.
5. Discuss population as a “commons” problem.
6. Do you agree or disagree with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights? Explain.
7. Explain how breeding selectively will eliminate people of conscience.
8. Do you agree or disagree that an appeal to conscience about the “commons” will not work? Explain.
9. Is coercion acceptable? Discuss.
10. Do you agree or disagree that there is no technical solution that can rescue us from overpopulation? Discuss.