

DUTY OF CARE: THE FILM OUR IMPACT GOALS

We have identified the following issues related to climate change and how our film can make a positive impact on them.

1: Catastrophic climate change is still legal. We demonstrate that it cannot be.

The first duty of government is to secure the lives and livelihoods of its citizens. Over 100 states include a constitutional right to live in a healthy environment. Yet almost no state has a legally binding target to avoid catastrophic climate change which citizens could enforce in court today. Our protagonist is the only lawyer in the world who has won a case making climate change illegal now. By taking our audience on a compelling narrative journey through his efforts to win another two cases on the same grounds, and by producing teaching material and a social media campaign on the issues we raise, we demonstrate that climate change can and must be considered illegal.

2: Big Oil continues to put profits ahead of people and planet. We hold them accountable.

Oil majors like Royal Dutch Shell have known for decades that carbon emissions from their products would cause catastrophic climate change. Yet, instead of upholding their duty of care, big polluters spent those decades and billions of dollars buying compliance from politicians and lying about climate science. By showing our audiences that it is possible to confront Shell with the evidence of its own deceit on climate change, and by possibly succeeding in having a court order it to change its ways, we demonstrate how such impunity can end, and we inspire others to follow.

3: Current environmental law and lawyers don't work. We showcase law fit for the 21st century.

Thousands of environmental laws aim to protect the natural wealth of the nation and the planet. Yet, on current trajectory, our oceans will have more plastic than fish in them within a generation, life on earth has entered its sixth mass extinction directly as a result of human activity, and fertile soils are turning to barren dirt. Our film educates viewers through showcasing the expertise and insights of some of the world's leading thinkers into the reasons why current environmental laws are inadequate and why duty of care and human rights are the solution. Our social media campaign educates as wide an audience as possible and provides a platform for the diverse success stories of climate litigations around the world. Working first in those jurisdictions central to our film (Holland, Belgium, Pakistan, Colombia and the US) we appoint a legal champion to advocate on the issues our film raises. We use our networks to collaborate with law schools around the world to use our film in their classrooms, and to research how the principles it raises could be argued before their own courts. By the end of 2022, our film and associated educational materials have been used by over 10,000 law students in 25 countries around the world.

4: The failure to act on climate change is a failure of democracy. We restore faith.

The largest survey of global opinion on climate change found 64 percent of people believe it is a global emergency. There is no democratic mandate for polluting the planet to the point where ecosystems collapse and human civilisation becomes impossible. Yet that is the course the rulers of the world continue to pursue, a situation that represents a massive failure of democracy. By demonstrating how citizen-led climate cases were able to succeed in meeting democratic demands through the legitimacy of a court, our story helps restore faith in democratic institutions.