

POLYMONTANA

[HOME](#)

[SUBJECTS](#)

[VIDEO](#)

[CANDIDATES](#)

[LINKS](#)

[ABOUT](#)

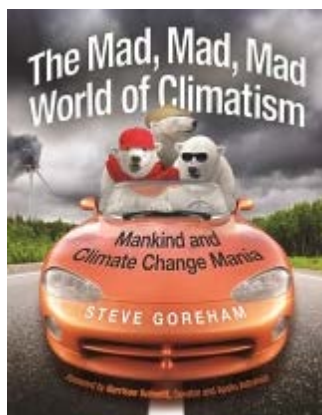
[BLOGS](#)

[EVENTS](#)

Presidential Debate: Not One Word about Climate Change

October 10, 2012 by [Dr. Ed](#) · [Leave a Comment](#)

by [Steve Goreham](#)



The silence about climate change was deafening in the first 2012 presidential debate. In 90 minutes, neither President Obama nor Governor Romney mentioned climate change or global warming, despite many opportunities to do so. This “omission” was noted by The Atlantic, The Hill, and other websites.

How could such a monumental issue be ignored?

Dr. James Hansen of NASA has called global warming, “*The greatest danger hanging over our children and grandchildren...*”

Former Vice President Al Gore called climate change, “*the moral issue of our time.*”

President-elect Obama himself stated in 2008, “*Few challenges facing America and the world are more urgent than combating climate change.*”

Obama Fails To Defend Climate-Related Policies

President Obama missed many opportunities during the debate to defend the climate-driven policies of his administration. Mr. Romney stated at one point

“And by the way, I like coal. I’m going to make sure we continue to burn clean coal. People in the coal industry feel like it’s getting crushed by your policies.”

Mr. Obama could have defended the initiatives of his head of the Environmental Protection Agency, Lisa Jackson, whose policies do appear to be aimed at destroying the U.S. coal industry. He could have repeated his 2008 statement,

“So if somebody wants to build a coal-powered plant, they can; it’s just that it will bankrupt them because they’re going to be charged a huge sum for all that greenhouse gas that’s being emitted.”

Or, when Governor Romney stated,

“...you provided \$90 billion in breaks to the green energy world,”

President Obama had a perfect invitation to point out how wind, solar, and biofuels must be subsidized in order to save the planet. He could have pointed out that *“dangerous carbon pollution”* must be eliminated. He could have waxed eloquent about melting icecaps, rising seas, stronger hurricanes and storms, droughts and floods, and countless other feared disasters from man-made climate change.

Environmental Groups Wanted Climate Crisis Question

Not that environmental groups didn’t want this all-important issue to be raised. Prior to the debate, the League of Women Voters and the Sierra Club gathered 160,000 signatures on a petition, urging moderator Jim Lehrer of PBS to ask *“How do you plan to address the climate crisis?”* But Mr. Lehrer declined to pose the question.

Could it be that Mr. Obama realizes that Americans no longer trust the ideology of Climatism?

Climatism is the belief that man-made greenhouse gases are destroying Earth’s climate. The ideology of Climatism was founded by the formation of the *Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)* by the United Nations in 1988, and given a boost by the 1992 Rio de Janeiro Earth Summit. It reached the peak of public acceptance in 2008-2009 after Al Gore and the IPCC were awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for, *“...efforts to build up and disseminate greater knowledge about man-made climate change.”*

Climate Predictions Were Exaggerated

But in the last few years, the tide has turned. Over the last decade, neither the increase in global surface temperature nor the rise in sea level has kept up with climate computer-model projections. Disclosed emails from the Climate Research Unit at East Anglia University in 2009 showed evidence of distortion, bias, and cherry-picking in the temperature data that is the basis of global warming alarm. An analysis of the IPCC assessment reports showed unfounded exaggeration in predictions about melting Himalayan glaciers, disappearing Amazon rain forests, and failing African agriculture.

In fact, carbon dioxide is a trace gas in our atmosphere and the man-made portion is only a small part of this trace gas. More than 95% of the carbon dioxide that enters the atmosphere each year comes

from natural sources, such as emissions from oceans, the biosphere, and volcanos. In addition, water vapor is Earth's dominant greenhouse gas-not CO2. Man's contribution to the greenhouse effect is only about one part in one hundred, an effect too small to even measure in global temperatures.

Obama, UN, Media, Environmental Vested Interests

Nevertheless, the Obama administration, the United Nations, the news media, environmental groups, universities, and companies with a vested interest continue to proclaim the theory of man-made global warming. A debate quote from Mr. Romney is applicable to the ongoing barrage of climate alarm,

“I’m used to people saying something that’s not always true, but just keep on repeating it and ultimately hoping I’ll believe it...”

About the author:

*Steve Goreham is Executive Director of the Climate Science Coalition of America and author of the new book *The Mad, Mad, Mad World of Climatism: Mankind and Climate Change Mania*.*