

JOANNE MARCOTTE

# Inconvenient Doubts

Climate Change Apocalypse: Really?



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## Climate Change Apocalypse: Really?

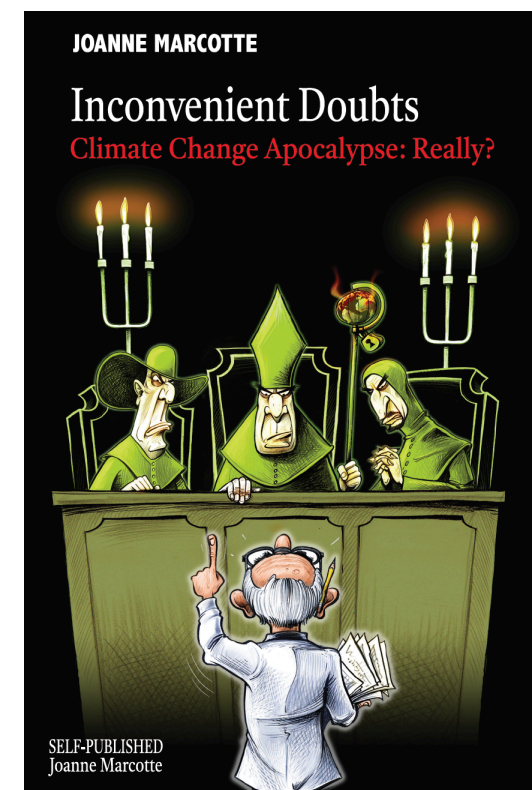
An invitation to discover the work of scientists who call on us to tone it down and reject climate alarmism

By author Joanne Marcotte

Presentation on Thomas Nelson's podcast, February 28, 2024

# WHO AM I ?

- I am Canadian and live in the Province of Quebec, near Quebec City. Blogger on Quebec's public policies since 2010 [joannemarcotte.com](http://joannemarcotte.com)
- Up until 2006 - **Systems Architect** for financial institutions and Government agencies. Bachelor degree in Computer Engineering, Université Laval, Quebec City.
- 2007 - **Filmmaker of *The Quiet Illusion***, a political documentary that debunks the virtuous pretention of the so-called "Quebec social-democratic model"
- 2011 – **Author of *Pour en finir avec le Gouvernemaman*** (Enough with the Nanny State) – A denunciation of the hyper-bureaucratic state of the Quebec government.
- 2023 – **Author of *Inconvenient Doubts - Climate Change Apocalypse : Really?*** – An invitation to discuss the climate change's alarmist tone.



# WHY WRITE THIS BOOK ?

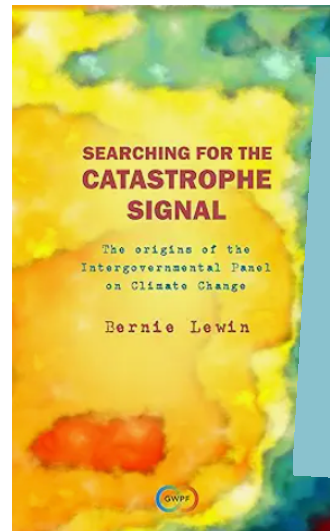
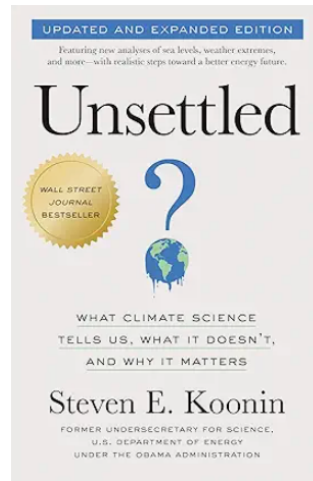
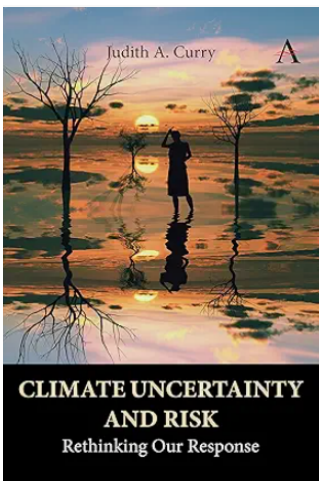
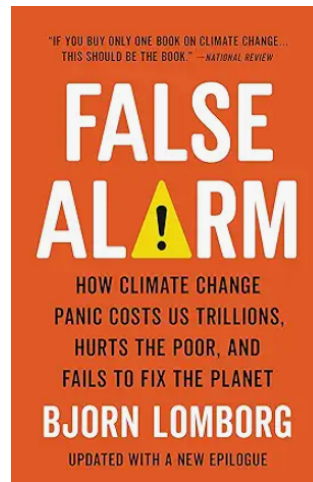
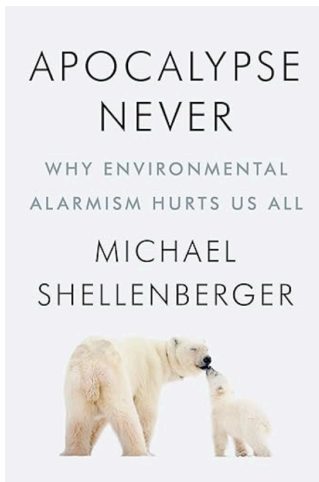
Observing Eco-anxiety,  
Energy instability,  
Enormous cost \$\$\$,  
transformational change  
imposed by unelected  
agencies, where are the  
cost/benefit analyses?

