

Abstract Submitted
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Teaching Climate Change to Skeptics PAUL H. CARR, AF Research Laboratory Emeritus — An effective way of teaching climate change is to balance risk against reward (1). Climate change is already costing us (2). Wildfires, droughts, and refugees are increasing; storms becoming more violent; floods setting record heights; and glaciers melting. If we do nothing, it could cost \$1 trillion/year (2). Climate science tells us the risks. The stable climate for the last 10,000 years helped explode our population from 3×10^6 to 7×10^9 . Our carbon dioxide emissions are warming the earth via the greenhouse effect. At the present rate of CO₂ increase, concentrations will reach 700 ppm by 2100. Millions of year ago, sea levels were 300 feet higher at 700 ppm. James Hansens prediction of a sea level rise of 7 feet by 2075 could, depending on the model parameter, range as high 17 feet. Predictions of massive flood losses for the worlds 136 largest coastal cities are US\$60 - \$63 billion per year in 2050 compared to \$6 billion in 2005. Failure to act could lead to global losses upwards of \$1 trillion annually (1).

REFERENCES: (1) Carmen Nobel, Teaching Climate Change to Skeptics Forbes. Sept 9, 2013. (2) H. Paulson, M. Bloomberg. www.riskybusiness.org

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