

Teenagers Believe and Espouse Green New Deal Hype

This article is from the “Edifying the Body” section of the Church of God Big Sandy’s website, churchofgodbigandy.com. It was posted for the weekend of Sept. 28, 2019.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—On Feb. 7, 2019, an article by Danielle Kurtzleben titled “Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez Releases Green New Deal Outline” was posted at npr.org.

- It was astonishing to see some of the proposed statements of changes that adults were promoting for our way of life.
- It was astonishing to note that the goal of the massive changes was to complete the drastic transformation within the next 10-12 years.
- But do you know what was the most astonishing thing to me about the Green New Deal? Most (if not all) of the Democratic presidential candidates publicly supported and endorsed the whimsical pipe dream.

Weren’t there any candidates willing to criticize more of the questionable ideas of the proposal?

Now as we are counting off the days in September of 2019, we find that some teenagers are talking to the United Nations and to members of the United States Congress to show their support for the Green New Deal.

At this time, I want to offer the following two articles to show you that teenagers are promoting the Green New Deal.

- Some people view these teenagers as visionaries. However, the teens did not cite rational scientific arguments. (Most so-called climate-change scientists base their predictions on computer models.) Rather, the presentations of these teenagers were based on the strength of their emotions.
- Other people view these teenagers as woefully misinformed pawns in a movement where a core of people are gaining power and riches. (Notice the number of houses and the size of these houses of the rich people promoting the fashionable theories on climate change. Notice the pollution caused by the fancy planes of the famous rich people talking loudly about climate change.)



An article by NPR staff titled “Transcript: Greta Thunberg’s Speech at the U.N. Climate Action Summit” was posted at npr.org on Sept. 23, 2019. Following is the article.

Editor's note: Climate activist Greta Thunberg, 16, addressed the UN's Climate Action Summit in New York City on Monday. Here's the full transcript of Thunberg's speech, beginning with her response to a question about the message she has for world leaders.

"My message is that we'll be watching you.

"This is all wrong. I shouldn't be up here. I should be back in school on the other side of the ocean. Yet you all come to us young people for hope. How dare you!

"You have stolen my dreams and my childhood with your empty words. And yet I'm one of the lucky ones. People are suffering. People are dying. Entire ecosystems are collapsing. We are in the beginning of a mass extinction, and all you can talk about is money and fairy tales of eternal economic growth. How dare you!

"For more than 30 years, the science has been crystal clear. How dare you continue to look away and come here saying that you're doing enough, when the politics and solutions needed are still nowhere in sight.

"You say you hear us and that you understand the urgency. But no matter how sad and angry I am, I do not want to believe that. Because if you really understood the situation and still kept on failing to act, then you would be evil. And that I refuse to believe.

"The popular idea of cutting our emissions in half in 10 years only gives us a 50% chance of staying below 1.5 degrees [Celsius], and the risk of setting off irreversible chain reactions beyond human control.

"Fifty percent may be acceptable to you. But those numbers do not include tipping points, most feedback loops, additional warming hidden by toxic air pollution or the aspects of equity and climate justice. They also rely on my generation sucking hundreds of billions of tons of your CO₂ out of the air with technologies that barely exist.

"So a 50% risk is simply not acceptable to us—we who have to live with the consequences.

"To have a 67% chance of staying below a 1.5 degrees global temperature rise—the best odds given by the [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change]—the world had 420 gigatons of CO₂ left to emit back on Jan. 1st, 2018. Today that figure is already down to less than 350 gigatons.

"How dare you pretend that this can be solved with just 'business as usual' and some technical solutions? With today's emissions levels, that remaining CO₂ budget will be entirely gone within less than 8 1/2 years.

"There will not be any solutions or plans presented in line with these figures here today, because these numbers are too uncomfortable. And you are still not mature enough to tell it like it is.

"You are failing us. But the young people are starting to understand your betrayal. The eyes of all future generations are upon you. And if you choose to fail us, I say: We will never forgive you.

"We will not let you get away with this. Right here, right now is where we draw the line. The world is waking up. And change is coming, whether you like it or not.

"Thank you."