- **SEEING MORE HARM THAN GOOD** – Done by the IPCC’s unrealistic mitigation policies and their alarmist tone.
- **MAKE UP MY OWN MIND** - On the climate change rhetoric and try to understand why there needed to be so much alarmism and catastrophism.
- **NEED TO SHARE** - Share with a Quebec French-speaking population what I learned and do it in a sort of “**What I needed to know about climate change**” way.

*“In this plainspoken book, Joanne Marcotte provides a lucid guided tour of counter-conclusions from four highly accredited and rational analysts, whose data-based dissent offers welcome light in contrast to emotive alarmists’ heat. » -*

Barbara Kay, Canada’s  
National Post columnist

# SOURCES AND INSPIRATIONS



Bernie Lewin

Susan Crockford

## ALSO MENTIONED (non exhaustive):

- Richard Lindzen
- William Happer
- Patrick Moore
- Roger A. Pielke Jr.
- Ross McKittrick
- Steve McIntyre
- Nicholas Lewis
- etc.
  
- The CLINTEL Report. "The Frozen Climate Views of the IPCC."
- CERES-SCIENCE. Willie Soon, Paper on Urban effect on warming
- HUMAN PROGRESS Web site
- PODCASTS - Jordan Peterson and Michael Shermer's podcasts

# THIS PRESENTATION

- **ABOUT THE CONSENSUS**
  - Remembering 1992
  - The 97% figure
  - Is global warming dangerous?
  - Is global warming essentially man-made?
- **THE STATE OF CLIMATE SCIENCE**
- **ABOUT NET-ZERO and CO2**
- **WHAT really IS alarming!**
- **WHAT is very much encouraging**
- **CONCLUSION**

# ABOUT THE “CONSENSUS” – REMEMBERING 1992

1992 – 3rd Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brasil

**The agenda** - Establish a **United Nations** Framework Convention on Climate Change, which entered into force in March 1994.

“The **ultimate objective** of the Convention and any related legal instruments that the Conference of the Parties may adopt (...) is to achieve **stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations** in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent **dangerous anthropogenic** (human induced) interference with the climate system.” – UNFCCC

Surprisingly, there was no science to demonstrate global warming, its causes (GHGs) or its dangerousness ...

*“The political kart was way ahead of the scientific kart from the very beginning, This convention was signed before anything was confirmed scientifically.” – Judith Curry*

# ABOUT THE “CONSENSUS”- The 97% figure and the very misleading tweet by President Barack Obama

## ■ ABOUT THE 97% FIGURE - “97% of scientists agree that climate change is due to human activity”.

- **Totally fabricated** - Comes from a 2013 paper by Cook et al. where **abstracts** of 11,944 climate related papers published between 1991 and 2011 were characterized as either endorsing, rejecting or having no opinion on anthropogenic warming.
- **By excluding the 66,4%** of abstracts that did not take a position, Cook comes up with the 97% figure.

*“Ninety-seven percent of scientists agree: #climatechange is real, man-made and dangerous.” – Barack Obama tweet in 2013*

*“It was an example of **consensus entrepreneurship**, but 97% of a subset of abstracts published between 1991 and 2011 **cannot be interpreted as 97% of scientists**. Nor did the paper refer to “dangerous” climate change.”*  
– Judith Curry

# ABOUT THE “CONSENSUS” – Is global warming dangerous ? (1)

## At the time of the 1992 Summit

*“The IPCC’s dilemma was this : it could not yet say scientifically what was ‘dangerous anthropogenic interference’ because as yet it had no scientific confirmation of any interference at all.*

