

# How can physical educators address physical inactivity: the biggest public health problem of the 21st century?

**AIESEP 2015 International Conference**  
**July 9, 2015**

**Steven N. Blair**  
**Departments of Exercise Science &**  
**Epidemiology/Biostatistics**  
**University of South Carolina**

# Disclosures for Past 5 Years

## ■ Medical/Scientific Advisory Boards

- Technogym
- Cancer Foundation for Life
- Santech
- Clarity Project
- Sports Surgery Center

## ■ Research Funding

- NIH
- Body Media
- The Coca-Cola Company
- U.S. Department of Defense

## ■ Royalties

- Human Kinetics

# Lecture Outline

- **What are the major health problems in the world?**
  - **What are the causes of these?**
  - **What is the importance of physical activity?**
- **How can we get more people to be physically active more of the time?**
  - **Cognitive and behavioral interventions**
  - **Use of modern technology**

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# Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs)

- Changing patterns in leisure and work have led to a health crisis
- NCDs cause 65% of all deaths worldwide
- 36.1 million deaths from CVD, Stroke, Diabetes, Cancer & Respiratory diseases.

**WHO. Mortality and burden of disease estimates for WHO Member States in 2008. Geneva: World Health Organization, 2010.**



# Economic Burden

- **Failure to reduce chronic diseases will result in heavy losses in terms of human life and economic production.**
- **Current losses:**
  - **US: \$750 billion annually from CVD & diabetes alone.**
  - **China: \$558 billion**
  - **India: \$237 Billion**
  - **Britain: \$33 Billion**
- **Trends suggest that risk factors and costs are on the rise.**

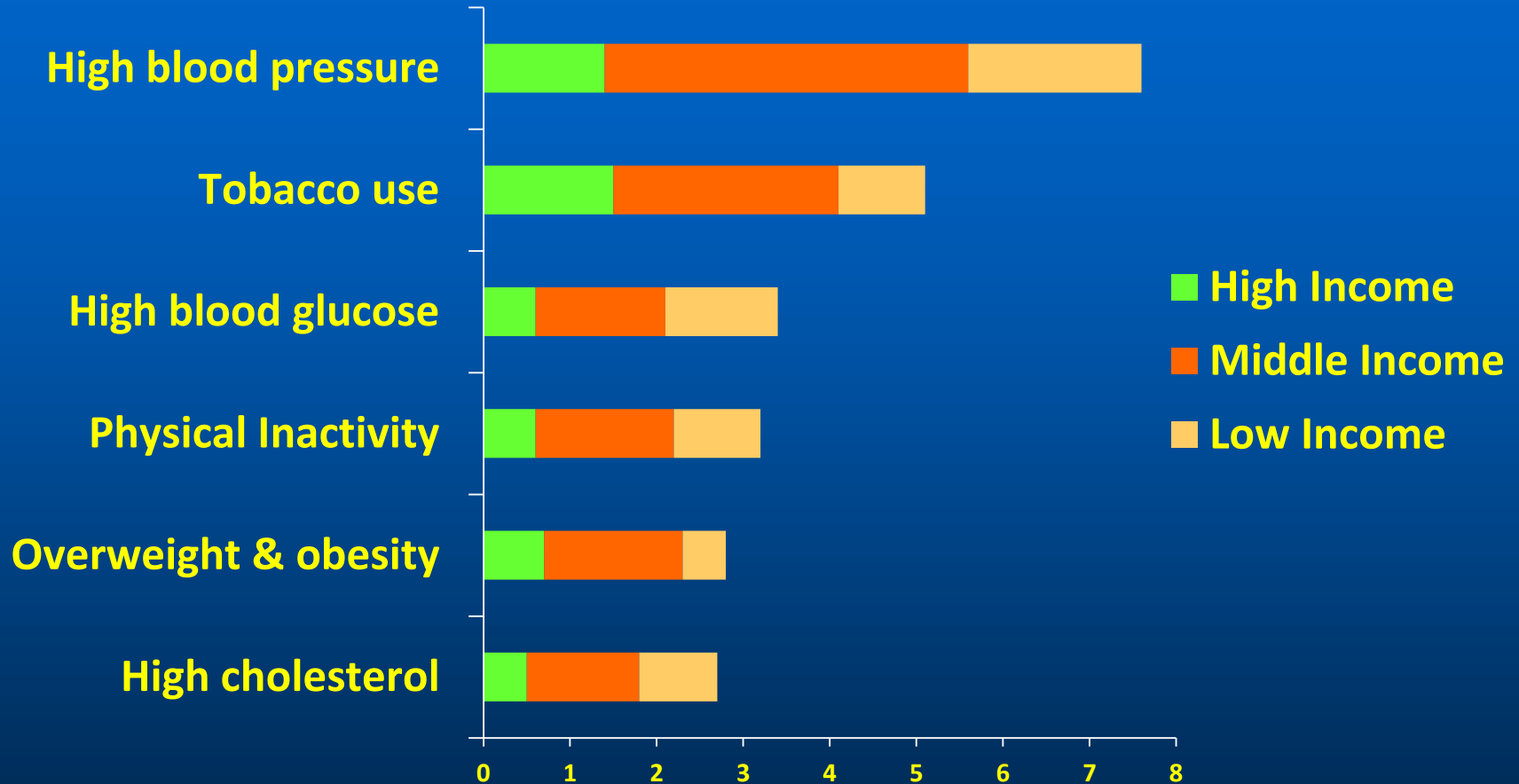
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# Question

- Rank the following exposures by the number of deaths caused worldwide.
  - Tobacco use
  - Obesity
  - High blood pressure
  - Physical inactivity
  - High blood glucose

# Leading risk factors for mortality by income group (estimates from 2004)



**Mortality in millions (total 58.8 million)**

© World Health Organization 2009

([http://www.who.int/healthinfo/global\\_burden\\_disease/global\\_health\\_risks/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/healthinfo/global_burden_disease/global_health_risks/en/index.html))



**EFFECT OF PHYSICAL INACTIVITY ON  
MAJOR NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES  
WORLDWIDE:  
AN ANALYSIS OF BURDEN OF DISEASE  
AND LIFE EXPECTANCY**

**I-Min Lee**, Eric J Shiroma, Felipe Lobelo,  
Pekka Puska, Steven N Blair, Peter T Katzmarzyk, for  
the Lancet Physical Activity Series Working Group

# Findings

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- **Between 6-10% of the world's major NCDs is attributable to inactivity**
- **By eliminating inactivity, >5.3 M deaths/y may be prevented**
- **This leads to an increase of 0.68 years in the world's life expectancy**

**(For perspective: smoking causes 5 M deaths/y worldwide)**

# **The Costs of Inactivity in Europe—June 17, 2015**

**Centre for Economics and Business Research**

- **1 in 4 adults across Europe is insufficiently physically active, as are 4 out of 5 adolescents**
- **Cost to the European economy of “doing nothing” is over 80bn Euros per year.**
- **Physical inactivity could become bigger risk to public health than smoking, but cheap and effective steps to get people moving could save Europe billions.**

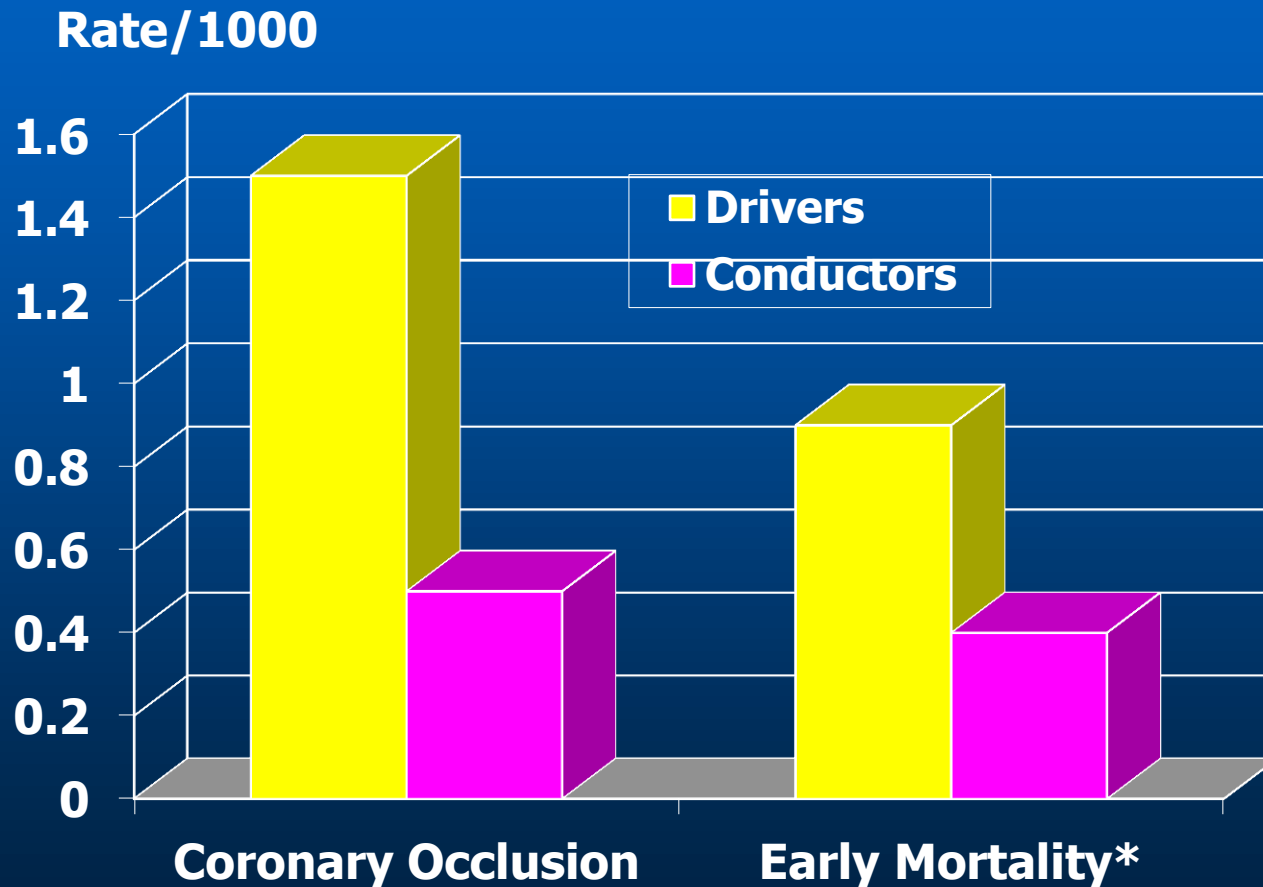
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**Professor  
Jerry Morris—  
Pioneer in  
studying  
physical activity  
and  
cardiovascular  
health**

