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### **Climate Change Hoax**

Many people have the environment's best interest at heart. However, whether you do or don't believe that the climate is changing due to manmade global warming, there has been a push by certain media outlets, organizations' and individuals' towards the manmade concept. "An Inconvenient Truth" has fueled this debate because of its imagery, emotional appeal, drama, and half truths to help generate frenzy in environmentalists and panic people into thinking that the end of the world was about to happen. Al Gore's claim that man is primarily the cause of global warming with the releasing of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere is far from the truth. Climate is the "weather conditions of a given area over a long period of time of roughly thirty to thirty five years" (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). 2004 Columbia University. New York). On the other hand, climate change "is the change of the mean state of the climate that persists for a long period of time, several decades or longer" (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). 2004 Columbia University. New York). This includes the changes in the mean weather parameters and more so in the occurrence of the extreme weather events. Climate change may occur naturally due to the changes in the solar cycle or may occur due to human effects such as increased green house gases and the land use activities. Green house gases includes, "carbon dioxide, water vapor, methane, nitrous oxide and

chlorofluorocarbons,” with the major one being carbon dioxide (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). 2004 Columbia University. New York).

Have you ever questioned whether global warming is a scientific phenomenon or a conspiracy issue? For the scientific world, global warming is a real scenario and the global climate scientists are intensively working on the ways of adaptation and easing of the impacts. For some scientists, climate change is headed for the extreme point with the compounding of feedback from experimental data and the effects of global warming on the environment. This would lead to large scale events that would be impossible to diminish and manage (Schellnhuber et al 2006).

Considering the oceans are one the major absorber of atmospheric carbon dioxide, the recent increase in the acidity of the ocean according to the Exeter report would affect the system balance and lead to more severe effects more so to the marine ecosystem. The effects of climate change are speeding up and the level of severity of the impacts is increasing as a result of the feed back mechanisms and processes (Schellnhuber et al 2006).

The argument on climate change has been taking various dimensions. However, the amount of carbon dioxide concentration in the atmosphere as well as the global temperatures has increased is in question. In the United States, some groups negate the climate change phenomena denying the fact that the twentieth century was not the hottest century. They have also denounced the Kyoto protocol as lies where they suggest the lack of relationship between the melting of ice and the increased carbon dioxide. Evidently it was reported that December 2009 was the 14<sup>th</sup> coolest year for the last 115 years by the United States department of commerce (AYICC).

Some term it on the uncertainty of the climate prediction models. Climate change already occurs as a natural phenomenon, which may, in part, be influenced by humans' impact on the earth. The term "global warming" is a loaded phrase because a) temperatures have a history and cycles and b) it's being used as a buzz term with negative connotations in order to advance political agendas. Scientific evidence supporting the buzz term "global warming" is complex at best, and sometimes politically driven. Consequently, the current global warming debate has ran beyond the temperatures and carbon dioxide levels and turned into an ideological manipulation strategy. This is used by governments to advocate on its policies and its control for the people through manipulation of the individual ways of living, the consumption manner and the general day to day activities (Amos). An example of one such policy is the Kyoto agreement, it is one tool that would be used by governments around the world to tax their citizens based on the wealth of that country and redistribute those funds to other countries to combat the global warming phenomenon. The country that would be taxed the most would be—yes, the United States; however, countries like India and China who produce more carbon dioxide are not a part of the Kyoto protocol (CNN).

The science behind global warming as a human effect is filled with renewed upwelling of uncertainty. However, the amount of carbon dioxide concentration in the atmosphere is ever increasing and also the average global temperatures are on the upward trend. This brings forth the debate whether these effects are as a result of the carbon dioxide or is the natural climate variability. The Inter-government Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) statistically relates the climate change with the human effects with 90% certainty. This has led to the divided debate with some going for the 10% uncertainty and relating climate change with natural climate variability. (Ritter 2009).

Global warming advocates are strongly supporting the anthropogenic global warming theory and the reduced use of fossil fuels energy where they view the antagonists as financed by the oil and gas industry and other politicians. They argue that “activist journals” are being published but they lack enough data to support their arguments and conclusions. The scientists rally behind the climate theory that uses a number of assumptions on the radiation balance to include valuables called forcings that causes lack of equilibrium (Amos).

They make use of CO<sub>2</sub> as the variable responsible for global warming due to the significant changes in its amount. IPCC makes use of climate sensitivity in their models to predict the future climate trends thus increasing their validity. To defend the bias in temperature climate scientist compares station data with that of neighboring station and satellite data before analysis. (Ritter 2009).

In denial of global warming as resulting from human activities there is the call that, “humanity green house gases emissions and atmospheric pollutants” are not related to the climate system. Singer, an atmospheric physicist argues that the data used by the IPCC in deriving climate change is not evident of “human caused global warming.” The IPCC uses imperfect climate models and excludes some crucial studies, hence should be discarded.

They also denounce the control of carbon dioxide emissions as an expensive exercise where they termed the increase of temperature and CO<sub>2</sub> as effective for increased plant growth thus increased economic growth. They terms the IPCC as a politically motivated organization based on political findings who are actively involved in the censoring of valid but contradicting information. On the temperature data, there is no single global temperature thermometer and the surface temperatures used were termed to be skewed and biased where the stations are

substandard. They indicated that the medieval warm period IPCC temperature data was lower than reported and claims that the atmosphere controls itself. (Ritter 2009).

Al Gore documentary “the inconvenient truth” is just a conspiracy and fully rhetorical (AYICC). The data used in the documentary is fully manipulated. A British judge, Justice Burton, criticized Al Gore's movie and along with his legal team pointed out a series of scientific inaccuracies. The judge argued that the documentary was political material and had no place in the classroom. This was due largely on the basis that the film’s information came from doctored scientific data that had been found on scientists’ e-mails, revealing scientists colluding to manipulate and suppress data, which was contrary to their point of view (BBC, news). Surprisingly, the national climatic data center states 1934 as the hottest recorded year and, on the other hand, NASA terms 1998 as the hottest year (AYICC). But the weather is cyclic, where the earth has undergone three temperature shifts in the past millennium (AYICC). One was the medieval warm period that ended in 1300 followed by little ice age which lasted until 1850 which took over to the modern warming period and appears to have ended in 1989 (Amos).

Al Gore’s claim of reduced polar bears is wrong where the present number of bears is more than a decade ago and there reduction was from poaching where the 1970 regulation led to increased polar bear population. The national center for policy analysis has negated these claims and stated the conditions of polar bears as in good shape. The global warming phenomenon is being used by some scientists to earn government funding, which is amounting to around 25 billion dollars for research. In this case, all the scientific report is positively related to global warming as a human affair which is equally very wrong. While we can fully acknowledge that

climate change can and does occur, we have gotten out of hand with negative prognostications about the lingering and long term effects of the current situation.

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