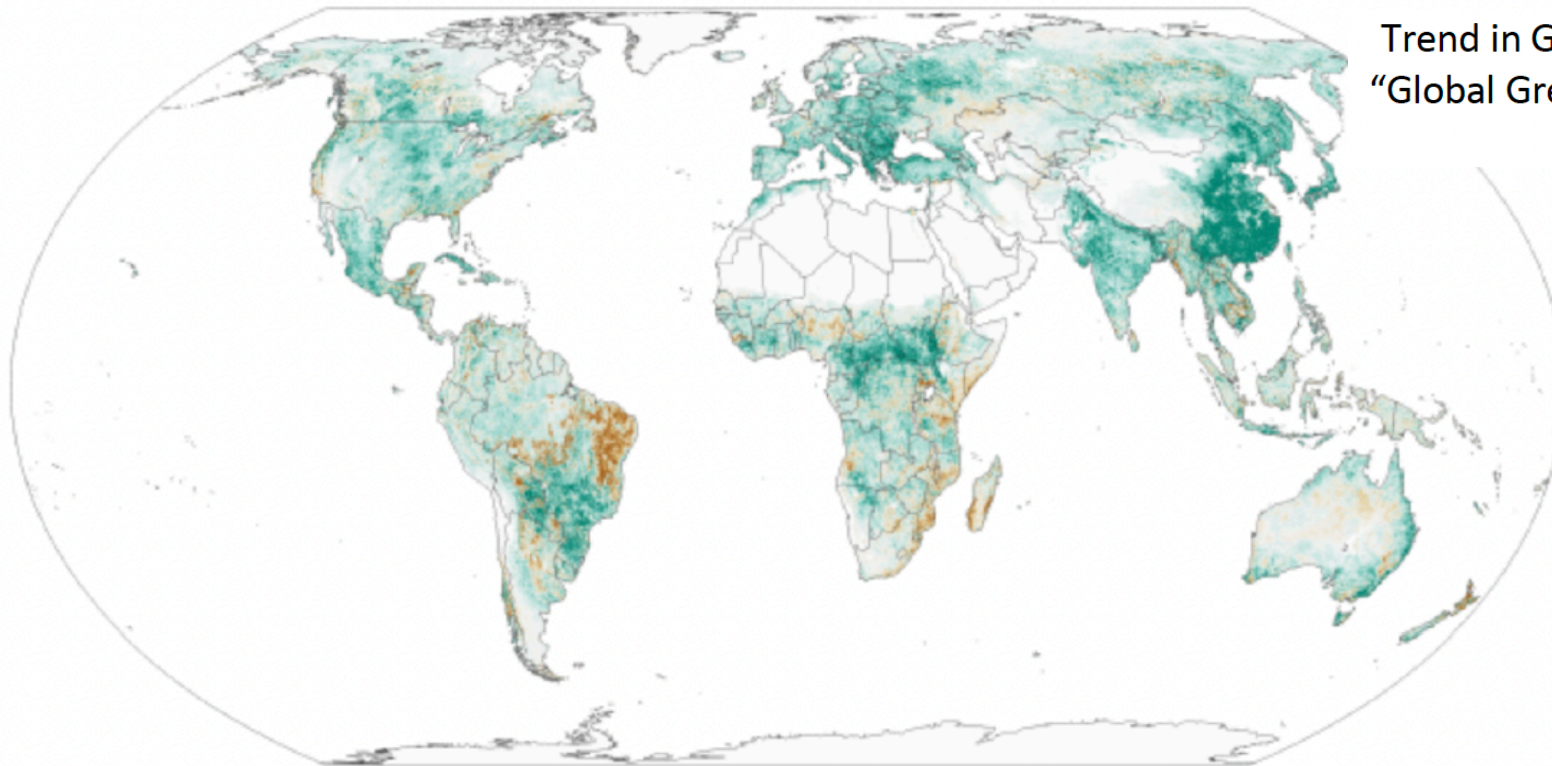
*In the meantime, the nations could choose to act without waiting for the science to catch-up, which was entirely up to them. But this would be a political decision. For Bolin (the author’s report) without a shift in the science, to answer this question of what is ‘dangerous’ would be to step into the political.” – Bernie Lewin*

## Since then

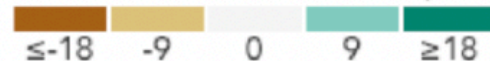
- **Still no consensus** on the dangerousness of global warming.
- The IPCC has a hard time linking extreme weather events to global warming.
- In fact, more CO2 could be seen as a good thing (ex: for plants, for biodiversity).
- What is “dangerous” is the recklessness of the media that amplify alarmist claims (of IPCC and the UN) and the result of CO2-mitigation policies.



# ABOUT THE “CONSENSUS” – Is global warming dangerous? (2)



Trend in Growing Season Mean Leaf Area Index (2000-2018,  $10^{-3} \text{ m}^2/\text{m}^2/\text{year}$ )



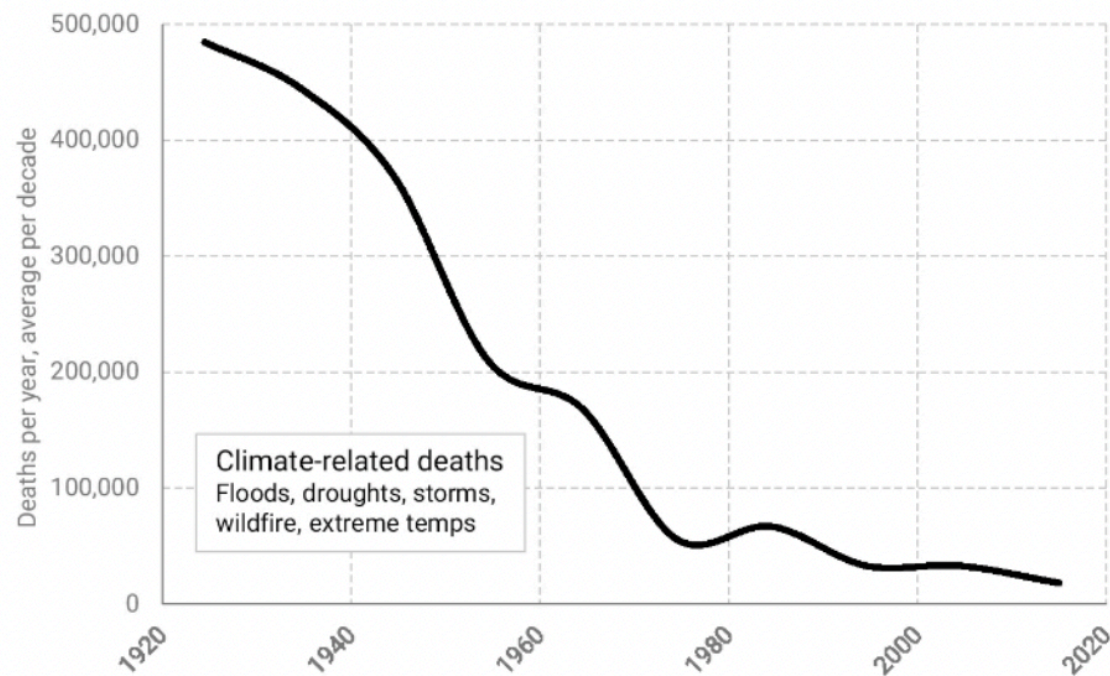
Trend in Growing Season Mean Leaf Area Index (2000-2018)  
“Global Green Up Slows Warming,” NASA Earth Observatory,  
February 2020

