Pros and Cons of Climate Change

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Climate change refers to the particular weather changes that occur in a specific region. The climate varies from one area or place to another. For instance, there are regions that are always warmer throughout the year, while there are others who experience coldness or ice throughout the year. Various factors can contribute to climate change. The distance from the sun always changes, and this affects the temperatures contributing to climate change. Also, volcanic eruptions can cause climate change. Today the most argued cause of climate change is human activities. Scientists say that the source of global warming in the 21st century is a result of the increased burning of fossils, which produces carbon dioxide. Also, scientists argue that atmospheric temperatures are expected to be on the rise for the next 100 years. This paper discusses the pros and cons of climate change.

Climatic change is expected to boost agricultural activities in some countries. Countries in the northern latitudes, which are known for cold climate and much ice, will benefit agriculture wise from the rising temperatures. Most farmers in the areas were not able to grow crops that required a warm climate (Eicken & Lemke, 2001). For instance, in Denmark, sweetcorn, which could not grow in the regions, is now possible to grow them due to the increasing temperatures. Also, plants like wheat, soya beans, and grass can now grow in such areas.

Also, ice prevented activities like farming in the polar latitudes. The increasing temperatures have contributed to the melting of ice, which provides a favorable environment to grow crops and plants. Of late, it has been witnessed that there are areas in the polar in which plants can grow on their own. The ice melting has also facilitated good transport means in the regions (Bose, 2010). Areas that were covered by ice were challenging to travel through because of the nature of ice. It has even boosted the building of roads in such regions.

Climate change is also expected to contribute to the decline of deaths which are caused by relatively low temperatures. Coldness has been associated with severe problems such as heart attack, which cause death. Global warming has dramatically helped in the decline of heart attack issues in the Polar Regions. Also, the effects of terminal diseases like hypothermia and frostbite are expected to go down as temperatures increase (Haines, Kovats, Campbell-Lendrum & Corvalán, 2006). The Polar Regions were always threatening human life because of the harsh temperatures, but since global warming, people are taking habitats in the regions. This is not different from animals as now animals can live freely with the impact of increasing temperatures.

On the other hand, climate change has been associated with several disadvantages. First, global warming has been related to harmful weather conditions. Global warming is a crucial cause of flooding in areas around oceans and large water bodies. Although some scientists argue that there is no connection and such incidences occur naturally, however, global warming can be used to explain why floods in the 21st century occur more often. Scientists explain that the increased precipitation due to high temperatures is the leading cause of flooding (Wheeler & Von Braun, 2013). Second, climate change is believed to increase desertification in dry areas. High temperatures absorb soil water more efficiently, which leads to drying of plants in the deserts. For example, the Sahara desert in Africa is extending to areas that were previously not deserted. Both floods and desert hinder economic activities like farming.

Climate change also attributes to death due to increased tropical diseases. Pathogens such as mosquitoes which transmit malaria disease have been a critical health issue in the tropical zones. Warm climates provide a comfortable environment for mosquitoes to breed. For instance, in Congo, which experiences tropical climate, malaria has been the primary killer disease in the 21st century.

Climate change also affects aquatic life negatively. Extremes of temperatures have been causing deaths to the marine creatures such as fish, crocodiles, among others. There are species of aquatic animals which existed a long time ago, but due to climate change, they have become instinct. Not only marine animals that are affected by climate change but also land animals (Doney, Ruckelshaus, Duffy, Barry, Chan, English & Polovina, 2011). Dinosaurs were creatures that existed a long time ago got extinct, and the most probable cause was climate change. Other species like European land leech also became instinct. Climate change is also contributing to the decline of some specials. In New Zealand, aquatic species like fishes, salmonids, and stream invertebrates have been on the decline.

Climate changes also contribute to the decreased water supply in rivers. For instance, the water volume of the Colorado River Basin has been declining, and in the future, this can harm daily lives. Most countries depend on water for the generation of electricity, and if the water volumes go down, it will affect the economies of the states (Doney et al., 2011). Also, water in deserts is widely used for irrigation, and if the rivers dry up, it will affect agricultural activities in such areas. This forces a country to depend on external sources of food, which are expensive.

In my opinion, I believe climate change is generally harmful to the world. The disadvantages of climate change outdo the benefits, and they also are felt in most parts of the world. Only a few parts of the world lie in the polar areas, which are mostly experiencing the benefits of climate change. The most substantial portion of the world is experiencing the negatives of climate change, and thus, I agree that it is harmful.

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