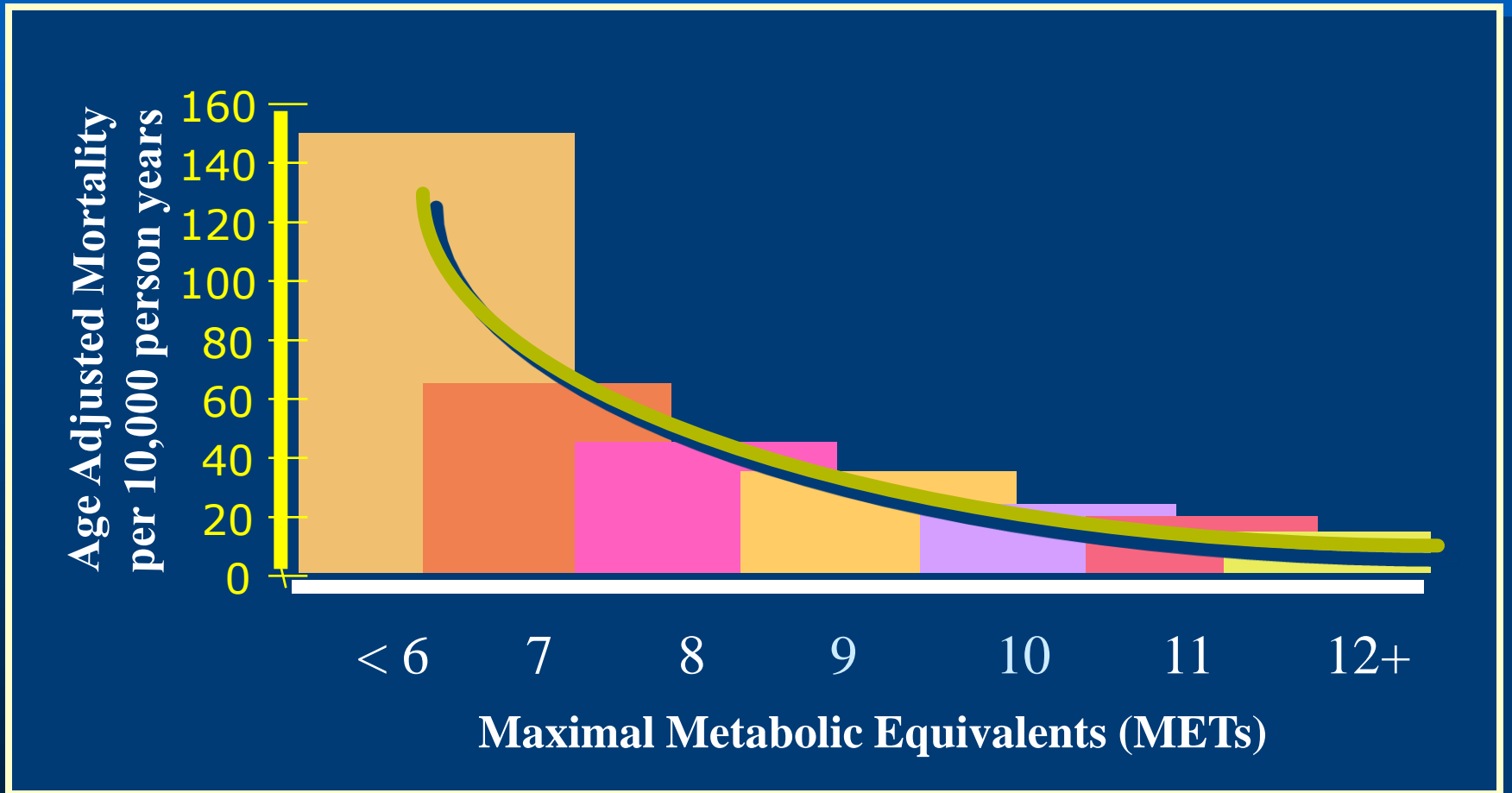
# Physical Activity at Work and Coronary Artery Disease, 31,000 London Transport Workers



\*Within 3 days of MI

Morris JN et al. *Lancet* 1953

# All-Cause Mortality and Physical Fitness



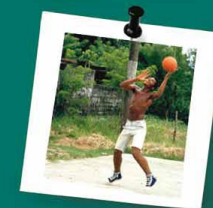
Blair et al. JAMA. 262:2395, 1989

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# WHO PA Recommendation

- Released by WHO in December 2010
- PA recommendations
  - 5-17 yr—60 min MVPA/day, vigorous intensity, including muscle and bone strengthening 3 X week
  - 18-64 yr—each week accumulate in bouts of at least 10 min, 150 min moderate intensity, 75 min vigorous intensity, or combination of both; and resistance training 2 X week
  - 65 yr & older—same as 18-64 yr, those with poor mobility should also do balance exercises, and take health conditions into account



**GLOBAL**  
RECOMMENDATIONS  
ON PHYSICAL  
ACTIVITY  
FOR HEALTH

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# Behavioral Approaches to Physical Activity Interventions

- **Theoretical foundations**
  - Social Learning Theory
  - Stages of Change Model
  - Environmental/Ecological Model
- **Methods**
  - Problem solving
  - Self-monitoring
  - Goal setting
  - Social support
  - Cognitive restructuring
  - Incremental changes
  - Manipulating the environment

