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**TOPIC: GLOBAL WARMING, its causes, effects and solution**

Global Warming is a gradual increase in the overall temperature of the earth’s atmosphere generally attributed to the greenhouse effect caused by increased levels of CO2, CFCS and other pollutants. It occurs when carbon dioxide (CO2), other air pollutants and greenhouse gases collect in the atmosphere and absorb sunlight and solar radiation that have bounced off the earth’s surface. In recent days, global warming is proving to be a fast rising concern but most people are unaware or turn a blind eye. Over the past 50 years, the average global temperature has increased at the fastest rate in recorded history and experts see the trend is accelerating. According to the claims of climate change denier; there has been a “pause” or a “slowdown” in the rising global temperature but a 2015 paper published in the journal science disproved this claim.

The issues that cause global warming can be divided into two categories which include “natural” and “human” influences.

One of the natural causes of global warming is the greenhouse gases; greenhouse gases such as carbon monoxide and sulphur dioxide traps the solar heat rays and prevent it from escaping from the surface of the earth thereby increasing the temperature of the earth.

Another natural cause is volcanic eruptions; a single volcanic eruption will release large amounts of carbon dioxide and ash to the atmosphere. Once carbon dioxide increases, the temperature of the earth also increases and greenhouse traps the solar radiations in the earth.

Finally, methane is another issue that causes global warming. Methane is also a greenhouse gas. Methane is more effective in trapping heat in the atmosphere than carbon dioxide by 20 times. Usually methane gas can be released from many areas; it can be from cattle, landfill, natural gas, petroleum systems, coal mining, mobile explosion or industrial waste process. Among these are other natural causes which includes; variations in solar radiations from sunspots, solar wind and the Earth’s position relative to the sun also play a role. So do large-scale weather patterns such as El Nino (a climate cycle in the Pacific Ocean).

Human influence has been a very serious issue in regards to global warming now because humans are negligent and do not take care of the earth. The human causes are more than the natural causes of global warming.

First issue is the industrial revolution; Industries have been using fossil fuels for power machines, everything that we use is involved in fossil fuel. For instance the process of making mobile phones involves fossil fuels; during the process carbon dioxide is being released into the atmosphere. Beside industrial processes, transportation such as cars is also releasing carbon dioxide from exhaust.

Another issue is mining. During the process of mining, the methane will be trapped below the earth. Besides, rearing cattle will also cause methane to be released as cattles release that in the form of manure.

Finally, the most common issue is deforestation, that is, the cutting down of trees to produce papers, wood, build houses or more. If humans continue deforestation, carbon dioxide will concentrate in the atmosphere because trees can absorb carbon dioxide from atmosphere. Besides, human also release carbon dioxide when breathing. Therefore just imagining the amount of carbon dioxide from millions of people by just breathing and no trees to absorb the carbon dioxide is disastrous.

The planet is heating up and fast and at this rate if nothing is done the end results will be disastrous and irreversible. The effects of global warming ranges in different phases which includes; ice sheets and glaciers melting, rising sea levels due to thermal expansion, dying cloud forests, increasing wildfire, warming of the ocean surface leading to increased temperature stratification, shifting wildlife populations and habitats, extreme weather events and a range of other impacts. Only a few will be explained.

First effect is polar ice caps melting. As the temperature increase, the ice at the North Pole will melt. Once the ice melt the first effect will be raised on sea levels because the melting glaciers become oceans. Such effects affect many low lying areas such as the Netherlands. With the concentration of greenhouse gases rising, Earth’s remaining ice sheets such as Antarctica and Greenland are starting to melt too. By 2050, sea levels are predicted to rise between one and 2.3 feet as glaciers melt.

Another effect is the species loss of habitat. Species that include polar bears and tropical frogs will be extinct due to climate change. Besides, various birds will migrate to other places because animals are not like humans. They cannot adapt the habitat that changes their living or temperature.

Next effect is more hurricanes will occur and economic consequences still affect as well. Hurricane causes damage to houses and government will then need to spend billion of dollars on damage and providing places for people who have lost their properties.

Global Warming can be stopped by a joint effort by the individuals and the government. Therefore solutions which can be applied to reduce global warming includes; reducing gasoline, electricity, reducing deforestation and drastically reducing any other activities that may cause global warming.

One of the ways to reduce global warming is recycling. Recycling can reduce garbage by reusing plastic bags, bottles, papers or glass. Besides if all this is being reused, human can reduce deforestation and help save environment. Also turn off electricity when not in use as it can save thousands of carbon dioxide and buy products that are energy saving because it saves cost and save environment.

Finally, humans should stop open burning such as burning dry leafs or burning garbage as it releases carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. The government should also try to reduce deforestation as trees help to improve the temperature on earth.

It has become clear that humans have caused most of the past century’s warming by releasing heat-trapping gases as we power our modern lives. As citizens we don’t fully understand the extent of global warming, all we know is that it is bad; but how bad is it? Scientists have a depth understanding of this and the questions often pondered upon are; What will we do-what can we do-to slow this human-caused warming? How will we cope with the changes we have already set into motion? While we struggle to figure it all out, the fate of the Earth as we know it; coasts, forests, farms, and snow-capped mountains all hangs in the unsteady balance. All we can do is to try and work together in order to save the Earth and make it a better place to live in.