**No!**

**The planet is greening!**

**More CO<sub>2</sub> is beneficial for nature,**  
Additional CO<sub>2</sub> in the air is good for  
plant growth. It is also good for  
agriculture, increasing the yields of  
crops worldwide.

## ABOUT THE “CONSENSUS” – Is global warming dangerous? (3)



- **No consensus** on the matter.
- Climate-related deaths have plummeted by 96% since 1920.
- Moreover, globally, more than 5 million deaths are associated with non-optimal temperatures per year.
- **90.4% were cold-related deaths.**

Global climate-related deaths from disasters, 1920-2019, averaged over decades – Taken from *False Alarm*, EM-DAT<sup>14</sup>

# ABOUT THE “CONSENSUS” – Is global warming essentially man-made? (1)

## CLIMATE CHANGE is indisputable, but is it essentially man-made?

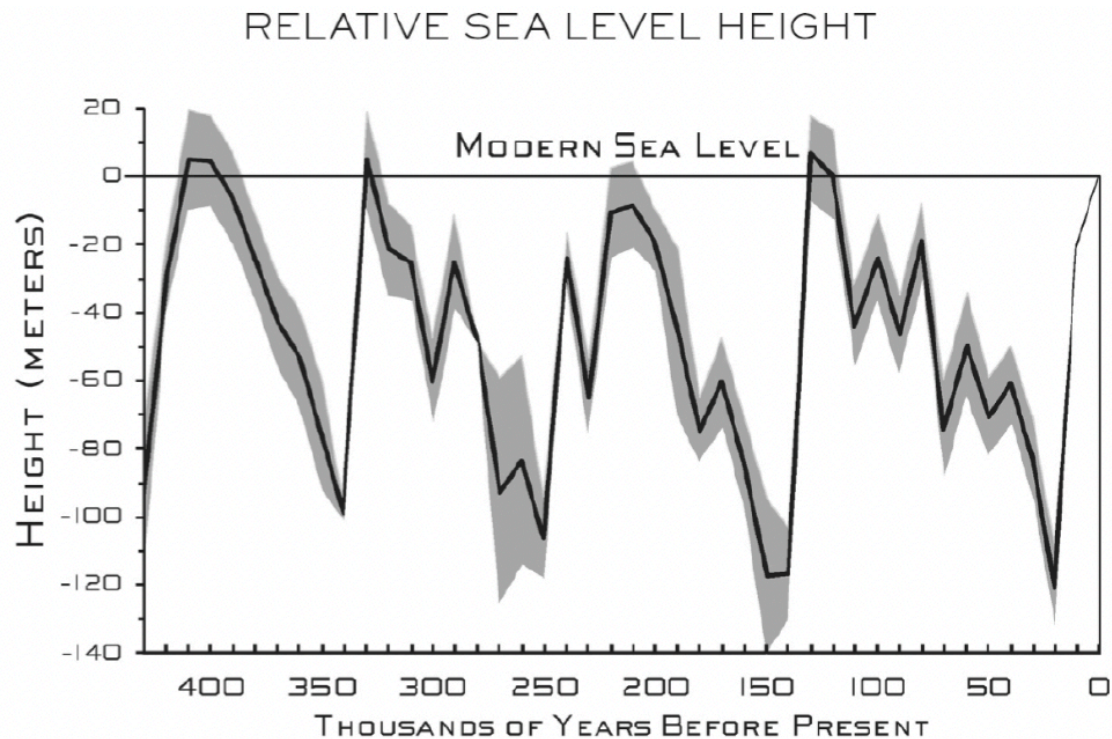


FIGURE 8.1 **Global sea level over the past 400,000 years as estimated from geological proxies.** The typical uncertainty in these estimates is 10 meters.<sup>2</sup>