# Five Stages of Motivational Readiness

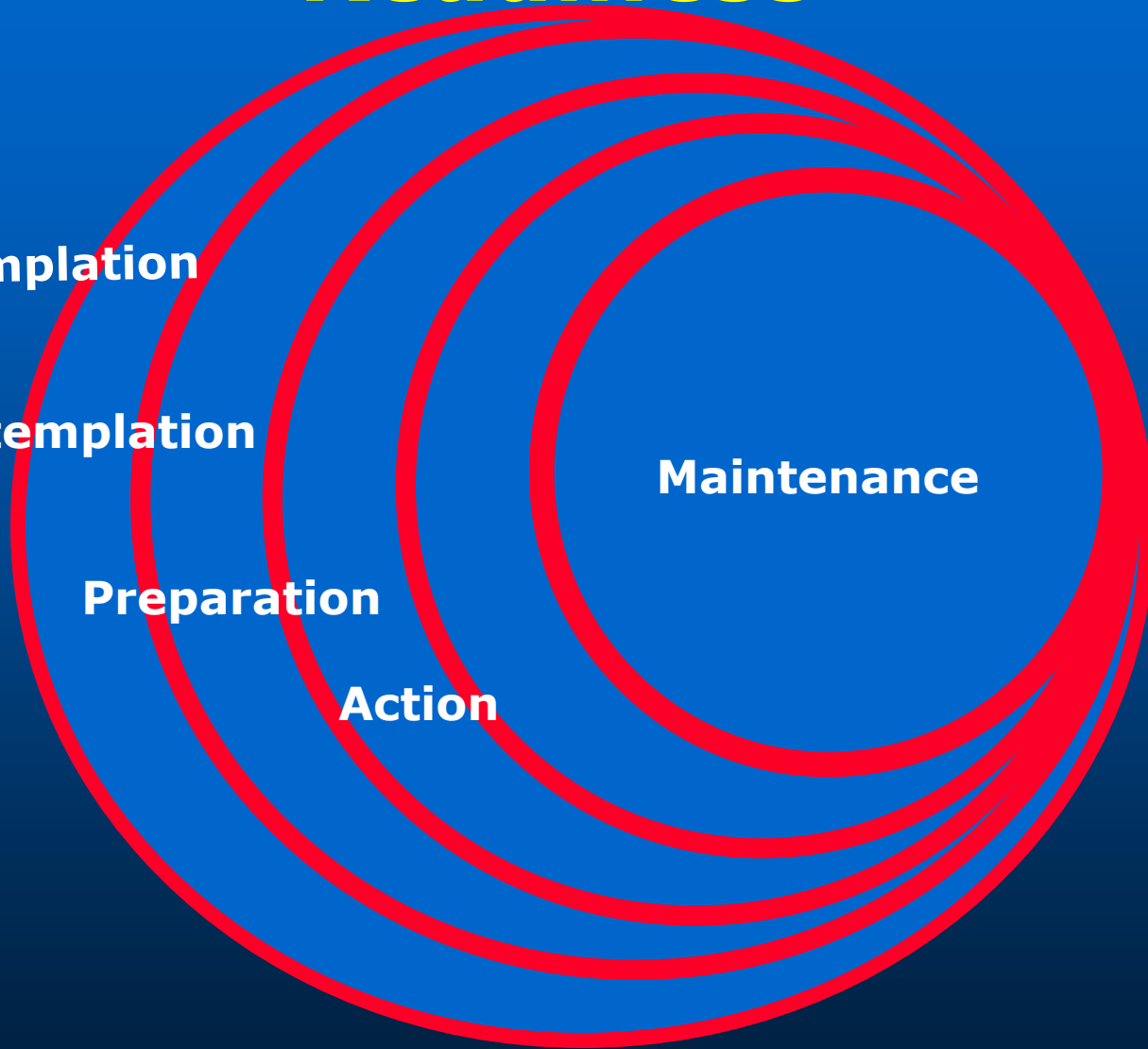
**Precontemplation**

**Contemplation**

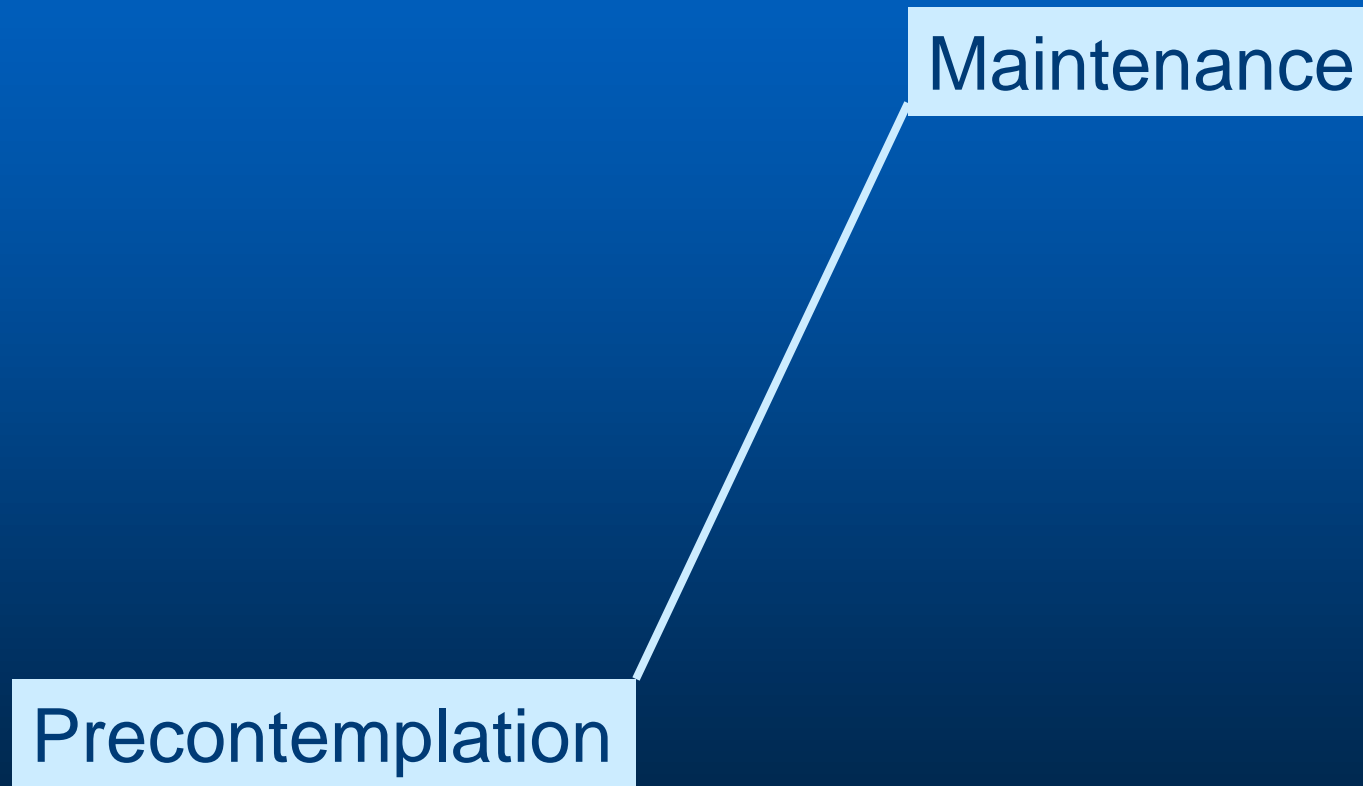
**Preparation**

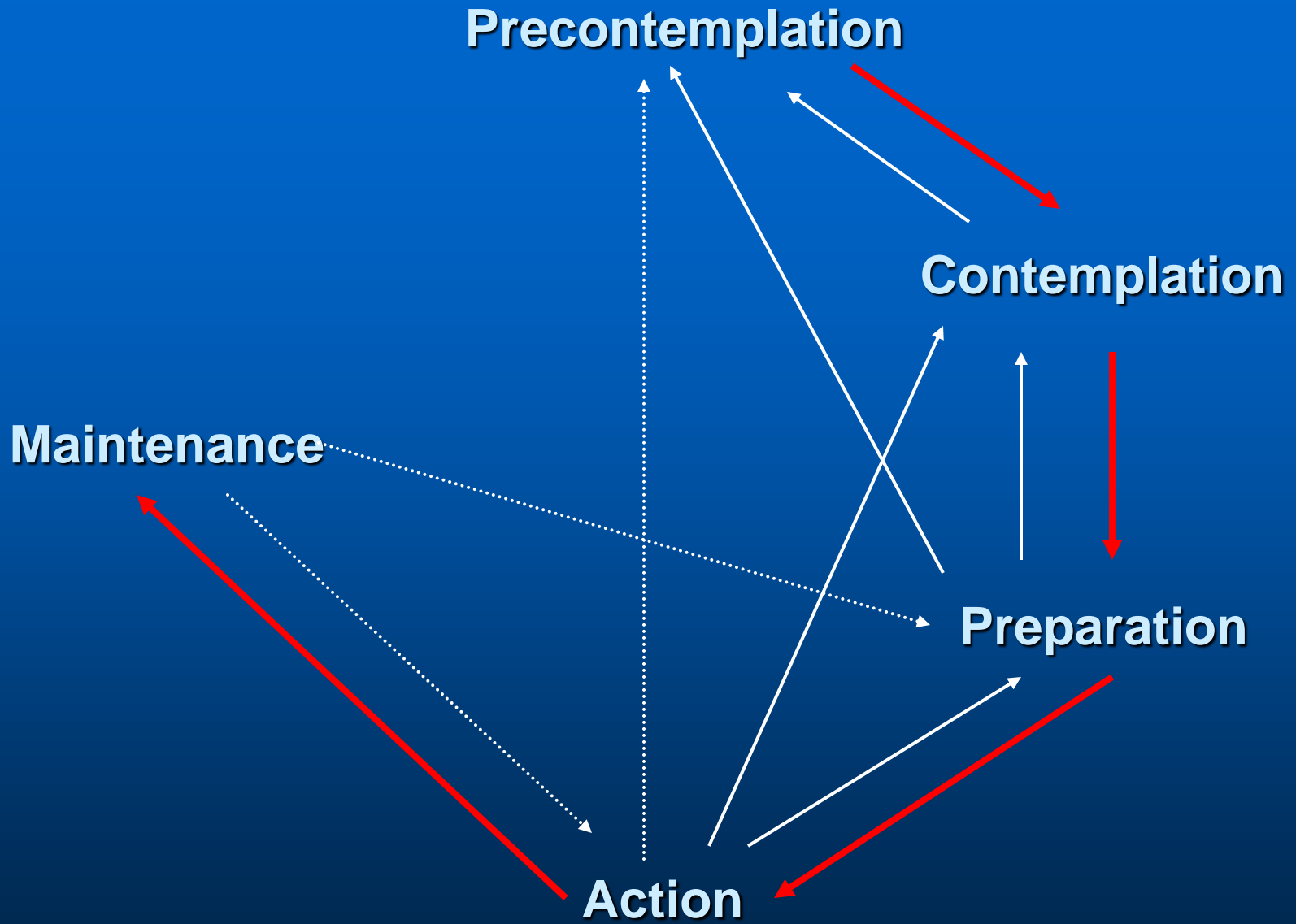
**Action**

**Maintenance**



# The Way People Want To Change





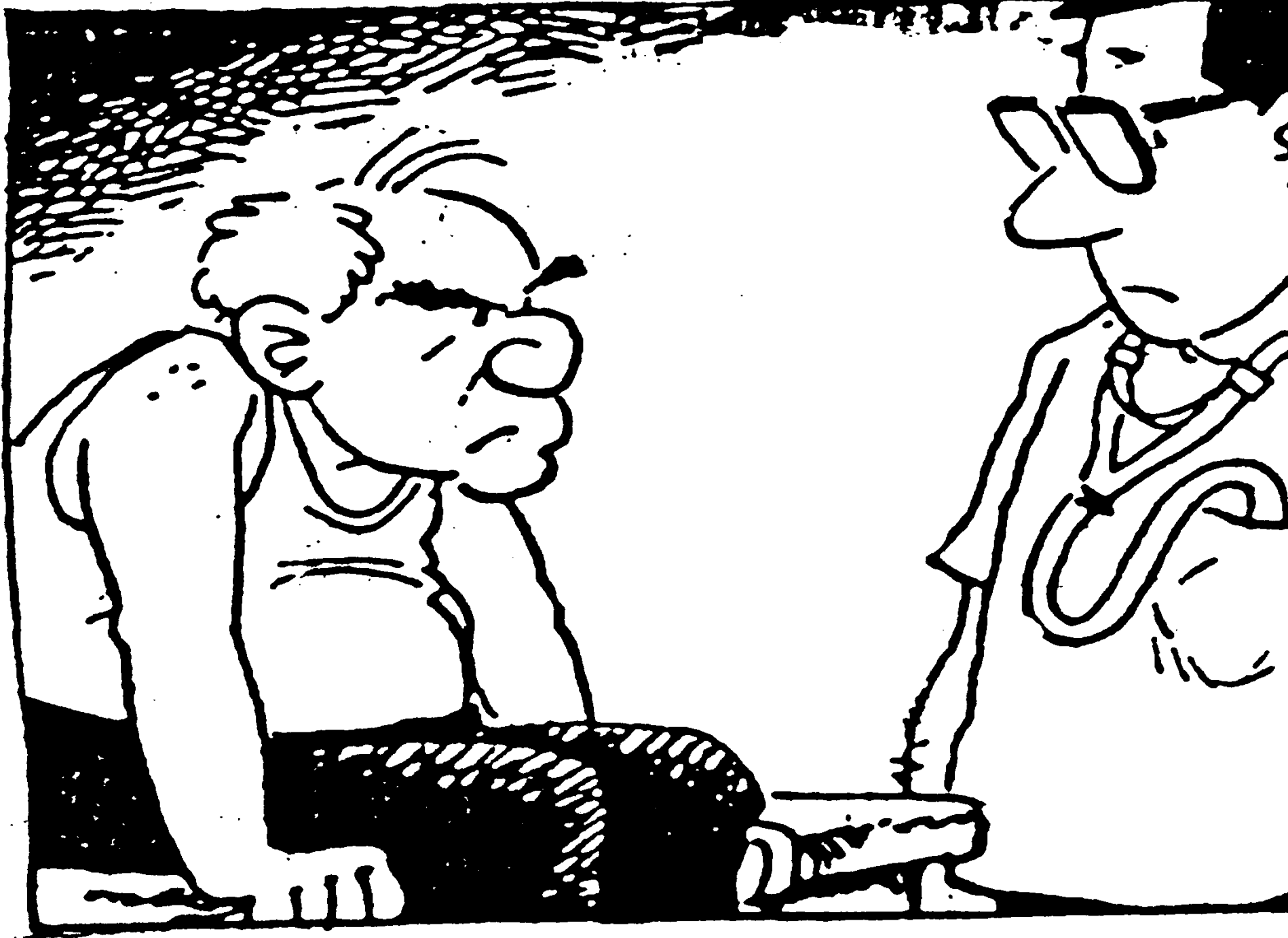
# Precontemplation Stage

## Not Intending to Change

- Doesn't believe behavior has negative consequences
- May be resistant to change
- Cons >> Pros
- Self-confidence

