

"The whole aim of practical politics is to keep the populace alarmed - and hence clamorous to be led to safety - by menacing it with an endless series of hobgoblins, all of them imaginary."

- H. L. Mencken

Forward

This book is a detailed response to the alleged manmade global warming outlined in "An Inconvenient Truth (AIT) - The Planetary Emergency of Global Warming And What We Can Do About It. AIT is an essay of photographs and opinion.

Photographs work. They instantly connect with the reader and create the emotions they are meant to. After these powerful images are mentally recorded, they are difficult to erase with subsequent facts of historical cycles, predictable planetary mechanics, or tedious mathematical proofs. How can the investment of precious time reading or researching compete with the quick and decisive impact of pictures?

Opinion works. Industry-recognizable names such as Revelle, Hansen, and Mann give the air of authenticity to the AIT presentation. The reader must make a leap of faith in what the author has to say. AIT is a religious tome requiring belief, rather than a scientific treatise posing all arguments. The omission of so many facts and scientific data cannot possibly be an honest oversight. More likely, it is a deliberate attempt to sway the reader by withholding the very evidence clearly showing that man is not the cause of global warming.

AIT has no chapters. Things just unfold and happen in no particular order. They happen throughout the book, sometimes over and over again. The drumbeat is constant, the facts are scarce.

AIT has no index. It is frustrating to relocate anything previously read. But there is a sense of sections falling into chapters, which was used as the framework for this book's contents.

AIT has no bibliography. Appropriately, at the end of the book AIT lists the credits for all the photographs used. Sadly, or perhaps should I say *conveniently*, there is not a single reference to any traceable source for all the claims made. The reader has no other recourse but take the author's statements as true. There is no opportunity to question anything, if there is no trail to follow.

However, it is possible to reconstruct a response. Accordingly, I was steered into addressing AIT one page at a time, point by point, and picture by picture. The words in "quotes" are from AIT and what follows each quotation is my response.

Then there is the confusion aspect of this debate. There seems to be no end to the number of dueling bloggers fighting it out on the Internet. Fortunately, the sources of the science can be found on scholarly web sites, thus bypassing the opinion, rhetoric and emotion.

Finally, can there be a debate at all? It is virtually impossible to change someone's mind when dealing with polarizing issues. If you believe flying saucers are real, you are not going to convince avowed skeptics otherwise. In the early days of television there was a mind reader named Dunninger, who would pick people out of an audience and guess what was in their wallets, etc. Whether or not you believed he was a mind reader, is not the point. What he said at the end of every performance I will never forget. He said: 'to those who believe, no explanation is necessary; to those who do not believe, no explanation is possible'. This book is for the majority of people in between who have not yet made up their minds.

Let's cut to the chase. There is global warming, but:

- a) nature is almost entirely the source, and**
- b) mankind's influence, though measurable, is virtually insignificant.**