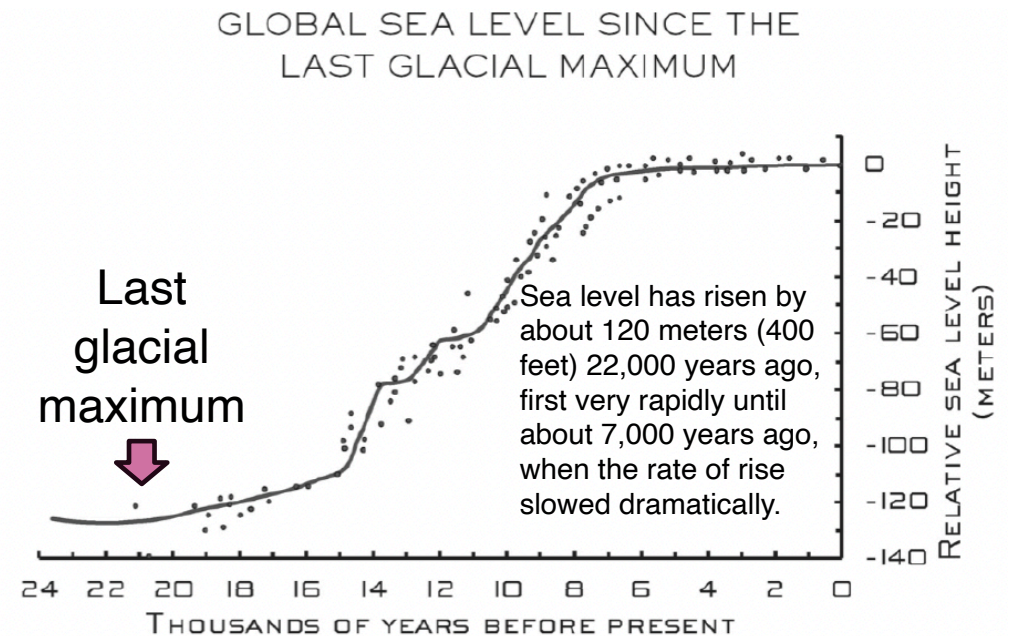
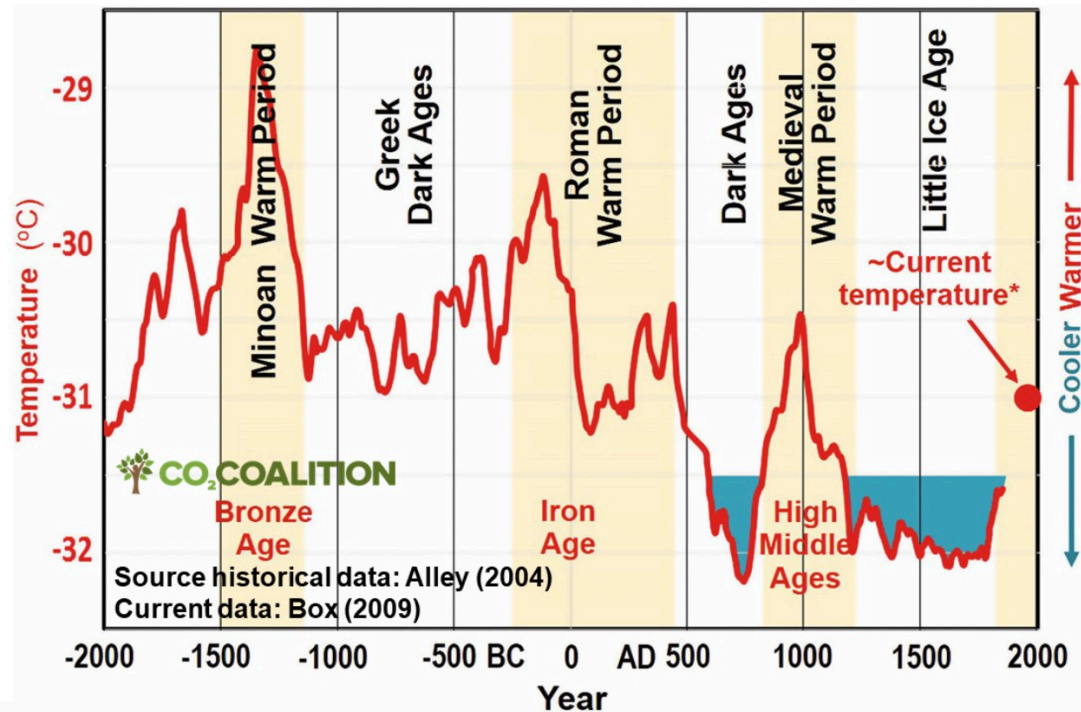


FIGURE 8.2 **Geological estimates of sea level change since the Last Glacial Maximum 22,000 years ago.** The solid curve is the average of estimates from various sites around the globe, shown by the individual representative points.<sup>3</sup>

# ABOUT THE “CONSENSUS” – Is global warming essentially man made? (2)

**For human advancement, warmer is better than colder.**



Taken from the “CO2 Coalition” website.

## THE DEBATE (Because there is one)

The question: Is the recent warming period we are experiencing exceptional and essentially caused by human activity?

**Alarmists**: Yes. The planet is boiling. There is an existential crisis. CO2 is the control knob of the climate.

**Realists**: No. This is not an exceptional period and CO2 has an insignificant if not a very modest influence on the climate.

**SIGNIFICANT WARMING PERIODS** have occurred in the past (minoan, roman, medieval), at times when CO2 cannot be an influential factor.