# CRANKSHAFT





# By Tom Batluk and Chuck Ayers



# Contemplation Stage

## Intending to Change

- Knows the negative consequences
- Doesn't know how to get started
- Cons > Pros
- Externally motivated
- Self-confidence

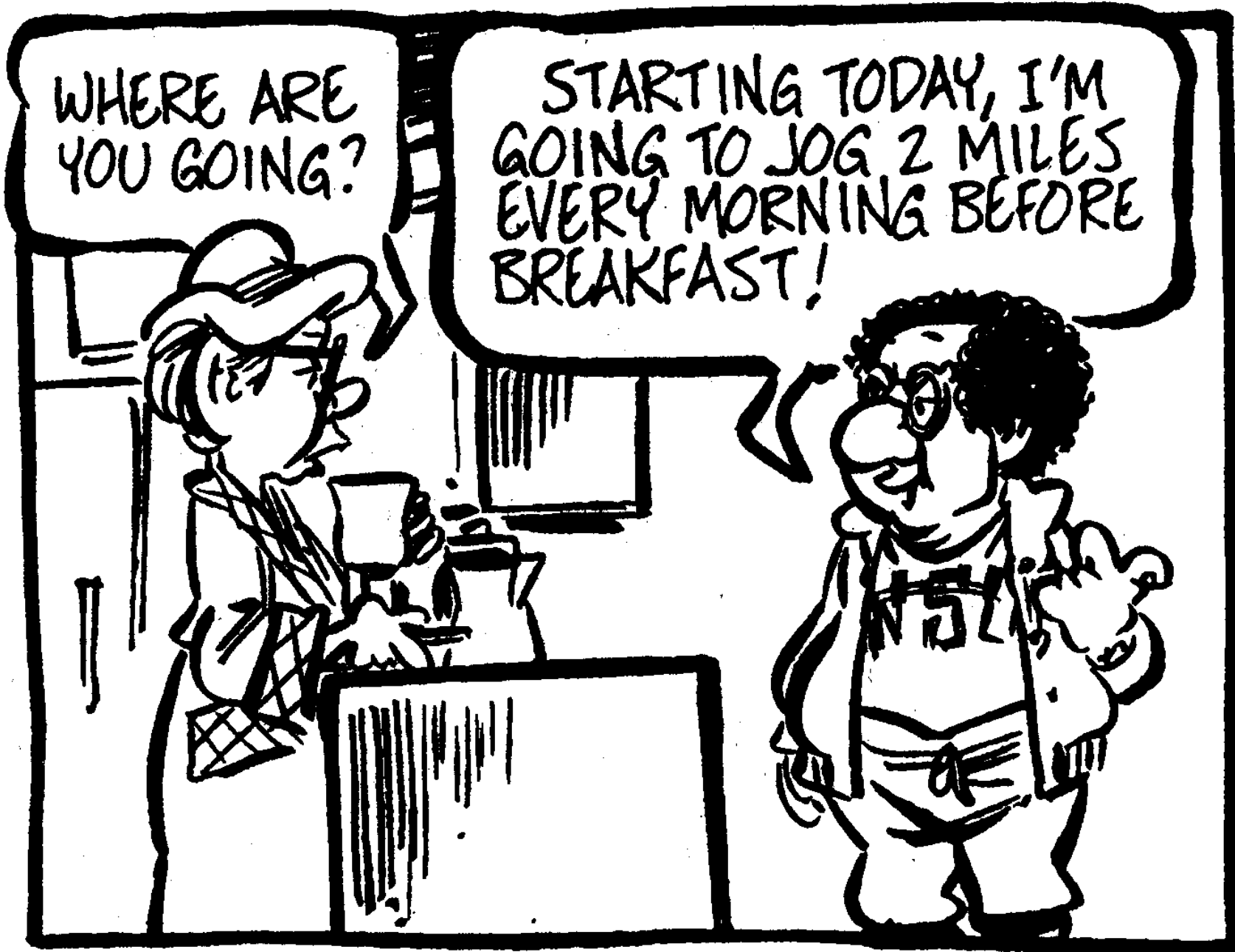
# Preparation Stage

## Making small/inconsistent changes

- Know a little about how to get started
- Don't know how to stay with it; need a plan
- Cons = Pros
- Externally motivated
- Typically the people who participate in "action" programs
- Self-confidence

WHERE ARE  
YOU GOING?

STARTING TODAY, I'M  
GOING TO JOG 2 MILES  
EVERY MORNING BEFORE  
BREAKFAST!



BUT IT'S POURING  
RAIN OUTSIDE!



THANK GOODNESS!



# Action Stage

**Doing the behavior regularly but  
for < 6 mos.**

- **Greatest risk for relapse**
- **Most use of the processes of change**
- **Cons < Pros**
- **Externally (and internally) motivated**
- **Most likely to participate in "action" programs**
- **Self-confidence**

# Maintenance Stage

## Sustaining the change

- Continue to do the behavior no matter what
- The processes of change are now skills
- Cons < < Pros
- Internally motivated; part of value system
- Self-confidence

