The Stone Weta, By Octavia Stone - Worksheet or discussion guide. Learning Objective - Discuss and understand the impact that politics and society have on science.

1) The Stone Weta follows a group of scientists who are forced into hiding because of their scientific discoveries concerning climate change. Scientists who have made breakthroughs that go against societal norms have often been persecuted and/or isolated. Galileo, for example, was forced into house arrest by the catholoic church for writing that the earth revolved around the sun (it was strongly believed that the earth was the centre of the universe at this time). Which other scientists were punished or isolated for their discoveries and/or writings? Why?

2) If you discovered a major scientific breakthrough, that went against the norms of society (or even the law) would you share it with others at the risk of being persecuted? Why or why not?

3) What are the dangers of keeping major scientific discoveries a secret?

4)	Is there a specific case where it would be beneficial to keep a scientific discovery a secret? Why or why not?
5)	What is an example of a policy and/or law responding to an issue raised by climate science? What was the outcome of this law?
6)	What challenges are policy-makers faced with when enacting environmental legislation to help combat climate change?

7) What are the dangers of enforcing laws and policies based on bad (or wrong) science?
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