

## ANU PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES 2010

# *Requiem for a Species* – *Why we resist the truth about climate change*

## BOOK LAUNCH

### Clive Hamilton

Charles Sturt Professor of Public Ethics at the  
Centre for Applied Philosophy and Public Ethics



Monday 29 March 12:30–2pm

Hedley Bull Lecture Theatre,  
Corner of Liversidge and Garran Roads, ANU

Moderated by Professor Will Steffen  
Executive Director ANU Climate Change Institute

This lecture is free and open to the public.

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Sometimes facing up to the truth is just too hard. There have been any number of urgent scientific reports in recent years emphasising just how dire the future looks and how little time we have left to act. But around the world only a few have truly faced up to the facts about global warming.

This book is about why we have ignored those warnings, so that now it is too late. It is a book about the frailties of the human species: our strange obsessions, our hubris, and our penchant for avoiding the facts. It is the story of a battle within us between the forces that should have caused us to protect the earth, like our capacity to reason and our connection to nature, and our greed, materialism and alienation from nature, which, in the end, have won out.

And it is about the 21st century consequences of these failures, and what we can do now. Because we don't have to take this lying down.

Clive Hamilton is Charles Sturt Professor of Public Ethics at the Centre for Applied Philosophy and Public Ethics. He is based at The Australian National University. For 14 years until early 2008 he was the Executive Director of The Australia Institute, Australia's leading progressive think tank, which he founded in 1993. He has held a number of visiting academic positions, including at the University of Cambridge and Yale University and is a Fellow of the Royal Society of the Arts.

He is the author of a number of best-selling books, including *Growth Fetish*, *Affluenza* (with Richard Denniss), *Silencing Dissent* (with Sarah Maddison) and *The Freedom Paradox*. His new book, *Requiem for a Species: Why we resist the truth about climate change*, has just been published by Allen & Unwin.

The Centre for Applied Philosophy and Public Ethics is an Australian Research Council Special Research Centre that draws on expertise from The Australian National University, Charles Sturt University and University of Melbourne.



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