*Physical Activity  
Intervention Series*

# ***Motivating People to Be Physically Active***

Second Edition



**Bess H. Marcus  
LeighAnn H. Forsyth**

**Available from  
Human Kinetics  
([www.hkusa.com](http://www.hkusa.com))**

# Processes of Change

## Cognitive Strategies

Increasing Knowledge

Comprehending Benefits

Warning of Risks

Caring About  
Consequences

Increasing Healthy  
Opportunities

## Behavioral Strategies

Making a  
Commitment

Enlisting Social  
Support

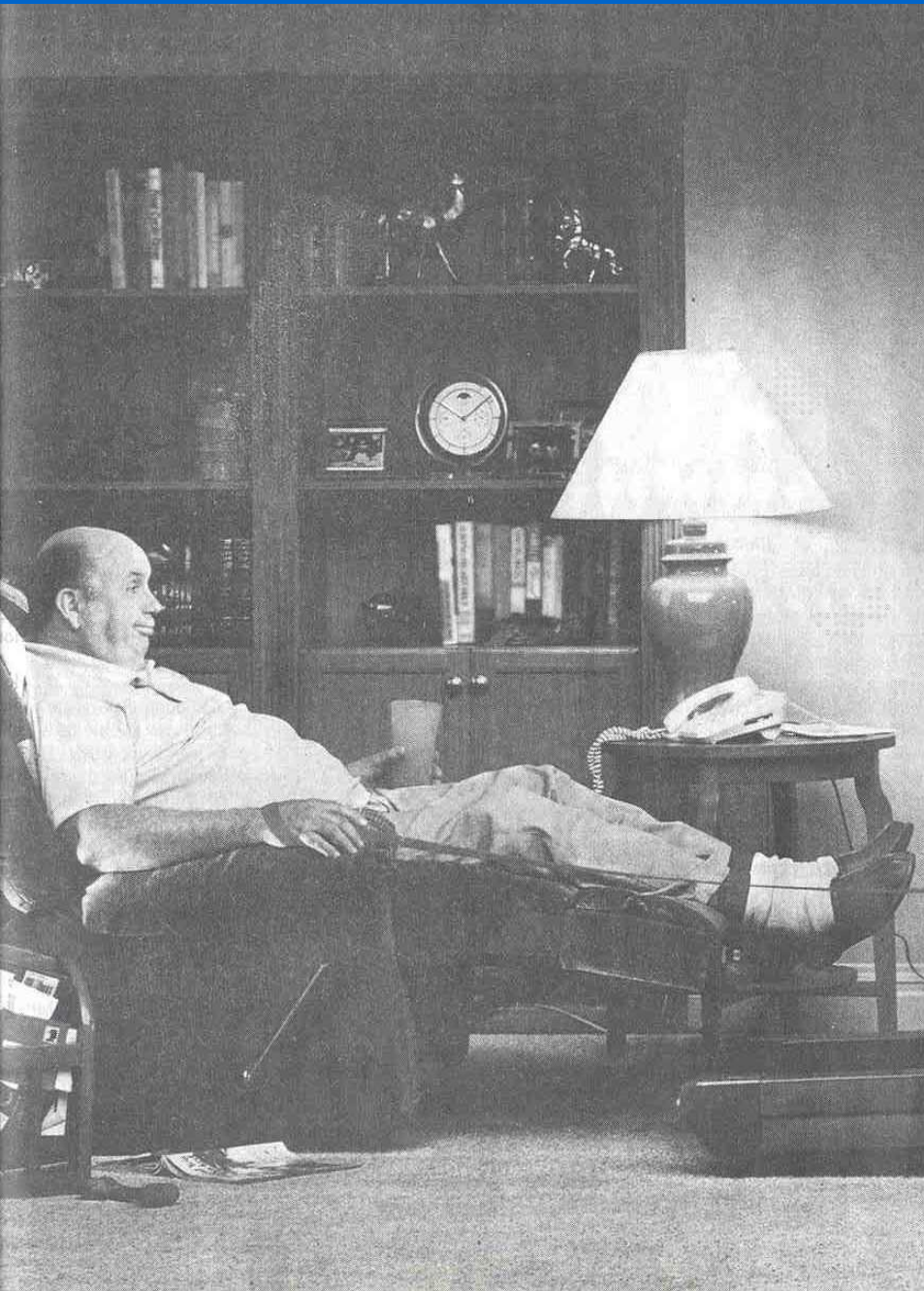
Substituting  
Alternatives

Rewarding Yourself

Reminding Yourself

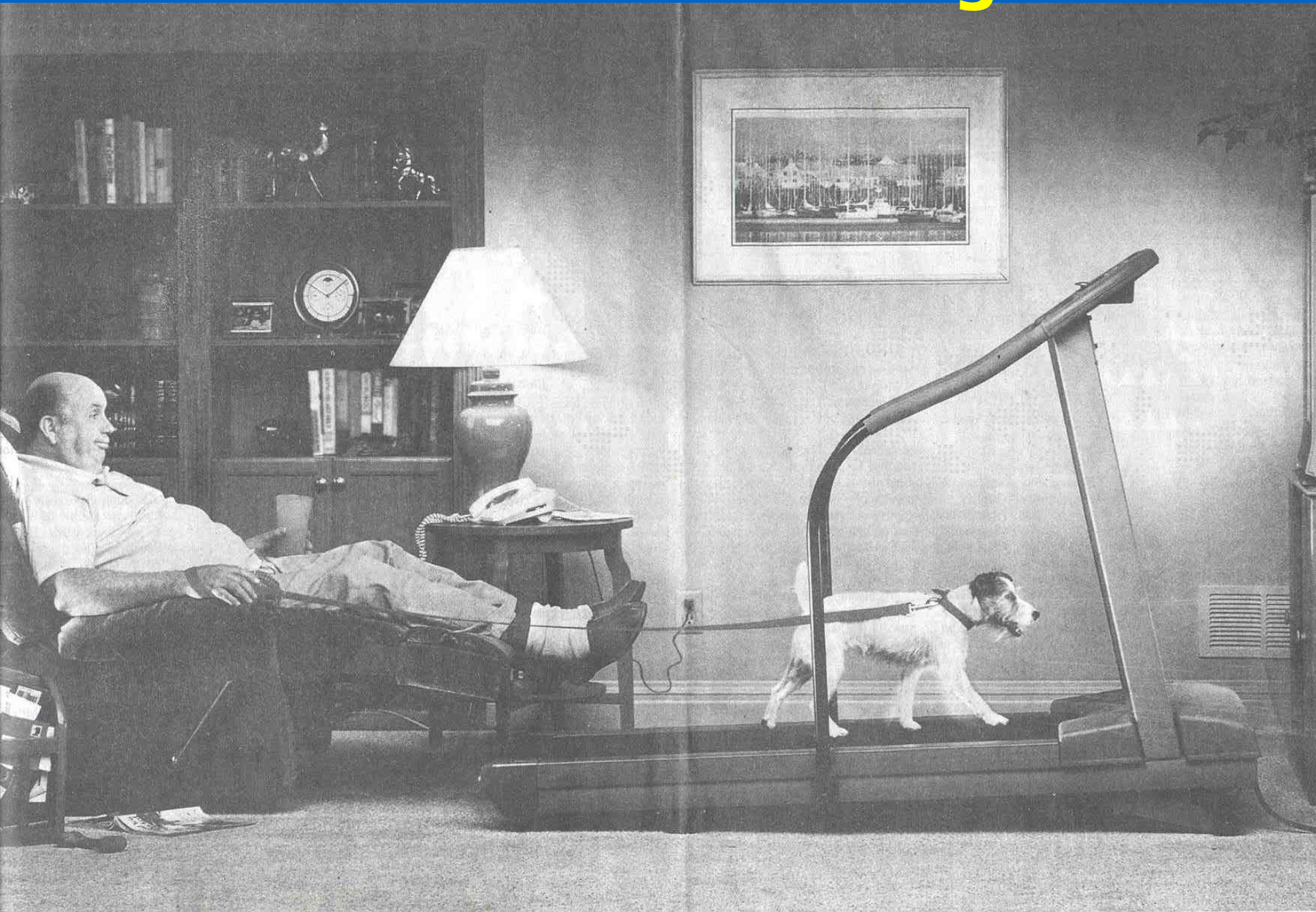
# Enlisting social support

- **Seeking out others to provide support for and encourage participation in physical activity**
  - **I have a healthy friend that encourages me to be physically active when I don't feel up to it**
  - **I have someone on whom I can depend when I am having problems with being physically active**



**Here is a man  
firmly committed  
to regular  
physical activity.  
Walking is his  
favorite activity.**

**At least for his dog!**



# Dog Ownership and PA

- **27% of adult dog owners walk their dog >150 mins/wk**
  - Reeves et al. J Phys Act Health. 2011 Mar;8(3):436-44
- **Adolescent LTPA sig. associated with dog ownership**
  - Sirard et al, Am J Prev Med. 2011 Mar;40(3):334-7
- **Canadian dog owners walked 133 min/wk more than non-owners in 2005**
  - Brown & Rhodes, Am J Prev Med. 2006 Feb;30(2):131-6



# Substituting alternatives

- **Replacing sedentary pursuits with more active behaviors**
  - **Instead of remaining inactive, I engage in some physical activity**
  - **When I'm feeling tense, I find that being physically active helps relieve my worries**

**What to Do Next in Order to  
Increase Physical Activity in  
the Population?**

# How to Achieve Lifestyle Change

- **Counseling by a PhD level behavioral psychologist**
- **Counseling by B.A. level health educators**
- **Counseling by mail and telephone**
- **Counseling by electronic communications**

# **Review of Electronic Computer Interventions to Increase Activity**

- **Search of PubMed or Web of Science yields <25 studies on electronic interventions for physical activity and <15 of these focus exclusively on activity**
- **Conclusions**
  - **Using the internet can reach large populations**
  - **Research is still in infancy but**
    - **Results are promising with beneficial changes in physiological and psychological factors reported**
    - **Appears that response is similar to established interventions**

**But What about the Obesity  
Epidemic?**

**There Is an Enormous  
Amount of Confusion about  
Obesity and Public Health**

# Imbalance in Energy Balance

- **Google search January 1, 2015**
  - **Physical inactivity and obesity**
    - **966,000 hits**
  - **Diet and obesity**
    - **70,300,000 hits**
- **PubMed search January 1, 2015**
  - **Physical inactivity and obesity**
    - **2,176 manuscripts**
  - **Diet and obesity**
    - **44,584 manuscripts**

**Blair SN, Hand GA, Hill JO. Energy Balance: A Crucial Issue for Exercise and Sports Medicine *BJSM* 2015.**

# What Is the Cause of the Obesity Epidemic?

# Energy Balance- Simple Model

**Calories Consumed**

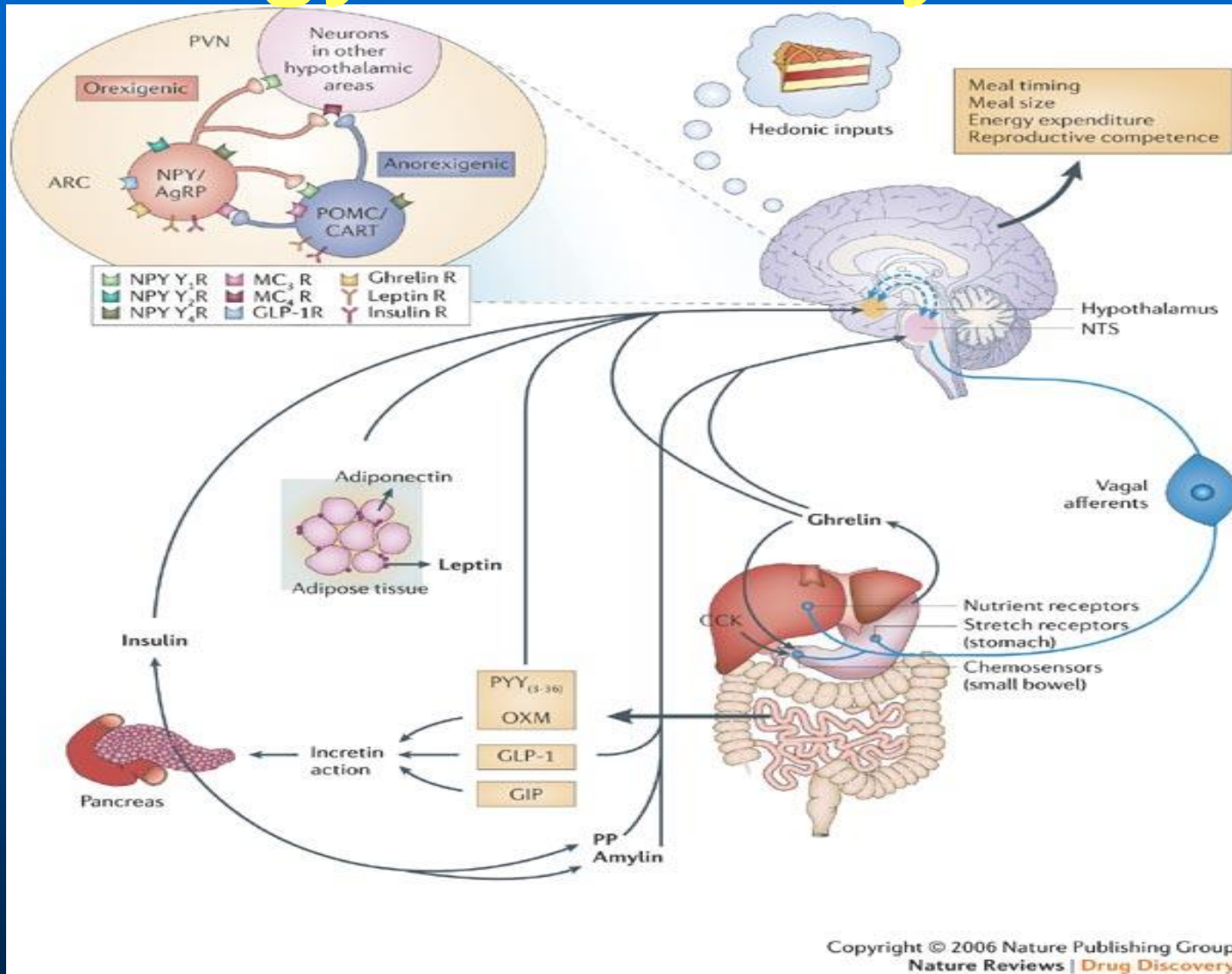


**Calories Burned**



**Slide courtesy of  
Robin Shook**

# Energy Balance System



Cooke D; *Nature Reviews Drug Discovery* 5, 919-931  
Slide courtesy of Jim Hill

**We Need More Balance in the  
Discussion of Energy Balance**

# **Obesity Epidemic Caused by Eating too Much, Claims Academic**

- **Average caloric expenditure in 1980**
  - **Women=950 kcal/day**
  - **Men=1380 kcal/day**
- **Average caloric intake is now 3,500 kcal/day**
- **“Over the past 25 years...there has been no change in our levels of physical activity” “there has been no change in energy expenditure”**