# ABOUT THE “CONSENSUS” – Is global warming man made? (3)

**On this matter, the debate IS *NOT* SETTLED**

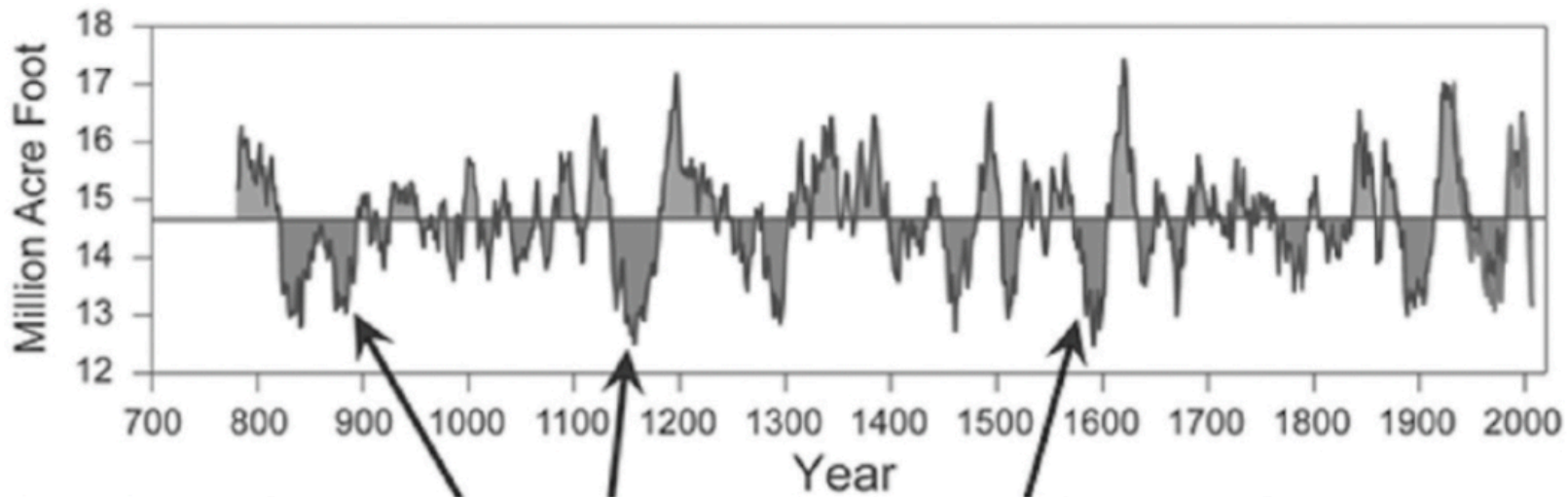
*“Untangling natural vs. human influences in the central problem.” Until we can assess all other natural influences on the climate, we cannot for sure, assess the importance of human influences. – Steven E. Koonin*

*The climate system is non-linear, complex, and poorly understood in theory. The fact that global temperatures have increased since 1860 and that humans have been adding CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere does not answer the question: To what extent CO<sub>2</sub> and other human-caused emissions have dominated over natural climate variability as the cause of the recent warming. – Judith Curry*

So, if you strongly assert that human activity is THE essential driver of the climate, it would mean that all these natural phenomena are insignificant:

- Variations in solar activity
- The Milankovitch cycles
- Aerosols and clouds
- Water vapor
- Volcanic activity (continental and undersea)
- Hydrothermal activity
- El Niño et La Niña
- Ocean circulation changes like the Atlantic Multidecadal Oscillation (AMO)
- Thawing permafrost, etc.

# ABOUT THE “CONSENSUS” – Is global warming man made? (4)



Some droughts in the past have been more severe and longer lasting than any in the last century.

FIGURE 7.10 **Colorado River flow over 1,200 years, reconstructed primarily from tree ring analyses.** (Figure from NCA2009.)<sup>24</sup>

Source: Koonin's *Unsettled*, p. 140

## **COLORADO RIVER FLOW** Spot the CO<sub>2</sub>-induced drought crisis!

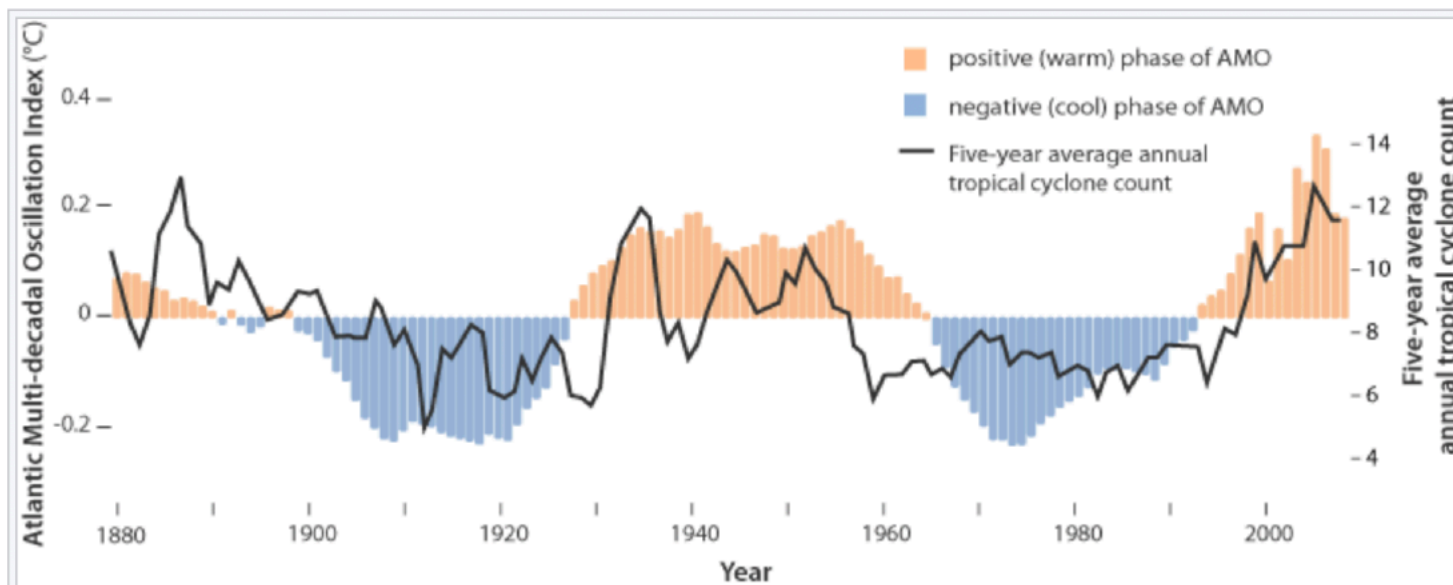
May 2023, AFP:  
“The Colorado River is threatened by over 20 years of drought worsened by global warming”.