An article by Susan Jones titled "Teen 'Climate Justice Activist': 'Remember the Fear and Despair That My Generation Lives With Every Day' " was posted at cnsnews.com on Sept. 19, 2019. Following is the article.

Several young climate activists testified before the House Climate Crisis Committee and a House Foreign Affairs subcommittee on Wednesday, urging the transformation of the U.S. economy to save their very lives.

One witness, 17-year-old Jamie Margolin, told lawmakers to "remember the fear and despair that my generation lives with every day."

Margolin complained that her generation has been "committed to a planet that is collapsing."

She even scorned the nation's founding: "Solving the climate crisis goes against everything that our country was unfortunately built on—colonialism, slavery and natural resource extraction," she said. "This is why the youth are calling for a new era altogether."

Margolin also promised that someday she'll be a member of Congress: "By 2030, I will be old enough to run for Congress and be seated right where you are sitting right now. By then, we need to have already achieved net zero greenhouse gas emissions and be rapidly on the path to climate recovery. I cannot wait until I'm sitting in your seats."

And don't bother telling Margolin that her future looks promising: "Everyone who will walk up to me after this testimony saying that I have such a bright future ahead of me will be lying to my face," she said.

Margolin warned that "we only have a few months left in order to create the massive political shift needed to transition our world to an entirely renewable energy economy. This needs to happen within the next ten years, which is our deadline to save life as we know it."

Here is Margolin's extraordinary opening statement in full:

"My name is Jamie Margolin, and I'm a 17-year-old climate justice activist from Seattle, Washington. I am missing a lot of school to be here. It's my senior year of high school. I have college application deadlines looming over me, and to be honest, I have barely even started because I'm too busy fighting to make sure that I'm actually going to have the future I'm applying to study for.

"You are spending a few moments with me, but that is nothing compared to the hours that members of Congress who met with lobbyists from corporations that make billions of dollars off of the destruction of my generation's future.

"I want the entirety of Congress—in fact, the whole U.S. government—to remember the fear and despair that my generation lives with every day, and I want you to hold onto it. How do I even begin to convey to you what it feels like to know that within my lifetime, the destruction that we've already seen from the climate crisis will only get worse. What adds insult to injury is the fact that we keep getting promised what isn't there.

"On college applications, I keep getting asked, what do you want to be when you grow up? The media, pop culture, businesses, and the whole world tells me that I and my whole generation will have something to look forward to that we just don't.

"You're promising lies. Everyone who will walk up to me after this testimony saying that I have such a bright future ahead of me will be lying to my face.

"It doesn't matter how talented we are. It doesn't matter how much work we put in, how many dreams we have. The reality is, my generation has been committed to a planet that is collapsing.

"The fact that you are staring at a panel of young people testifying before you today, pleading for a livable earth, should not fill you with pride. It should fill you with shame. Youth climate activism should not have to exist.

"We are exhausted because we have tried everything. We've built organizations, organized marches, and worked on political campaigns. I sued my state government in a lawsuit called Piper versus the State of Washington, along with 12 other plaintiffs, for contributing to the climate crisis, denying my generation's constitutional rights to life, liberty, and property.

"The lawsuit is also arguing that the natural resources of my state are protected as a right under the Washington State Constitution. The shellfish, salmon, orcas and all of the beautiful wildlife of my Pacific Northwest home is dying due to ocean acidification caused by the climate crisis. And communities all over Seattle are suffering from the new fossil fuel infrastructure being built to lock in decades more of climate destruction into my state.

"My friends and I were warned to stay inside the last two summers because our city was shrouded in a suffocating smoke from wildfires. It gave me such bad headaches for so long. And my friends with respiratory illnesses had to go to the E.R. Is this the future that we have to look forward to? Well, we, the youth, are working as hard as we can to make sure that it isn't.

"On July 21st of 2018, after an entire year of nonstop organizing, despite being full-time high school students with a lot of homework to do, my organization Zero Hour marched on Washington, D.C., in a pouring rainstorm and in 25 cities around the world, demanding urgent climate action from you and all of our leaders. And that was only the beginning.