**Article on British Science Festival in the September 16, 2010  
Daily Telegraph**

# World Health Organization

Collaborating Centre for Obesity Prevention

- **“ Increased energy intake alone virtually explains all the increase in body weight in the United States from the 1970s to the 2000s.”**

**Swinburn B. European Congress on Obesity; May 6-9, 2009; Amsterdam, the Netherlands.**

# THE LANCET

Volume 385 · Number 9985 · Pages 2323-2432 · June 13-19, 2015

www.thelancet.com

“An urgent rethinking of the causes, enablers, and barriers to change is needed to begin to make a difference in the global obesity pandemic. The second *Lancet* Obesity Series...examines false dichotomies and proposes a reframing of obesity as a consequence of the ‘reciprocal nature of the interaction between the environment and the individual’, where feedback loops perpetuate food choices and behaviours.”

See Comment page 2326

## Editorial

Melanoma research gathers momentum  
See page 2373

## Correspondence

MERS in South Korea and China: a potential outbreak threat?  
See page 2369

## Articles

Digoxin use in patients with atrial fibrillation and adverse cardiovascular outcomes  
See page 2362

## Articles

Treatment of incomplete abortion with misoprostol by physicians and midwives in Uganda  
See page 2352

## Series

Obesity 1, 2, and 3: Progress on prevention; smart food policies; and mobilisation of public support  
See pages 2400, 2410, and 2422

# Analysis of Lancet 2015 Obesity series

- **An almost exclusive *nutritional focus* in obesogenesis**
- **limited mention of physical activity and active living**
- **series authors had strong nutrition credentials**
- **This is not new – previous NCD prevention summary reports have shown a predilection for nutrition**
- **Attention to this disparity would allow a “balance” to obesity prevention discussions**

# Under-representation of Physical Activity in Obesity reviews: Lancet 2015

- Solutions to obesity require consideration of:
  - balance between energy *expenditure* and *intake*
  - at clinical and community levels
- Physical activity is one side of the energy balance equation
- Obesity cannot be adequately addressed by a *singular focus on nutritional aspects alone*

# Curbing the Diabetes Pandemic: The Need for Global Policy Solutions

Hu FB et al. *JAMA* June 16, 2015

- **Examples of Policy Strategies for Obesity and Diabetes Prevention**
  - **Food, Nutrition, Agricultural, and Public Policies—10 recommendations**
  - **Physical Activity Policies—4 recommendations**

# Trends in Intake of Energy and Macronutrients in U.S. Adults from 1999-2000 through 2007-2008

- There were no statistically significant linear increases or decreases of total energy intake over this period
- In both women and men over this period
  - Average carbohydrate intake decreased
  - Average fat intake did not change
  - Average protein intake increased

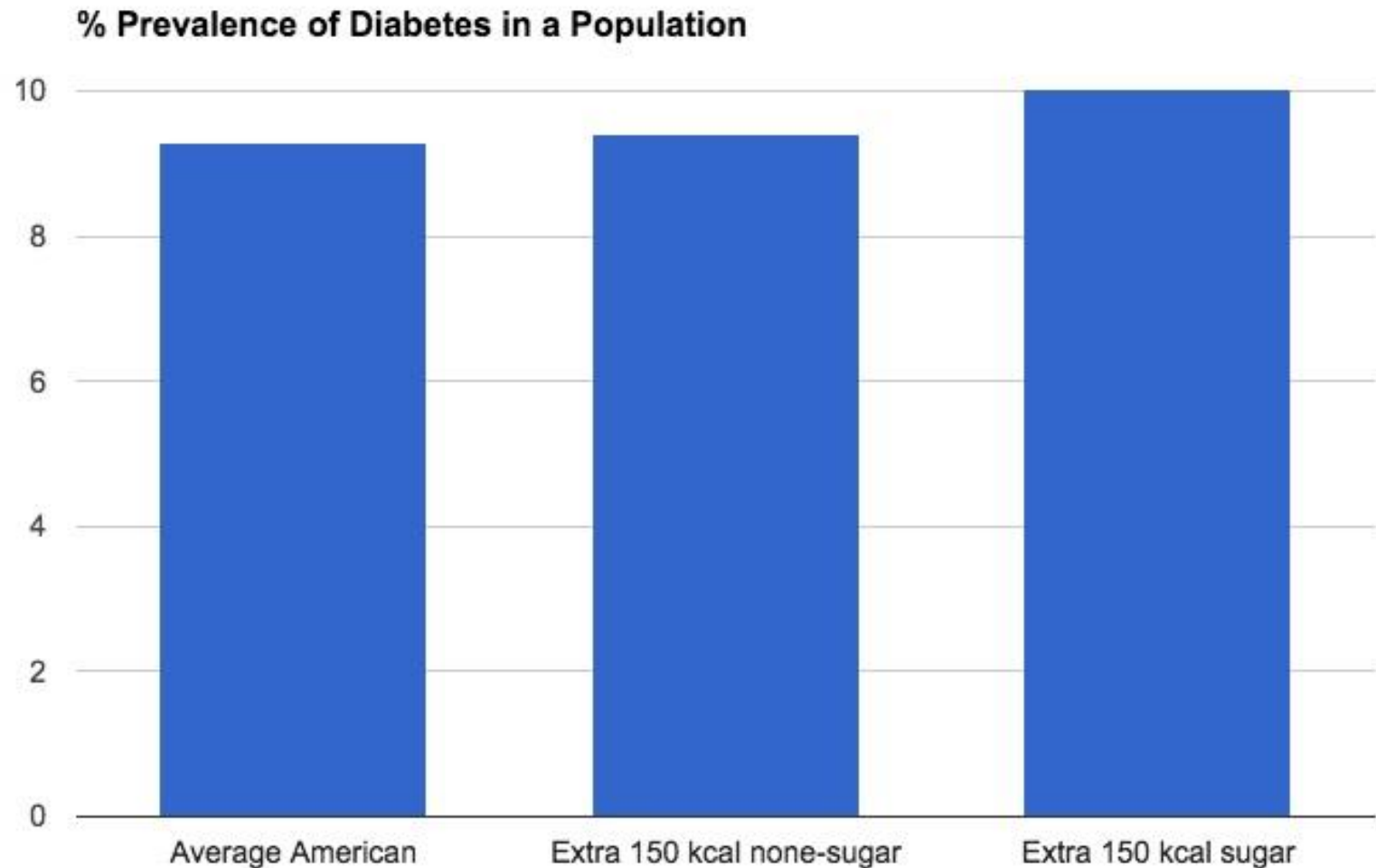
**Is sugar the new tobacco, and  
is it the cause of all the  
world's problems?**

# **It is time to bust the myth of physical inactivity and obesity: you cannot outrun a bad diet**

**Molhatra A et al. *BJSM* 2015**

- **“A large econometric analysis of worldwide sugar availability, revealed that for every excess 150 calories of sugar, there was an 11-fold increase in the prevalence of type 2 diabetes, in comparison to an identical 150 calories obtained from fat or protein.”**

# Basu S et al. Population-Level The Relationship of Sugar to Diabetes Prevalence: An Econometric Analysis of Repeated Cross-Sectional Data. PLOS One 2013



Basu, Sanjay et al. "The Relationship of Sugar to Population-Level Diabetes Prevalence: An Econometric Analysis of Repeated Cross-Sectional Data." Ed. Bridget Wagner. PLoS ONE 8.2 (2013): e57873. PMC. Web. 25 Apr. 2015.

# **Sugar Intake and Health: A Need for a Comprehensive Review of the Science**

**Carden TJ, Carr TP. Food availability of glucose and fat, but not fructose, increased in the US between 1970 and 2009: analysis of the USDA food availability data system. *Nutr J*, 2013; 12:130-7.**

**These data suggest that total fructose availability in the US did not increase between 1970 and 2009 and, thus, was unlikely to have been a unique causal factor in the increased obesity prevalence.**

