# Climate Change Podcast Reflection Report

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The topic of climate change is very broad and contains a tremendous amount of information. To explore the topic, a group of students conducted research and delivered a podcast to share our findings. We each looked at sub-topics, including what climate change is, as well as what causes it, how sea ice is affected by global climate, what the main effects of climate change on land and marine ecosystems are, what postponing climate change can do to our country, and even our world, and lastly, how do we might fix/reverse climate change. With these topics, we were able to truly narrow down the points we wanted to get across to our audience. It also allowed us to not drift too far off from the main topic of climate change.

For each sub-topic, each group member researched and found evidence to support what we were trying to argue. In addition to the research, we found various video clips off of websites such as YouTube, in order to include audio clips to support our podcast. By playing those clips, we provided breaks from all of us simply talking the entire time, and we brought in another point of view from someone else who is experienced in that particular field. Having this within the podcast was very necessary and genuinely helpful. A difficulty we encountered throughout our process was translating those video clips from YouTube into audio clips, and making sure that they all were prepared and cut properly for the podcast recording. Even with our few complications in that regard, we were able to manage and figure out what needed to be done. Also in finding those clips, we came across many that sometimes drifted slightly off topic. However, in the end we did find valuable clips that fit into our podcast very nicely. Overall as a group, I think that the podcast went very smoothly, with no major complications during the actual recording. I also think that it went over well considering our last-minute circumstance of losing a team member, and having to figure out a quick solution.

My sub-topic was postponing action on climate change, and what would happen if climate change response was put off for a specific period of time, or even an indefinite period of time. When it came to researching that topic, eventually, I came up with three well written articles, and later narrowed it down to one main article which had a sufficient amount of information for my section of the podcast. One of the main quotes I used was, "If delayed action causes the mean global temperature increase to stabilize at 3° Celsius above pre industrial levels, instead of 2°, that delay will induce annual additional damages of 0.9 percent of global output" (Furman, 2014). This quote assisted me in supporting the fact that if climate change action continues to be postponed, and put off for a later date, it will cause the earth to continue to increase in its temperatures and eventually cause major damage to our country, and eventually our world as a whole. This will then cost large amounts of money to be charged in order to keep this situation under control and somewhat safe. Some examples of severe damages that would be caused include increasing temperature in the air, which could then lead to further air pollution, and ocean pollution due to waste being handled incorrectly.

I further researched and found out that a main negative impact to pushing the improvement of climate change off would be the drastics effects that come along with the increased temperatures. For example, due to the temperature change, ice will start melting. When the ice melts, that means that more water is being added to the oceans. Also, when the ocean water becomes warmer, that water begins to expand in size. Now at this point, due to both the expansion of the ocean water along with the melted ice, the sea level will rise tremendously, causing things such as nearby islands to become overtaken by the water, and marine animals and ecosystems to suffer due to the water temperature change. This situation is an instance where one

small factor that may not seem important, such as the initial increase in temperature within the air allows for an exponential growth of negative consequences that will occur then after. One idea that definitely stood out to me was the fact that one negative outcome that goes unresolved will always be followed by another greater and stronger negative outcome.

During the podcast, I decided to use an audio clip that would work well to support what I was explaining, so I found a significant one on YouTube (Commission, 2015). This video emphasized man-made climate change. This consists of all of, the negative effects that humans are contributing to the climate. By emitting greenhouse gases, humans are becoming one of the biggest problems that needs to change. The planet is only getting warmer due to all of the industrialization taking place, and it is safe to say that it is humans who can make the changes, and fix what is going wrong. If all of us decreased the amount that we contribute even by a small fraction, it could make the biggest difference, and therefore lead to much needed improvement. "For everything you buy or do someone must have polluted the environment in order to make it. The Greenhouse effect is one of the major causes of Global Warming" (The forum, n.d.). All of this leads me to safely say that we as a country, and world, are unable to wait any longer to find solutions to the never slowing issue of climate change. In other words, it needs to be addressed now rather than later.

In conclusion, our climate change podcast had a main goal of informing others about the dangers of climate change. I studied the effects of postponing a solution to the on-going issue of climate change. The fact of the matter is that the problem will only continue to get worse if nothing is done about it. One key solution is decreasing the amount of greenhouse gases that are

being emitted into the air, because that is what causes the temperatures to rise, which then leads

to greater and worse outcomes. If one negative factor goes unnoticed, more will follow.

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