"But by 2030, we will know if we have created the political climate that will have allowed us to salvage life on earth, or if we acted too late. By then, we must be well on the path to climate recovery.

"But this must start today. In fact, it should've started yesterday. By 2030, I will be old enough to run for Congress and be seated right where you guys are sitting right now. By then, we need to have already achieved net zero greenhouse gas emissions, and be rapidly on the path to climate recovery.

"I can't wait until I'm sitting in your seats to change the climate crisis. You have to use the seats that you have now, because by the time I get there, it is going to be way too late.

"The good news is that experts agree that there are multiple pathways to decarbonize the United States energy system, and that doing so is both technologically and economically viable and beneficial.

"The most frustrating thing is that the U.S. government can't even begin to imagine the massive political shift that has to happen in order for us to solve this issue. The politics just hasn't been invented yet.

"Solving the climate crisis goes against everything that our country was unfortunately built on—colonialism, slavery, and natural resource extraction. This is why the youth are calling for a new era altogether.

"As Greta [Thunberg] mentioned, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report [says] that we only have a few months left in order to create the massive political shift needed to transition our world to an entirely renewable energy economy.

"This needs to happen within the next ten years, which is our deadline to save life as we know it.

"People call my generation 'Generation Z,' as if we are the last generation. But we are not. We are refusing to be the last letter in the alphabet. I am here before the whole country today, announcing that we are instead a 'Generation GND'—the Generation of the Green New Deal.

"The only thing that will save us is a whole new era. The Green New Deal is not just about the specific plans laid out in resolutions, it's about a new chapter in American history and transforming our culture into one that celebrates, encourages and enables radical climate action. It is right here, testifying before you, that I'm proud to announce that history is being made.

"You've heard of the Reagan era, the New Deal era—well the youth are bringing about the era of the Green New Deal."



An article by Walter Williams titled "Our Planet Is Not Fragile Despite 'Climate Change' Hysteria" was posted at jewishworldreview.com on March 6, 2019.

Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez claims that "the world is going to end in 12 years if we don't address climate change."

The people at the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change agree, saying that to avoid some of the most devastating impacts of climate change, the world must slash carbon emissions by 45 percent by 2030 and completely decarbonize by 2050.

Such dire warnings are not new.

In 1970, Harvard University biology professor George Wald, a Nobel laureate, predicted, "Civilization will end within 15 or 30 years unless immediate action is taken against problems facing mankind."

Also in 1970, Paul Ehrlich, a Stanford University biologist, predicted in an article for *The Progressive*, "The death rate will increase until at least 100-200 million people per year will be starving to death during the next ten years."

The year before, he had warned, "If I were a gambler, I would take even money that England will not exist in the year 2000." Despite such harebrained predictions, Ehrlich has won no fewer than 16 awards, including the 1990 Crafoord Prize, the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences' highest award.

Leftists constantly preach nonsense.

- "The world that we live in is beautiful but fragile."
- "The 3rd rock from the sun is a fragile oasis."
- "Remember that Earth needs to be saved every single day."

These and many other statements, along with apocalyptic predictions, are stock in trade for environmentalists.

Worse yet, this fragile-earth indoctrination is fed to the nation's youth from kindergarten through college. That's why many millennials support Rep. Ocasio-Cortez.

Let's examine just a few cataclysmic events that exceed any destructive power of mankind and then ask how our purportedly fragile planet could survive.

- The 1883 eruption of the Krakatoa volcano, in present-day Indonesia, had the force of 200 megatons of TNT. That's the equivalent of 13,300 15-kiloton atomic bombs, the kind that destroyed Hiroshima in World War II.

- Before that was the 1815 Tambora eruption, the largest known volcanic eruption. It spewed so much debris into the atmosphere that 1816 became known as the "Year Without a Summer." It led to crop failures and livestock death in the Northern Hemisphere, producing the worst famine of the 19th century.

- The Krakatoa eruption in the year 535 had such force that it blotted out much of the light and heat of the sun for 18 months and is said to have led to the Dark Ages.