February 2024, Los Angeles Times

How climate change is projected to alter California flooding

# ABOUT THE “CONSENSUS” – Is global warming man made? (5)

Relationship between the AMO oscillation and cyclones  
AMO – Atlantic Multidecadal Oscillation  
Cyclical changes in surface temperature in the North Atlantic oceans  
60-80 year cycles



**AMO and cyclones**  
**Spot the CO<sub>2</sub>-induced influence!**

*« Cycles like these influence global and regional climates and are superimposed upon any trends due to human or natural forcings like greenhouse gas emissions or volcanic aerosols.*

*They make it difficult to determine which observed changes in the climate are due to human influences and which are natural.” – Steven E. Koonin*

# THE STATE OF CLIMATE SCIENCE

- **Very young and immature.** New studies are pouring. Measurement tools evolving. Still too many unknowns.
- **No (serious) peer-reviewed process.** Cherry-picking of studies by the IPCC, some of them not even published. Selecting time intervals that confirm preconceived idea. Misleading Executive Summary Reports Continued use of outdated worst scenario (SSP5-8.5).
- **Highly political nature** of the IPCC, since its inception.
- **Very much based on computer models.** Climate models do not fully grasp the complex nature of climate, the internal variability associated with other phenomena. Also, significant contradictions between IPCC's scenarios and empirical data reported in the scientific literature (Climate models cannot reproduce the past).

*“The worst impacts of climate change are symptoms of under-development and mismanagement. (...) The more dramatic impacts of climate change are really symptoms of mismanagement and poverty and can be controlled if we had better governance and more development.” - Richard Tol, one of the authors of the 2013 5<sup>th</sup> IPCC Report*



# ABOUT Net-Zero and CO2

## THE DEBATE on Net-Zero Is CO2 mitigation the solution and is it even possible?

### Alarmists

Yes. The planet is boiling. There is an existential crisis.

Imminent danger of a catastrophe.

CO2 is the main driver of global warming. Is the control knob of climate.

NET-ZERO: Possible for 2050. We must rid ourselves from fossil fuels and it is urgent. Governments must be guided by the 2.0°C and 1.5°C limits.

Climate security should be prioritized at the price of adopting global degrowth policies. But no nuclear and no natural gas.



### Realists

No. This is not an exceptional period. Significant warming periods have occurred in the past.

CO2 is not the main driver of global warming. CO2 has a modest effect on a very complex climate system.

NET-ZERO: Not possible for 2050. Based on unrealistic assumptions. But good reason to migrate to less emitting CO2 sources of energy.

Energy security and global human wellbeing should be prioritized over Climate security. Nuclear and natural gas are good alternatives.

