Lawryn Gardnerz

Waits

English 1301

4 November 2019

The Government On Climate Change

Climate change exists as an international problem which affects everyone from animals to the environment. This has become an issue because, factors such as human emissions, overproduction of food, and environmental degradation contribute to the ongoing problem continuing to develop. Therefore, the government should do more to prevent the proliferation of climate change by enforcing stricter laws protecting the environment and the entities around it. The government should create and enforce laws addressing the overproduction of food, animal endangerment, and land degradation which all impact the world.

Climate change is defined as the change in global/regional climate caused by the rise of carbon dioxide produced by fossil fuels. This problem results in animal endangerment, damaging food production, and environmental change, which creates a global risk.

Greta Thunberg, a 16-year-old climate change activist from Sweden, advocates for government reform on climate change. Thunberg pushed for the government and world leaders to address the climate crisis at 8 years old (Woodward, De Luce). She fights for the government to enforce stricter laws addressing climate change. Thunberg stated, "People are suffering.

People are dying. Entire ecosystems are collapsing. We are in the beginning of a mass extinction, and all you can talk about is money and fairy tales of eternal economic growth. How dare you?" (National Public Radio). This supports how the government should focus on the ethical reasoning of fighting climate change instead of the monetary reasoning. Some actions taken by the government addressing climate change. The new Green Deal discussed ideas such as renewable energy and resource efficiency to achieve 100% clean energy by the year 2030. However, from 2019 to 2030, climate change can have various amounts of impacts on the world worsening gradually. Therefore, the new Green Deal does not match the seriousness of climate change and its effects.

Climate change contributes to many devastating events occurring due to human activity.

Burning fossil fuels, altering the land, and industrial activities all contribute to the rise of the Greenhouse Effect. The Greenhouse Effect warms earth resulting when the atmosphere traps heat radiating from Earth to space. Certain gases do not respond well to the rising temperature in the Earth's atmosphere, forces climate change ("The Causes of Climate Change"). Without the government enacting stricter laws, the rise and risk of climate change will continue to increase and cause great devastation internationally. These events can change with stricter laws enforced by the government. Laws created to regulate the amount of land altered by human activity can reduce the risk of climate change on the environment. Towards the beginning of the 20th

century, the forest around the world measured almost 31 square miles. However, in the 21st century, the number has reduced to less than 25 square miles. This decline occurred due to human activity such as the frequent demand for paper and wood products ("The Human Impact"). This is a major problem because forests have an important role in society. They provide habitats for humans and animals, provide clean air, prevent soil erosion and climate change ("We Need To Safeguard"). Therefore, the human activity resulting in the removal and damage of forests results in the rise of climate change. Without the government enacting laws to prevent events such as environmental degradation, the forest will continue to decrease resulting in climate change increasing inversely.

Although climate change has a major impact on the environment it also affects wildlife. The World Wildlife organization states, "more frequent and increase drought, storms, heatwaves, rising sea levels, melting glaciers and warming oceans can directly harm animals, destroy the places they live, and wreak havoc on people's livelihoods and communities" ("Effects Of Climate"). The Monarch Butterfly is an example of a victim of climate change. c These conditions resulted in the number of monarch butterflies decreasing to the lowest it has in twenty years ("Monarch Butterfly"). Without a change in how climate change regulation, this species will go extinct in a matter of years.

The overproduction of food contributes to the consequences of climate change.

Agriculture emits almost 9% of the greenhouse gases which come from fertilizer and livestock.

The number of greenhouse gases emitted from agriculture expects to rise due to the overproduction of meat and oil. This overproduction also results in an increase in food waste which also produces greenhouse gases. When wasted food exploits landfills, the rotted food produces methane. The food production system contributes to almost 11% of greenhouse gases which could reduce if food waste stopped ("Fight Climate Change"). With this issue, the government should enforce stricter laws addressing food production and waste around the world. If this issue is not solved soon, the amount of greenhouse gases will continue to grow annually.

Climate change affects everyone regardless of age, gender, or financial or social status. By the government enforcing stricter laws, everyone will benefit from the outcome. Damage to the environment matters because it has a major impact on the victims around it. It helps provide clean air, provides homes for animals and humans, and protects biodiversity. The environmental damage will affect everyone and will lead to an irreversible consequence later on. The regulation of food production matters because it regulates the amount of greenhouse gases produced.

Overproduction of food damages the earth day by day, along with food waste. The increase in fossil fuels needs to be stopped because the victims of this issue matter. With the constant increase in these gases humans, animals, and the environment will be hurt. The reduction of

environmental damage, food production, and fossil fuels will help decrease the future impact of climate change in the world. Without laws produced to address climate change all victims will suffer internationally.

The Government's job not only regulates laws based on crime, but regulates laws addressing everything including the environment. Environmental degradation consists of breaking down the environment to create infrastructure such as roads, parking lots, and buildings. However, breaking down the environment is done to gain money and should not be done for this reason. The way the environment is handled should be regulated by the government so animals and humans don't lose homes and clean air is reduced. The reduction of fossil fuels should be done to decrease the amount of greenhouse gases. Some may say alternative fuels are too expensive, however, saving the environment has more importance than the amount of money spent.

Climate change contributes to many negative impacts on the Earth. Environmental damage, overproduction of food, and the increase in fossil fuels all result in the consequences climate change brings internationally. By the government enforcing stricter laws to regulate these aspects, climate change can be a battle that can be won.

Works Cited

"Climate Activist Greta Thunberg Calls On World Leaders To Take Action At The U.N." *All Things Considered*, 23 Sept. 2019. *Gale In Context: Environmental Studies*, https://link.gale.com/apps/doc/A601289330/GRNR?u=j043914&sid=GRNR&xid=a80319d3.

Accessed 1 Nov. 2019.

"Effects of Climate Change." *WWF*, World Wildlife Fund, www.worldwildlife.org/threats/effects-of-climate-change.

Global Affairs Canada - Affaires. "Climate Change in Developing Countries." *GAC*, 24 July 2019,

www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_development-enjeux_developpement
/environmental_protection_environnement/climate-climatiques.aspx?lan
g=eng.

"Green New Deal." Www.gp.org, www.gp.org/green new deal.

"Monarch Butterfly." WWF, World Wildlife Fund,

www.worldwildlife.org/species/monarch-butterfly.

Routley, Nick. "The Human Impact on the World's Forests." *Visual Capitalist*, 11 Mar. 2019, www.visualcapitalist.com/human-impact-on-forests/.

Holt-Giménez, Eric. "We Produce Too Much Food. The Green New Deal Can Stop
This." *Gale Opposing Viewpoints Online Collection*, Gale, 2019. *Gale In Context: Opposing Viewpoints*,

https://link.gale.com/apps/doc/XJVRDI242502752/OVIC?u=j043914&sid=OVIC&xid=65b3941

5. Accessed 20 Oct. 2019. Originally published as "We Produce Too Much Food. The Green

New Deal Can Stop This," *In These Times*, 22 Apr. 2019.

"Middle Eastern Views on Global Climate Change 2015." *Gale Environmental Studies Online Collection*, Gale, 2015. *Gale In Context: Environmental Studies*, https://link.gale.com/apps/doc/WYLLDR166627660/GRNR?u=j043914&sid=GRNR&xid=88c2 a49f. Accessed 24 Oct. 2019.

"African Views on Global Climate Change 2015." *Gale Environmental Studies Online Collection*, Gale, 2015. *Gale In Context: Environmental Studies*, https://link.gale.com/apps/doc/NLJNWP913339021/GRNR?u=j043914&sid=GRNR&xid=93e0c 081. Accessed 24 Oct. 2019.