- Geophysicists estimate that just three volcanic eruptions—Indonesia (1883), Alaska (1912) and Iceland (1947)—spewed more carbon dioxide and sulfur dioxide into the atmosphere than all of mankind's activities during our entire history.

Our so-called fragile earth survived other catastrophic events.

■ Such events included the floods in China in 1887, which took an estimated 1 million to 2 million lives, followed by floods there in 1931, which took an estimated 1 million to 4 million lives.

What about the impact of earthquakes on our fragile earth?

■ Chile's 1960 Valdivia earthquake was 9.5 on the Richter scale. It created a force equivalent to 1,000 atomic bombs going off at the same time.

■ The deadly 1556 earthquake in China's Shaanxi province devastated an area of 520 miles.

Our so-called fragile earth faces outer-space terror.

■ Two billion years ago, an asteroid hit earth, creating the Vredefort crater in South Africa, which has a diameter of 190 miles.

■ In Ontario, there's the Sudbury Basin, resulting from a meteor strike 1.8 billion years ago. At 39 miles long, 19 miles wide and 9 miles deep, it's the second-largest impact structure on earth.

■ Virginia's Chesapeake Bay crater is a bit smaller, about 53 miles wide.

■ Then there's the famous but puny Meteor Crater in Arizona, which is not even a mile wide.

My question is: Which of these powers of nature could be duplicated by mankind?

For example, could mankind even come close to duplicating the polluting effects of the 1815 Tambora volcanic eruption?

It is the height of arrogance to think that mankind can make significant parametric changes in the earth or can match nature's destructive forces. Our planet is not fragile.

Occasionally, environmentalists spill the beans and reveal their true agenda.

Barry Commoner said, "Capitalism is the earth's number one enemy." Amherst College professor Leo Marx said, "On ecological grounds, the case for world government is beyond argument."



A video and an article by Kyle Hooten titled "Video: College Students Think World Will End in 12 Years" were posted at thecollegefix.com on Sept. 23, 2019.

Students across the globe walked out of class on September 20 as part of a "climate strike" aimed at pursuing "environmental justice."

The College Fix sent one of its student reporters, Kyle Hooten, to a climate strike at St. Olaf College in Minnesota where roughly 1,000 students vacated class, marched into the town of Northfield, and held a rally.

Many of these students said they believe humanity is on a collision course with climate catastrophe and agree with Democratic Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez that there's only 12 years left before the planet becomes uninhabitable.



An article by Daniel Payne titled "If the World's Ending in 12 Years, Why Even Go to College?" was posted at thecollegefix.com on Sept. 25, 2019. Following is the article.

The College Fix's own Kyle Hooten recently attended one of the many student-heavy climate change marches that happened around the world late last week. These marches were meant to send a message to world leaders that young adults are serious about "climate justice."

One student, asked about the popular prediction that climate change will destroy humanity in around 12 years, stated with sincerity: "For [all] we know, it could be sooner than that."

This is a common refrain among climate activists, particularly younger students in the throes of climate activism—that we have around a decade, maybe less, before climate danger pushes humanity over the brink of extinction.

- Here's an honest reply to that theory—If this is accurate, why even go to college? What's the point?
- Honestly. If everything is going to be a glacial lake in less than 15 years, why pursue a degree in feminist botany studies?
- What good will a history minor do you if your life consists of rowing from one inundated mountaintop to the next, fighting with roving Mad Maxi-style gangs of climate survivors for the scant few cases of saltines and tins of anchovies left in the world?
- So you get on the Dean's List—will that help you learn to breath underwater?

Perhaps these young scholars believe in hedging their bets—maybe they think it's wise to get a degree in the hope that society will right its wrongs and get on a good green path before it's too late.

That, of course, is an absurd pipe dream, at least if we're willing to take climate alarmists at their word.

If the planet is truly going to reverse its carbon consumption over the next decade, we would need to see not just the United States but every major industrialized nation, including energy-ravenous countries like China, adopt absolutely dire, perhaps catastrophic energy policies, to the point that many if not most people in the developed world would have to endure significant and persistent energy shortages for years and years.

Does anyone actually think this scenario will come to pass?