# WHAT REALLY IS ALARMING

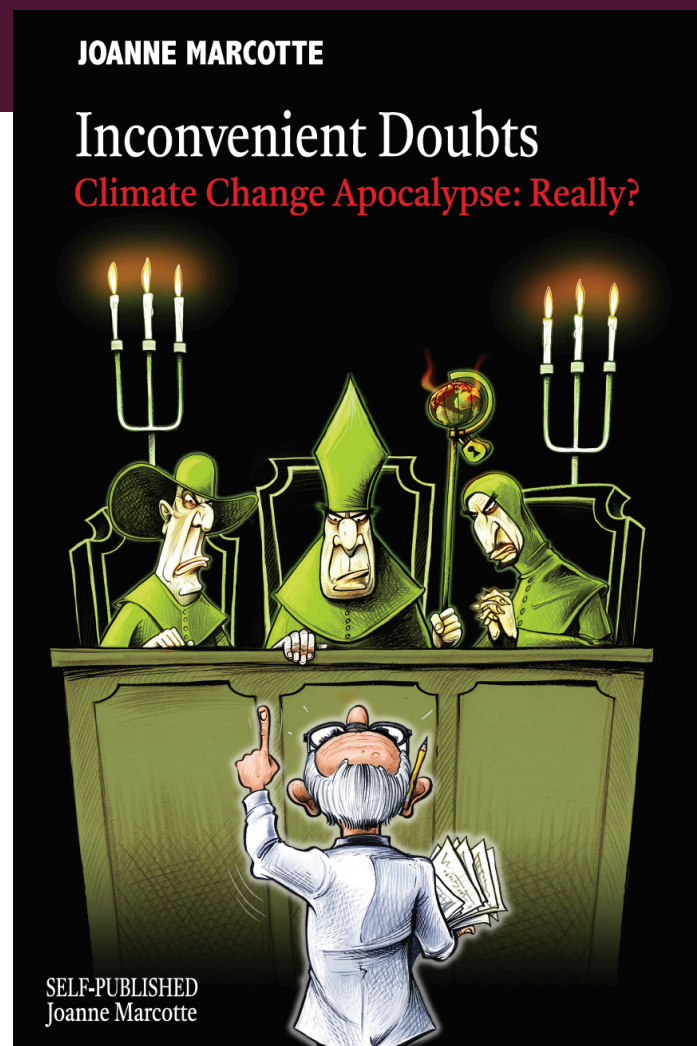
- The **dogmatic manner** in which the IPCC and world leaders treat a climate science that is still filled with uncertainties, risks, and unknowns. Scary... Science or religion?
- **Use of intimidation, censorship, transforming defamation suits into free speech ones.** (ex: Mann vs. Steyn, media bias and censorship).
- **The real threat: How very powerful global and non-elected institutions can easily dictate destructive and very costly (\$\$\$) climate policies to the entire world and that, with so little cost/benefit analysis.**
- How “climate change” offers **an escape route for irresponsible governments**, all too happy with the leniency and complicity of a 4<sup>th</sup> Estate too busy crying wolf rather than doing its homework.
- **Central banks and investment funds** participating in the United Nations’ “transformational change” agenda.
- **Industrial cronyism** and all these “forcings” may not end well.

# MY CONCLUSION: The alarmist tone of climate change is not justified

- **There is no consensus on how important the anthropogenic factor is! On the contrary**, there is fierce debate and that is a good thing.
- **Climate change is not** an existential threat to the planet nor to humans. The recent slight warming following a *Little Ice Age* could even be viewed as having positive repercussions. Also, the “urgency” sales pitch of the climate activists denies everyone of having intelligent, comprehensive and economically viable solutions.
- **Net-Zéro** - The outright elimination of fossile fuels is **a delusion** for the many reasons outlined in the book. CO2 is neither a thermostat nor a control knob that can “control Earth’s climate”.
- **Degrowth is not an option**, and denying developing countries access to cheap, reliable energy **is immoral**.
- Time to get back to basics: Ensuring clean air, water and land, and taking care of nature’s biodiversity. Adopting **adaptation policies** and opting for **growth** and economic development for all, especially poorer countries.
- **Time to take example from the authors** I present in this book: **humility and great sensibility** in front of so much complexity, uncertainties and risks. When you explore the earth, the climate and the changes that have occurred over millions of years, you can't help but wonder...

# THANK YOU

- Available on Amazon, in both French and English
- Self-edited, Self-published
- [jomarcotte@icloud.com](mailto:jomarcotte@icloud.com)
- My blog: [joannemarcotte.com](http://joannemarcotte.com)



# WHAT SURPRISED ME THE MOST

- **The futility of the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement**
- **How the 2.0°C and 1.5°C came about** – The story behind these limits: highly political, essentially a way of pressing global climate policy and action.
  - Interesting: Nobel Prize Winner William Nordhaus: concluded that the consequences of imposing a 1.5 °C limit would have been so severe that humanity was better off doing nothing at all to contain global warming. In fact, Nordhaus argued that the optimal target for climate policies is 3.5°C, 2 degrees well above the 1.5 °C limit.

## The Paris Agreement

- **Insignificant.** Represents only 1% of what is needed to keep warming to 2°C by 2030.
- **Will hardly do anything** directly to reduce human influences on the climate given the 100 percent reduction needed to stabilize the carbon dioxide concentration. (CO<sub>2</sub> stays a long time in the atmosphere).

**The GHG mitigation policy is failing.**

# WHAT IS VERY MUCH ENCOURAGING: Emergence of doubt (Awakening)

<b>Increase in legitimate Doubt</b>	On global warming, on anthropogenic source of warming and on Net-Zero
<b>People take to the street</b>	Governments are squeezed. Must reassess their Net-Zero strategy.
<b>More and more independent studies</b>	IPCC is being more and more challenged. Will eventually have competitors (new peer-reviewed publishing sites).
<b>Easier access</b>	Alternative media platforms compensate for narrow-minded mainstream media
<b>The IPCC is being challenged</b>	Are the United Nations and the IPCC legitimate institutions to force so radical changes?
<b>Net-Zero is being challenged</b>	Could Adaptation policies and Economic Development be more effective and less costly?
<b>“Clean” and “renewable” energies</b>	Are they really “clean” and “renewable”?
<b>More realistic transition</b>	Natural gas is recognized by the EU as a green energy source and Nuclear power is getting more and more acceptable