



Raising awareness not enough for a Nobel prize

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Sir, I am troubled to learn that Al Gore will be sharing the Nobel Peace Prize. This is not because, as some have argued, the peace prize should only go to those directly involved in international security – Muhammad Yunus's prize for microlending was well-deserved. Rather it is because I believe that the peace prize should be given to someone who actively changes the way we deal with an issue, rather than simply raising awareness.

Properly developed pricing of carbon emissions, whether through a carbon tax or a trading scheme, is the real policy innovation that has allowed us to address climate change in a way consistent with maintaining the economic growth on which our societies depend. Why not give the prize, whether for peace or for economics, for that, and not for a well-meaning documentary?

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