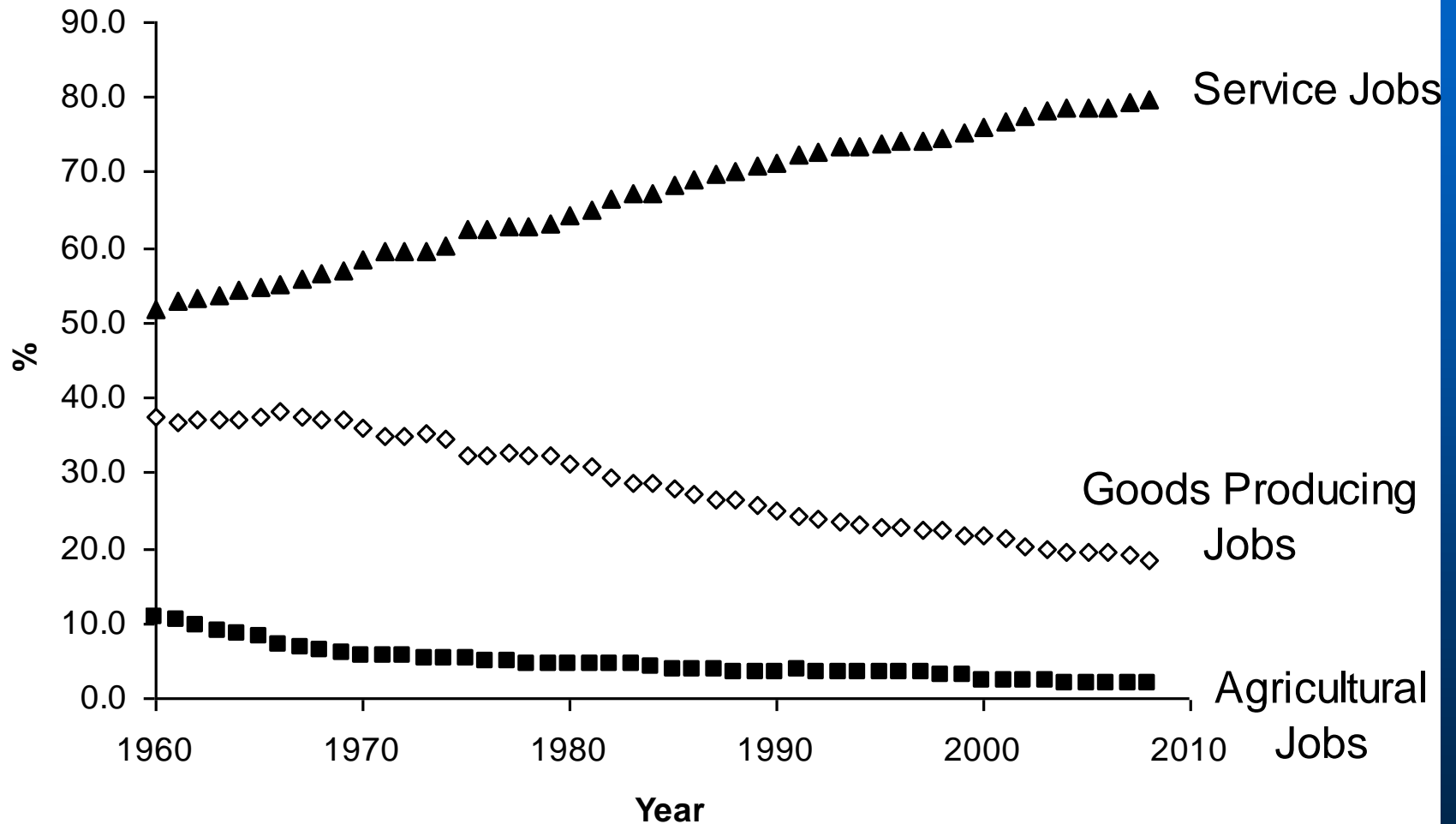
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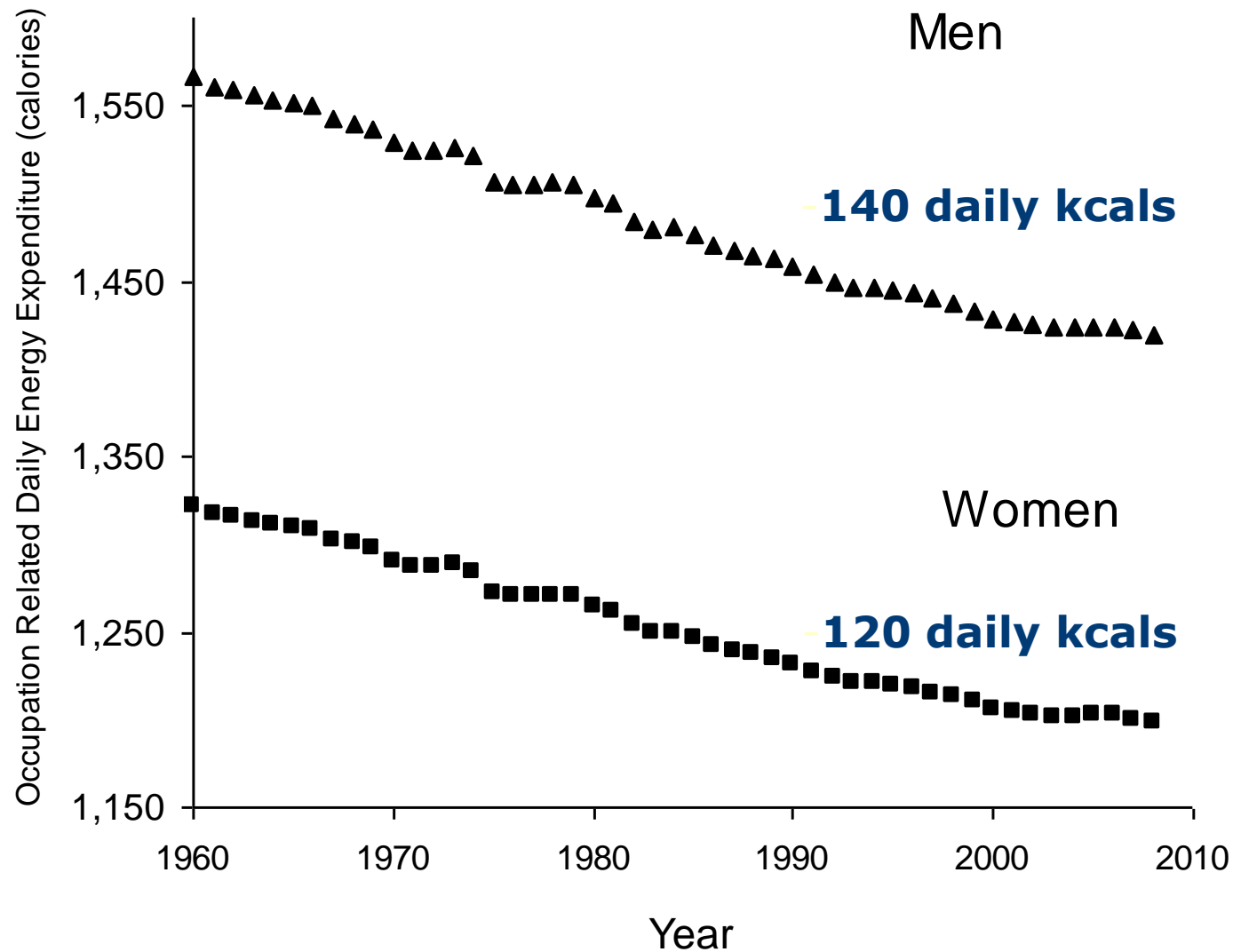
- **“In the past 30 years, as obesity has rocketed, there has been little change in physical activity levels in the Western population.<sup>2</sup> This places the blame for our expanding waist lines directly on the type and amount of calories consumed.”**