If alarmists are right in their dire predictions, there's really nothing much at all to be done except accept what's coming. In which case paying forty grand for a college education seems sort of weird, considering you're probably just going to be dead in a few years.

Why not just embrace the inevitable and stop worrying about homework?

If you don't, maybe that tells you something about how seriously you believe these doom-laden predictions about the fate of the world.



An article by Sam Dorman titled "Doomsdays That Didn't Happen: Think Tank [Competitive Enterprise Institute] Compiles Decades' Worth of Dire Climate Predictions" was posted at foxnews.com on Sept. 18, 2019. Following is the article.

Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez recently suggested Miami would disappear in "a few years" due to climate change. The United Nations is convening a "Climate Action Summit" next week. And climate activist Greta Thunberg is on Capitol Hill this week telling lawmakers they must act soon.

But while data from NASA and other top research agencies confirms global temperatures are indeed rising, a newly compiled retrospective indicates the doomsday rhetoric is perhaps more overheated.

The conservative-leaning Competitive Enterprise Institute has put together a lengthy compilation of apocalyptic predictions dating back decades that did not come to pass, timed as Democratic presidential candidates and climate activists refocus attention on the issue.

The dire predictions, often repeated in the media, warned of a variety of impending disasters—famine, drought, an ice age, and even disappearing nations—if the world failed to act on climate change.

■ An Associated Press headline from 1989 read "Rising seas could obliterate nations: U.N. officials." The article detailed a U.N. environmental official warning that entire nations would be eliminated if the world failed to reverse warming by 2000.

■ Then there were the fears that the world would experience a never-ending "cooling trend in the Northern Hemisphere." That claim came from an "international team of specialists" cited by *The New York Times* in 1978.

■ Just years prior, *Time* magazine echoed other media outlets in suggesting that "another ice age" was imminent. "Telltale signs are everywhere—from the unexpected persistence and thickness of pack ice in the waters around Iceland to the southward migration of a warmth-loving creature like the armadillo from the Midwest," the magazine warned in 1974.

- The *Guardian* similarly warned in 1974 that “Space satellites show new Ice Age coming fast.”
- In 1970, *The Boston Globe* ran the headline, “Scientist predicts a new ice age by 21st century.”
- *The Washington Post*, for its part, published a Columbia University scientist’s claim that the world could be “as little as 50 or 60 years away from a disastrous new ice age.”

Some of the more dire predictions came from Paul Ehrlich, a biologist who famously urged population control to mitigate the impacts of humans on the environment.

- Ehrlich, in 1969, warned that “everybody” would “disappear in a cloud of blue steam in 20 years,” *The New York Times* reported.
- According to *The Salt Lake Tribune*, Ehrlich, warning of a “disastrous” famine,” urged placing “sterilizing agents into staple foods and drinking water.”

Those predictions were made around the time former President Richard Nixon created the Environmental Protection Agency. Since then, the U.S. has adopted a series of environmental reforms aimed at limiting emissions.

Years after those initial predictions, media outlets and politicians continue to teem with claims of apocalyptic scenarios resulting from climate change.

Earlier this month, leading Democratic presidential candidates held a town hall on the issue and warned about the “existential” threat posed by a changing climate. Before the end of the month, 2020 candidates are expected to have another climate forum at Georgetown University.

CEI’s report came just before the U.N. Climate Action Summit on Sept. 23, an event that promises to “spark the transformation that is urgently needed and propel action that will benefit everyone.”

It also came a week after Rep. Ocasio-Cortez, D-N.Y., warned that Miami would be gone in a “few years” because of climate change. She was responding to critics of her ambitious “Green New Deal,” which seeks to reach net-zero emissions within just decades.

Ocasio-Cortez, whose plan has been endorsed by leading presidential candidates, previously joked that the world would end in 12 years if it didn’t address climate change. But short-term predictions weren’t a laughing matter in the years following “An Inconvenient Truth,” a documentary produced by former Vice President Al Gore.

