

Tik Tok Video about Global Warming:

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Written Summary about Global Warming:

Global warming has been a prominent issue in our world for a while now, but one could argue that in the past ten years or so it has especially been brought to light. The result of this devastating phenomenon has been and will continue to be detrimental effects on the planet we call home.

Global warming is officially defined as “the gradual heating of Earth’s surfaces, oceans and atmosphere caused by humans, primarily the burning of fossil fuels that pump carbon dioxide, methane and other greenhouse gases into the atmosphere” (Bradford, Pappas). Greenhouse gases are the gases in our atmosphere that produce the greenhouse effect. This is the process in which radiation from our atmosphere warms the surface of our planet to temperatures higher than natural. Nowadays, scientists are more certain than ever about the direct connection between humans and global warming. While some argue this issue is already too far gone, it is agreed upon by most scientists that every day we continue to live this way, we are hastening not only our own demise, but the demise of all species that inhabit this planet.

The greenhouse effect that I described earlier will greatly impact life on Earth. Some of the effects of global warming include heatwaves, loss of agricultural productivity, increase in respiratory diseases, extreme weather, rise in sea levels and more (Kasotia). We will face starvation and unlivable conditions if the greenhouse effect is given too much time to formulate.

There are multiple sides to this issue, which has become a point of political discourse in the United States specifically. An article in *Time* even argues that global warming is feeding our continuing political instability (Worland). Global warming is simply another polarizing topic that is creating a wider gap between political sides. For example, many politicians on the right side argue that going green will be far too expensive and unmanageable for our current society/economy. Given the economic turmoil countries were put in during the pandemic, this is a reasonable argument especially now. The other side argues that we need to prioritize our planet if we want a livable planet for the next couple decades. With this increase in extreme temperatures, we have also seen spikes in violent crime (which is not surprising given the repeated research that proves increased temperatures makes way for these effects).

Most politicians that are against legislature meant to slow global warming are Republicans. On the other hand, many politicians that are pushing this legislature through are Democrats. I find it very interesting that such a scientific, dangerous issue has become so politicized. At the end of the day, this comes down to an issue of human greed and a resistance to change existing ways.

However, big changes must be put in place immediately to improve this phenomenon. These changes include companies going green and major adjustments in our everyday lives. This is a process that will take a lot of time and money, which is why it has not happened already. Businesses will most likely have to forgo profits during this transition as well. However, until we

can get over political and economic differences and work collaboratively, our world and everything in it will not survive these effects.

One popular movement that has gained traction the past couple of years is the development of electric cars. With companies like Tesla popularizing the aesthetic of these new vehicles, many other car companies have begun to produce similar electric models as (electric car) charging station numbers increase around the world. This seems to be a move in the right direction environmentally, and is somewhat of a common ground with people of differing views.

As humans, we have the tendency to take on willing ignorance instead of the work it takes to adapt to changing times. To preserve the livable climate that we take for granted, we must reach a net 0 of greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. This is a daunting statistic that is so frightening many people choose to ignore it. These are the tendencies that got us to this point and that cannot continue. It will take everyone working together to make real progress surrounding this issue.

## Citations

Bradford, Alina, and Stephanie Pappas. "Effects of Global Warming." *LiveScience*, Purch, 12 Aug. 2017, <https://www.livescience.com/37057-global-warming-effects.html>.

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Worland, Justin. "How Climate Change Feeds Political Instability." *Time*, Time, 15 Sept. 2020, <https://time.com/5888866/climate-change-wildfires-political-instability/>.