

# Global warming



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Global warming is good for us, report Stampf and Traufetter (2007) based on the interview conducted of Biologist Josef Reichholf. While deforestation, soil loss, and pollution have changed the natural habitat and modified the world, and while melting ice cap and glaciers, heat waves, increased annual temperatures, extreme summer temperatures, and coral reef bleaching in different parts of the world have made its own impact (Worboys & De Lacy, 2003), the claim of the biologist that global warming is good for us must have some basis.

According to Reichholf global warming does not threaten plants and animals with extinction and nor will malaria spread in Europe. His claim is based on the fact that man has the ability to create artificial tropical living conditions through warm clothing and heated offices and homes. The species too are threatened not by the climate change but by the destruction of the habitat such as deforestation. The climate according to this biologist is being used as a scapegoat to divert the attention from other environmental crimes.

Warming temperatures promote biodiversity – the warmer the regions is the more diverse its species. The greenhouse effect could help improve biodiversity in the long run. Reichholf explains that biodiversity reached its peak a few million years ago when it was much warmer than it is today. In fact when the ice ages came and the temperatures dropped, species became extinct especially in the north. In warmer climates species receives new habitats. In warmer climates survival is easier.

At the same time consensus is growing among scientists, governments and businesses that something must be done to combat the climate change. The nation's largest utility companies have been forced to ensure that they reduce the emissions of the gas that are believed to be warming the earth as

it threatens the economy, the health, the natural resources and the children's future (Business Week, 2004). The Bush Administration does not believe that the Kyoto protocol and the mandatory curbs would help the situation; it would on the contrary cripple the economy and hence advise new low-carbon technologies. The scientists do not foresee any danger because the planet is only going to be slightly warmer and there is nothing that can avoid it. The scientists claim that carbon dioxide and other gases act like the roof of a greenhouse. Energy from the sun can pass through easily and some of the warmth that would be naturally radiated back remains trapped, thereby warming the planet. If there were no greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, we would freeze. The earth's history is full of such abrupt climate changes and it can recur at any point of time. The scientists do not dispute that the temperature will rise but there are ancillary benefits that come with it. The situation provides opportunities to burn less fossil fuel, produce more fuel-efficient cars, use alternative energy sources thereby reducing dependency on the Persian Gulf. The entire process would save money and lead to innovative technologies.

Thus the impact of global warming on the community is not devastating but a natural phenomenon that would keep changing. What it requires is that people are able to switch to the needed lifestyle as natural changes occur and adapt to the situation. In fact colder climates have caused extinction and global warming is not to be feared.

#### Reference:

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