**We have spent decades  
engineering human energy  
expenditure out of daily life.**

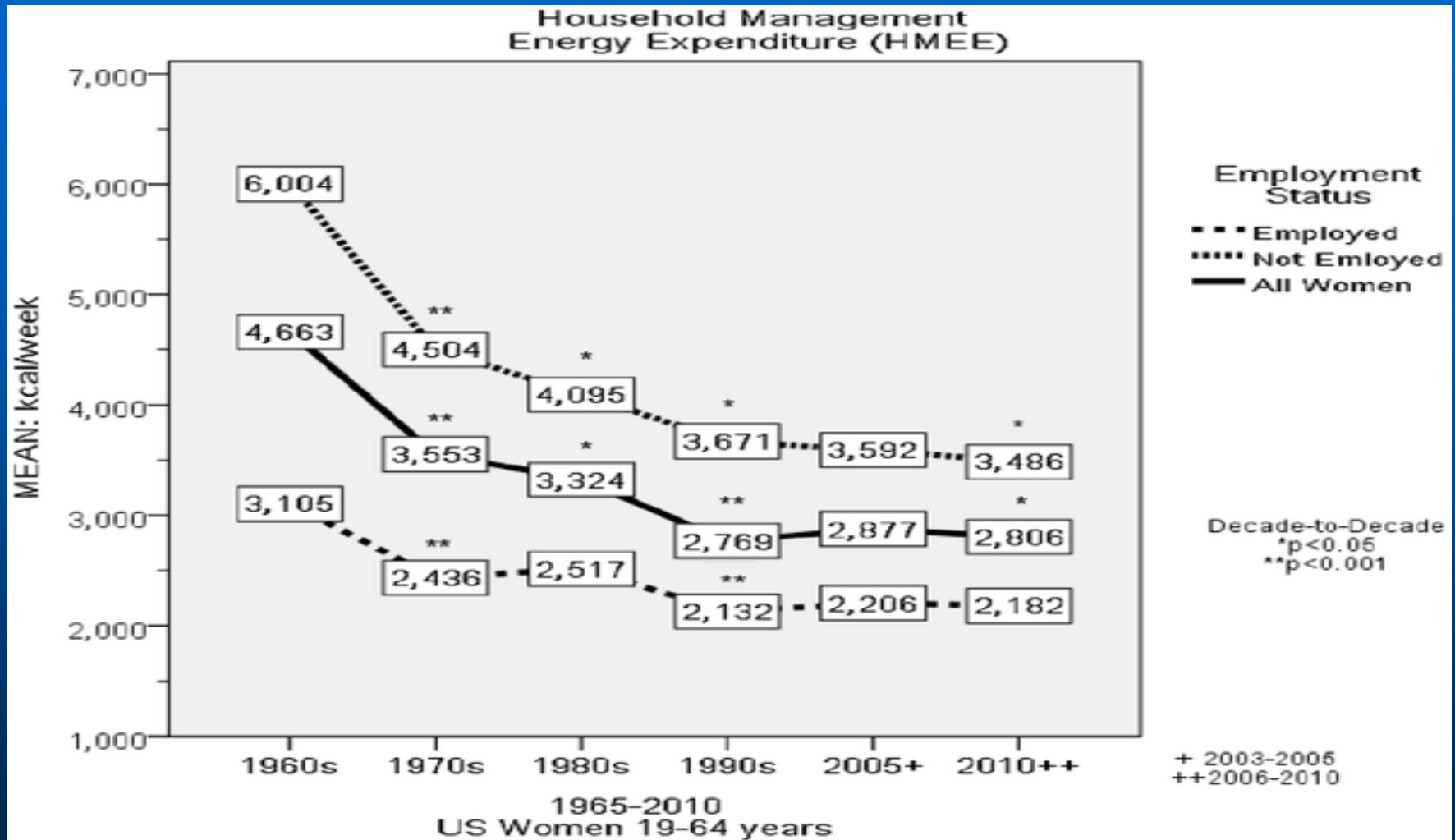
# Jobs in U.S. Over Last 50 Years



# Daily Occupational Caloric Expenditure

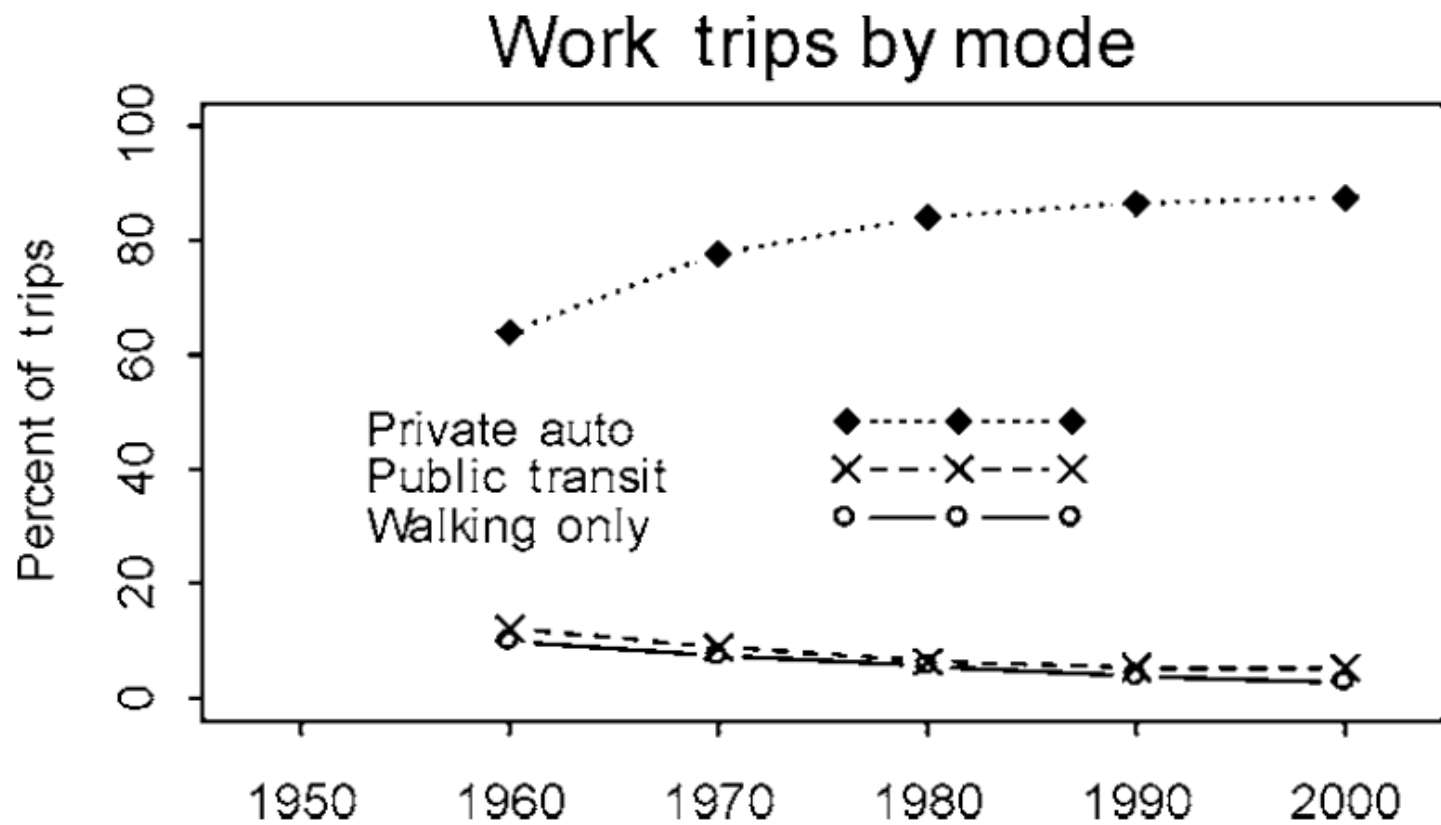


# Household Management Energy Expenditure/Week



Archer E, Shook RP, Thomas DM, Church TS, et al. (2013) 45-Year Trends in Women's Use of Time and Household Management Energy Expenditure. PLoS ONE 8(2): e56620.

doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0056620



**Figure 5** Trends in transportation activity and automobile dependence, 1950–2000.

**Brownson, R. C., Boehmer, T. K., & Luke, D. A. (2005). Declining rates of physical activity in the United States: what are the contributors? *Annual Review of Public Health, 26*, 421-443. doi: 10.1146/annurev.publhealth.26.021304.144437**  
**Slide courtesy of Robin Shook**

**We have spent decades  
engineering human energy  
expenditure out of daily life,  
and we need to develop  
creative ways to reverse this  
trend.**

# U.S. National Physical Activity Plan

[www.physicalactivityplan.org](http://www.physicalactivityplan.org)



# Sectors

- Mass Media
- Public Health
- Education
- Healthcare
- Volunteer and Non-Profit Organizations
- Transportation, Urban Design, Comm. Plan.
- Business and Industry
- Parks, Recreation, Fitness, and Sports



**Develop a Better  
Understanding of Energy  
Balance**

# **Global Energy Balance Network**

## **The Birth of a Global Network of Experts to Give Voice to Energy Balance**

**Disclosures:** GEBN has received support from private philanthropy, the University of Colorado, the University of South Carolina, the University of Copenhagen, and an unrestricted education gift from The Coca Cola Company.

**GEBN believes that finding workable solutions to correcting energy imbalance will be achieved faster by working with all sectors of society. GEBN seeks support to continue our efforts from both the public and private sectors.**

# **Global Energy Balance Network**

**Vision:**

**A World in Healthy Energy Balance**

**Mission:**

**To connect and engage multi-disciplinary scientists and other experts around the globe dedicated to applying and advancing the science of energy balance to achieve healthier living.**

# WEBSITE (WWW.GEBN.ORG)

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Find out more here. >>



Healthier living through  
the science of energy  
balance



General questions about the  
Global Energy Balance Network



A world in healthy  
energy balance.

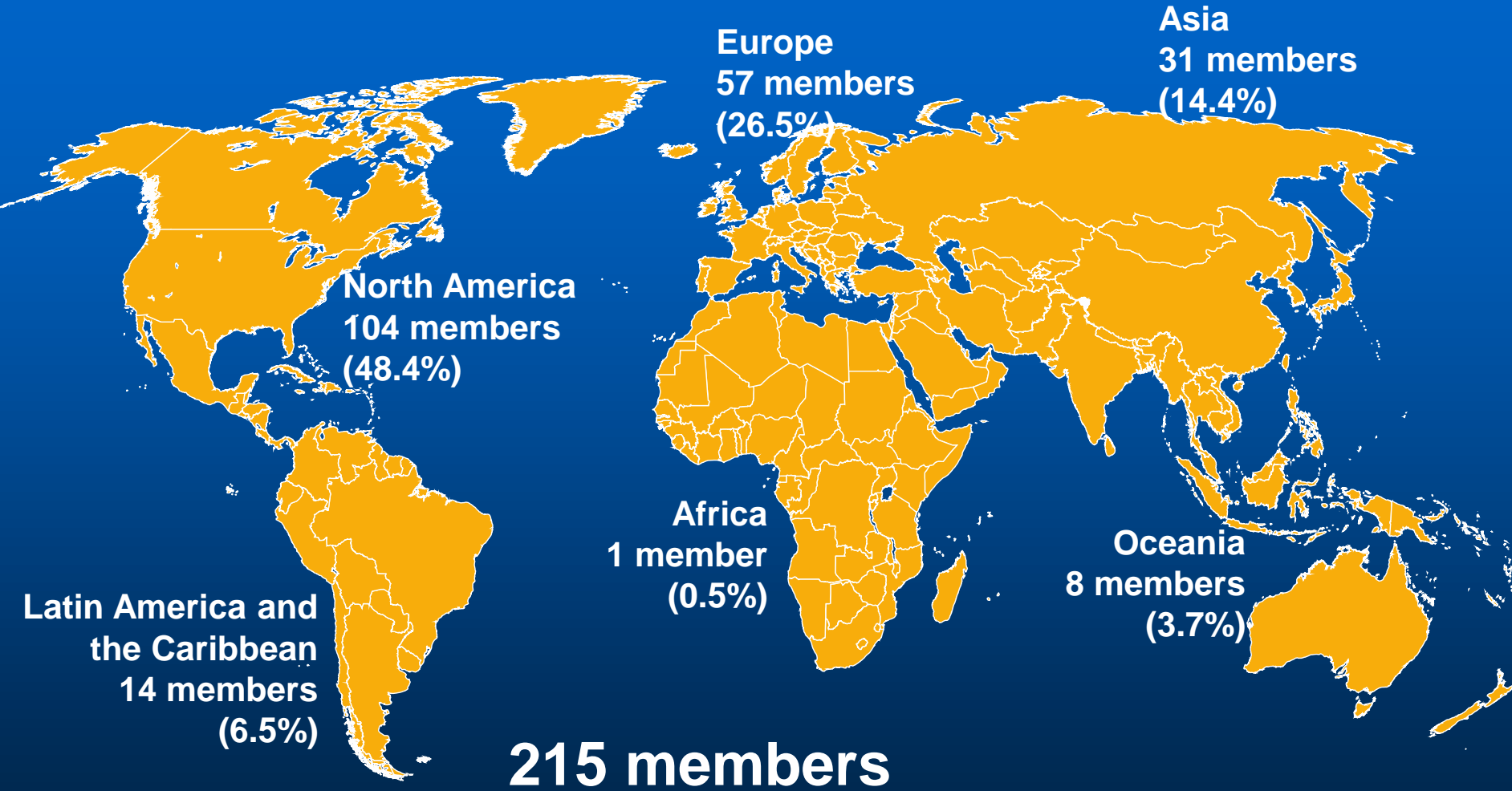
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# Membership Development— Members



# How to Stay in Energy Balance



# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION



**THE ENERGY BALANCE RESEARCH TEAM**