

# Humanity over Social Status

- Luc Wortman

Forest fires. Rising sea levels. Warming of the Earth. Just an increase of two more degrees is all that is needed for the harmful effects of climate change to take place on this beautiful world that our species is destroying. I hate to say it like that. I wish I didn't have to, but I do. For people to start caring, people have to really feel within themselves that climate change is serious, especially to your children and their children.

Rising sea levels is just one of the effects from a warming of the earth. Here in America, there is money. We are a technologically advanced country, with the capability of fixing a lot of the problems that we create. It's the underdeveloped countries that are in the most danger. We have to care about them, as if it were us in those countries.

I'm sure you have heard what has been happening in Canada in the last week. There have been massive record breaking forest fires. The fires have already covered over 602 square miles. According to CNN, this fire is around the size of Hong Kong. It has forced over 90,000 people to abandon their homes, their communities, and their friends. It has been proven that this massive blaze is due to an increase in temperature in our world. The "fire season" is starting early and becoming unpredictable. If this hasn't scared you yet, these fires, because of their intensity and size, can create their own weather. Yes, you heard me correctly: Fires that can create their own weather patterns and lightning. The intense heat that these fires produce causes massive mushroom-like clouds that are scientifically called "pyrocumulus" clouds. That is not something that we want to see from a forest fire.

These forest fires are not normal and are a product of our recklessness and greed. The day that our species realizes that we are all the same under the skin and that money is only temporary is the day we become a united and a peaceful world. We are facing a question today of our integrity as humans, and whether we deserve to live on this planet or not. This is not a light subject. This is as serious as it gets. Life or no life. Climate change is something that is not just affecting the poor people and minorities; it affects everyone, regardless of social status or net worth. Once we realize that we must put our children in front of our money and humanity over our current generation, we can fix these problems. If we ditch fossils fuels between 2050 and 2100 there can be hope, but if we keep up this trend, there will be no hope.