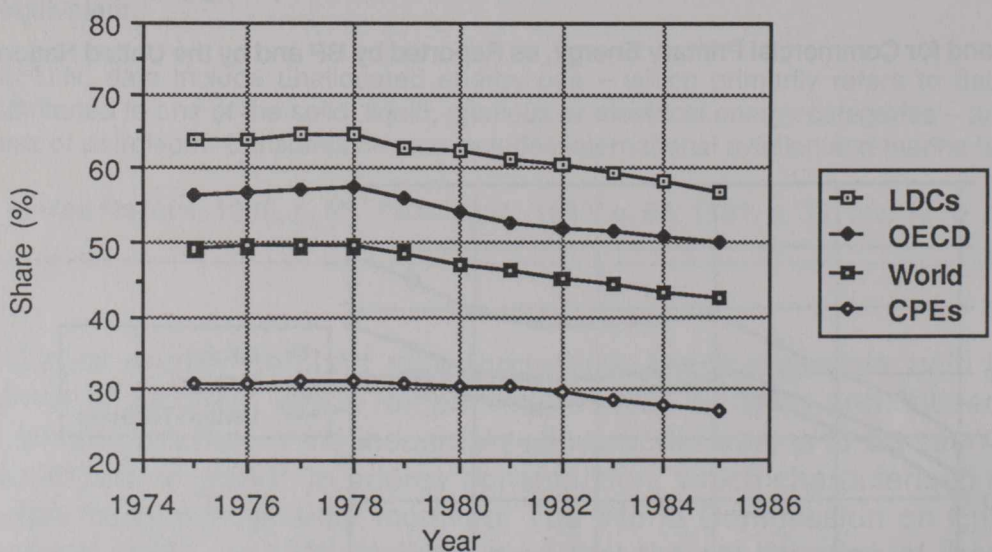


- urban-industrial air pollution caused by atmospheric pollutants from the combustion of fossil fuels;
- acidification of the environment arising from the combustion of fossil fuels; and
- risks of nuclear reactor accidents, problems of radioactive waste disposal and dismantling reactors at the end of their service life, and the dangers of nuclear weapons proliferation associated with the use of fission energy.

Oil is thought of as the energy commodity that fuels the industrialized world, and it is true that Western industrialized countries today consume nearly 60% of global oil output. It is less commonly recognized that, in the developing world, oil accounts for a larger share of commercial energy demand on average than it does in the more diversified energy systems of the industrialized nations or in the more coal-oriented Communist countries. Figure 2 tracks the change in oil's share of primary energy demand since 1975, both globally and as subdivided into three component parts: the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the less developed countries (LDCs, including OPEC) and the centrally planned economies (CPEs or Communist countries).

Figure 2: The Share of Oil in OECD, LDC, CPE and World Primary Energy Demand



Note: Data from the source have been converted from primary electricity valued at 1 kWh = 10,000 Btu to 1 kWh = 3,412 Btu.

Source: British Petroleum, 1986, p. 7-8, 28, 30, 33-34.