



A Natural Cycle in Life by Casey Sibole

Global warming has a huge affect on society. Man and nature are two factors that contribute to global warming. What is global warming and what has been the major cause of it; man or nature? Two opposite ideas about global warming are that man can positively or negatively affect global warming or that it is just a regular environmental cycle. After reviewing the research it seems that nature's cycle is the reason for what is happening with the climate.

What is global warming? According to the Columbia Electronic Encyclopedia, global warming is the "increase of the temperature of the Earth's lower atmosphere as a result of the increase in the greenhouse gases since the Industrial Period." A greenhouse gas is "any gas that contribute to the greenhouse effect." Two main examples of greenhouse gases are carbon dioxide (CO₂) and methane. Carbon dioxide comes from burning fossil fuels. Man burns fossil fuels to run cars and factories, technologies that help run the world. If we ever ran out we would not be able to use the kind of transportation that we're used to because fossil fuels gives us gas. Our uses of fossil fuels are draining into the atmosphere, in the form of CO₂ and therefore maybe contributing to global warming, since CO₂ is a greenhouse gas. According to the Mail on Sunday, "...global warming is the biggest threat to our future thanks to increased levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere."

Another main greenhouse gas is methane. Methane is “colorless, odorless, gaseous saturated hydrocarbon.” Methane is used for fuel and carbonizing steel. Steel is a product used a lot in the United States and around the world.

The United States produces a fourth of the world’s greenhouse gases. The burning of coal and fossil fuels, deforestation, and pollution are all ways the United States, as well as other countries, contribute to the release of greenhouse gases that lead to warmer temperatures, or global warming. Global warming may lead to changes in local climates that can lead to water shortages and also to the melting of glaciers that lead to rising sea levels. There are also many other effects on us because of global warming which is why scientists are trying to figure out why we have global warming.

Many things contribute to global warming and burning fossil fuels may be one factor, according to some, man is the major reason Earth’s climate is warming. There are many opinions about the causes of global warming. One of them states that man is the cause of global warming. The newspaper, “America” quotes, “The moral: Human actions have long-lasting consequences.” Some examples of this are how human pollute the world. When someone decides to throw a can on the ground instead of in the trash it is littering. This litter is getting into the atmosphere to harm it. Nevertheless humans do not always care enough about their environment and are not caring what they throw into the ocean or out of their car window! According to the New York Times, “Yes, American cars and homes are larger , on average, than those in Europe, but we support stricter energy efficiency...” American cars and homes are large so they need to use energy efficiency because if they do not they use fossil fuels that contributes to global warming.

! Another opinion is that nature is the main cause of global warming. This opinion states that the heating of the earth is a natural occurrence that changes the Earth’s temperature. Volcanoes, forest fires, and earthquakes contribute to this. Volcanoes release ash and greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. Forest fires are from lightning. Earthquakes shake the earth and release all types of gases including methane, a greenhouse gas. Methane is less dense than air. This causes it to get into the atmosphere and hold onto the heat, warming the earth. “America” says, “Ozone depletion is a significant problem, and the process of thinning the layer or making a hole is unpredictable. For some scientists, this point of view shows nature is the cause of

global warming.

In my opinion, nature is the cause of global warming. The heating of the earth is a natural cycle in life. It happened years and years ago. Global warming is just the rise in temperature when the earth heats. This is because of all the acids and gases that are released into the atmosphere through natural events. It happens because of wild fires, flooding of rain, earthquakes, and volcanoes erupting. The chemicals, gases, and acids, are getting trapped into the atmosphere; contributing to global warming.

! In conclusion global warming can be caused by man or nature. No matter which side you are on, everyone knows that something needs to be done about global warming. According to "America", "(While) climate change can hurt everyone, only those who think human activity is a cause of it are working to do something about it." Whether or not you think man is causing global warming everyone needs to make a change to help our environment and make a positive difference.

Works Cited

- . "Climate Change". Columbia Electronic Encyclopedia, 6th Edition. 10/1/2011
- "Global Warming fight may be lost". New Limited Australia. 11/23/2011
- "Greenhouse Effect". Columbia Electronic Encyclopedia, 6th edition. 10/1/11
- "Kyoto Protocol". Columbia Electronic Encyclopedia, 6th edition. 10/1/11
- "Methane". Columbia Electronic Encyclopedia, 6th edition. 10/1/11
- "Sea Level". Columbia Electronic Encyclopedia, 6th edition. 10/1/11