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eliminate the protections that those companies have. The Advocate was wondering why that is, so I did this feature article exploring what was going on with Exxon. And then the follow-up was after the president passed his executive order requiring that all government contractors have equal protections and benefits for their LGBT employees and their families. The question was: OK, Exxon is a huge government contractor, so shouldn't Exxon then lose its contract? I found out that is correct, but there is time to implement the order and so there's a transition phase that we're in.

E.G.: *Do you ever throw up your hands and say to yourself, "Why am I doing this? Big oil is just too big and too powerful and too rich to fight?"*

A.J.: I certainly have my days (laughs) — when I feel soaked in the muck of the industry that I'm investigating. The thing that really keeps me going — and what I always try to write about in my books and articles — are the people who are standing up to this industry every day in far more difficult situations than I. People on the frontlines, whether they be in Ecuador, Afghanistan or North Dakota. These are the people who I believe will give readers hope and who also give me hope. There's a choice to go down the difficult path of tackling this industry, and that's the path that I've chosen, and so have lots of other people — people who are on a significantly more difficult part of that path than I.

I did a piece for CNN — I was in Ecuador — and the woman I highlighted in the piece, Alicia Cahuilla — here's a woman who, her tribe had been decimated by oil production, but she stands up to this industry and literally risks her life on a day-to-day basis to do so. If she can do that, I can certainly



A hard hat from an oil worker lies in oil from the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill on East Grand Terre Island, La., on June 8, 2010.

PHOTO BY LEE CELANO/REUTERS

write about the industry.

People like her are, in many cases, more the rule than the exception. Really people all over the country and the world are standing up and not being afraid to tackle this behemoth.

E.G.: *It's in the oil industry's best interest to sell all the oil it has in its reserves. But scientists warn 80 percent of known fossil fuels need to stay in the ground if we're going to avoid exceeding that well-known, 2-degree Celsius limit on increasing global temperature. What kind of policy changes do you think could help divert oil companies toward other kinds of energy, or at least stop them from drilling everywhere and maintain their reserves?*

A.J.: I've seen what oil companies do with the natural resources that they do have access to, and I would really hate to see them also be given control of other natural

resources like the sun and the wind and the water, so what I think what we have to do is, as long as we're dependent on fossil fuels, which is going to unfortunately continue, we need to constrain as much as possible.

While we're dependent on oil, we have to regulate when, where and how the industry is able to get the resource that they go after as we move toward meeting that requirement that 80 percent of fossil fuels stay in the ground, and the way to do that isn't to depend on the interests of the oil industry; it's rather to regulate and restrict the interests and activities of the oil industry.

If we are to avert the worst of climate crisis, we have to work contrary to the interest of the oil industry. That gives us a couple options.

One is to stop consumption, and the other is — how much of a free hand do we want to keep allowing the industry to have?

The reason why we are producing more oil in the United States now than we ever have in our entire history is because policies put in place by the Bush administration and continued by the Obama administration, which have almost given a complete green light to the industry to produce wherever it wants, whatever it wants, however it wants. And if we want to change course, we have to change those policies.

E.G.: *Is there anything going on in Congress right now that makes you think we might be close to changing some of those policies?*

A.J.: There are definitely people in Congress who get it. They don't get enough support from the public, honestly. People don't understand that it's actually very hard for policy makers to do the right thing if they don't hear from the public. The public needs to say what they want to see happen and support the members of Congress that do the right thing, and they need to come out and vote and tell their friends to come out and vote and do those things that need to happen to counterbalance the unbelievably extreme weight of money on the other side.

E.G.: *Can we expect another book in the near future?*

A.J.: Yeah, I'm getting ready to work on another book. I'm tentatively calling it "The End of Oil." We need to move toward the end of oil as quickly as possible, and there's a push to do that in the public. There's actually a movement called "leave the oil in the soil" that started in Ecuador, but there's this counter push in that the industry is trying to grasp on to every last drop of oil that there is before we reach the end of oil, and I'm looking at this question of what those two highly conflicting pressures are creating.

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increase the representation of farmworkers on the board from one-third to two-thirds. With a lot of politicking, we got the board to fire all the 40 professional employees and hire migrant farmworkers in their place. They went on to build cultural centers throughout the area, centers that still exist today in Jefferson, Dayton, Woodburn, Hillsboro and Independence. We helped get the Virginia Garcia health clinics started. We hired a master carpenter to help 14 families build their own homes. Thirty-nine churches sponsored families who settled here. And we stopped the expulsion of students who were speaking Spanish in school."

Forty years ago, he moved to the Albina district, where he has been active with social justice programs through St. Andrew Catholic parish. He bought an old house that had been abandoned after a fire and fixed it up.

"This is where I live and offer apostolic hospitality," he explains. The original idea was that up to five men could be in residence when they needed a stable address in order to get a job.

A primary concern of Jim's has been to help people find work. He participated in a Jefferson High School jobs program in

which Jefferson provided the names and phone numbers of all the graduates who didn't plan to go to college. Committee members contacted the students and told them how other students had found jobs, gave them job leads and helped with resumes.

"The first year 100 percent of the kids who were looking for jobs got hired within three months of graduation."

When a new privacy policy went into effect, Jefferson stopped giving out students' telephone numbers and the project closed.

Around 1980, Jim began tutoring kids in math after school. In 1992 when the SMART (Start Making a Reader Today) program began, Jim volunteered to tutor second- and third-graders in reading. Disappointed that some kids were still failing, he now helps tutor kids from King Elementary School on Saturdays at St. Andrew's classroom. This program has been more successful, bringing about 80 percent of failing kids up to their grade level.

At King School, he continues to volunteer in social studies classes, where he teaches about the wisdom of Imhotep, the Egyptian father of mathematics and medicine and builder of the first pyramid. He gives the students a biography he wrote about Imhotep, introducing Africa as an important source of civilization.

His concern for his neighbors has also led him to advocate for people in danger of losing their homes. About 20 years ago, as Alberta was gentrifying, he became aware that developers were driving through the neighborhood, scouting out locations on which they might build, then reporting the existing home to the city as a property that should be checked for potential code violations. These were often old homes owned by elderly people who didn't have the means to make repairs. Jim did what he could, mediating, advocating, lobbying and protesting to try to keep people in their homes.

Then one day, to his surprise, it happened to him: A city inspector came to the door, and by the time he left, Jim had a long list of expensive repairs that would have to be made if he wanted to keep his house. He did what he could, patching this, replacing that, until he ran out of money and time.

Rather than wait for the other shoe to drop, he called the city and told them to come out and have a look.

A young African-American inspector arrived on his front porch — not the same inspector who had come before — and Jim showed him the list. The inspector took his own tour of the house, then reported to Jim: "It passes." Jim was both surprised and

relieved.

As the inspector started to leave, he turned to Jim and held out his hand.

"You don't remember me, do you, Mr. Anderson?" he said.

"Well, your face is familiar," Jim said, hesitantly.

"You tutored me about five years ago in the algebra class I needed to get this job."

As he turned to leave, he mused to Jim: "A lot of the inspectors just don't understand this neighborhood."

Jim insists that his spiritual life has given him the time and energy to help the students, the homeowners and the unemployed.

"I feel a calling," he says. "At Stanford, I saw that unemployment was the main engine used to suppress the nonwhite members of the community and that the secondary engine was designing education best suited for the middle class. That's why I've worked in those two areas."

For Jim Anderson, there's not much difference between activism and ministry.

"Pope Francis says that youth unemployment is the greatest evil in the world," he says. "His words have pushed me back to my first vocation."