- In 2008, ABC released an ominous video about what the world would look like in 2015. As the video warned about rising sea levels, a graphic showed significant portions of New York City engulfed by water.
- Gore himself famously predicted in the early 2000s that Arctic ice could be gone within seven years. At the end of seven years, Arctic ice had undergone a period of expansion, though recently it has been melting at a quicker pace.



An article by Myron Ebell and Steven J. Milloy titled “Wrong Again: 50 Years of Failed Eco-Pocalyptic Predictions” was posted at cei.org on Sept. 18, 2019. Following are excerpts of the article.

Thanks go to Tony Heller, who first collected many of these news clips and posted them on RealClimateScience.

Summary

Modern doomsayers have been predicting climate and environmental disaster since the 1960s. They continue to do so today.

None of the apocalyptic predictions with due dates as of today have come true.

What follows is a collection of notably wild predictions from notable people in government and science.

More than merely spotlighting the failed predictions, this collection shows that the makers of failed apocalyptic predictions often are individuals holding respected positions in government and science.

While such predictions have been and continue to be enthusiastically reported by a media eager for sensational headlines, the failures are typically not revisited.

- 1967: ‘Dire famine by 1975’—source: Salt Lake Tribune, November 17, 1967
- 1969: ‘Everyone will disappear in a cloud of blue steam by 1989’—source: New York Times, August 10 1969
- 1970: Ice age by 2000—source: Boston Globe, April 16, 1970
- 1970: ‘America subject to water rationing by 1974 and food rationing by 1980’—source: Redlands Daily Facts, October 6, 1970
- 1971: ‘New Ice Age Coming’—source: Washington Post, July 9, 1971
- 1972: New ice age by 2070—source: NOAA, October 2015
- 1974: ‘New Ice Age Coming Fast’—source: The Guardian, January 29, 1974
- 1974: ‘Another Ice Age?’—source: *Time*, June 24, 1974
- 1974: Ozone Depletion a ‘Great Peril to Life’—but no such ‘great peril to life’ has been observed as the so-called ‘ozone hole’ remains—sources: headline (NASA Data and Graph)
- 1976: ‘The Cooling’—source: New York Times Book Review, July 18, 1976
- 1980: ‘Acid Rain Kills Life in Lakes’—source: Noblesville Ledger (Noblesville, IN) April 9, 1980

- 1978: 'No End in Sight' to 30-Year Cooling Trend—source: New York Times, January 5, 1978—but according to NASA satellite data there is a slight warming trend since 1979—source: DrRoySpencer.com
- 1988: James Hansen forecasts increase regional drought in 1990s—but the last really dry year in the Midwest was 1988, and recent years have been record wet—source: RealClimateScience.com
- 1988: Washington DC days over 90F to from 35 to 85—but the number of hot days in the DC area peaked in 1911, and have been declining ever since—source: RealClimateScience.com
- 1988: Maldives completely under water in 30 years—source: Agence France Press, September 26, 1988
- 1989: Rising seas to 'obliterate' nations by 2000—source: Associated Press, June 30, 1989
- 1989: New York City's West Side Highway underwater by 2019—source: Salon.com, October 23, 2001
- 1995 to Present: Climate Model Failure—source: CEI.org
- 2000: 'Children won't know what snow is'—source: The Independent, March 20, 2000
- 2002: Famine in 10 years—source: The Guardian, December 23, 2002
- 2004: Britain to have Siberian climate by 2020—source: The Guardian, February 21, 2004
- 2008: Arctic will be ice-free by 2018—source: Associated Press, June 24, 2008
- 2008: Al Gore warns of ice-free Arctic by 2013—source: WattsUpWithThat.com, December 16, 2018
- 2009: Prince Charles says only 8 years to save the planet—source: The Independent, July 9, 2009
- 2009: UK prime minister says 50 days to 'save the planet from catastrophe'—source: The Independent: October 20, 2009
- 2009: Arctic ice-free by 2014—source: USA Today, December 14, 2009
- 2013: Arctic ice-free by 2015—source: The Guardian, July 24, 2013
- 2013: Arctic ice-free by 2016—source: The Guardian, December 9, 2013
- 2014: Only 500 days before 'climate chaos'—source: Washington Examiner