

## Sunrise Movement climate strike speech 12/6/19

Sunrise Movement UCI gave me the mic during the 12/6/19 climate strike, and this was my speech. This speech can serve as an analysis of key components of the Green New Deal and why they are being addressed at all. I will be using this analysis of the Green New Deal to help my chapter develop community and political outreach methods.

"I will be citing my assertions to minimize skepticism of misinformation, so please bear with me.

Millions of people around the world are gathering today to have their voices heard. They are saying they've had enough of their futures being robbed from them by preventable causes. More people's livelihoods are being threatened each day we don't prevent negative trends of environmental degradation, degradation of an environment and its services that society depends on to survive. Our planet can only take so much of society's abuse before it no longer supports society. The United State's environmental problems have massive implications for the American people and others around the world. It is our responsibility as citizens of this nation to do whatever we can to minimize our environmental impact on each other and others around the world. Our longevity on this planet is not guaranteed; we have to fight for it! That is what millions of people around the world are fighting for today. This is why we fight!

There isn't a water shortage. There is a shortage of capital being allocated to provide equitable access to potable water, and the issue is becoming more relevant as the global population grows (this is from Dr. Biggs, Water Resources, SDSU, 2017). In the United States alone, there are thousands of communities with lead contamination twice as bad or more than in Flint Michigan because Trump's Environmental Protection Agency headed by former Monsanto associates says that the levels of lead in their water supply is acceptable even though the Center for Disease Control says there is no safe level of lead in drinking water for children. This wouldn't be an issue if we considered water as a human right and allocated capital accordingly. A Green New Deal has a goal of providing universal access to clean water, but is vague in its promise to do so, so it's up to us to hold the elites accountable, the same elites that allowed for our existence to be jeopardized in the first place.

According to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, pollinators are responsible for pollinating over three quarters of our food supply while 16% of vertebrate pollinators and 40% of invertebrate pollinators are threatened by anthropogenic activity including practices of conventional factory farming such as pesticides (this is from Dr. Costello, Conservation Science and Practice, SDSU, 2016). We need to increase our food supply by at least 50% in the next three decades to feed our growing population as a global community (this is from Professor Murren, Food

Security, SDSU, 2017) (Global Food Futures, Brian Gardner). Implementing organic means of managing pests and herbs in agriculture, such as ladybugs and vinegar amongst others, could preserve pollinator populations and lessen pollution of groundwater (this is from Dr. Biggs, Advanced Watershed Analysis, SDSU, 2016). A Green New Deal has a goal of supporting sustainable agriculture and providing universal access to affordable healthy food, but it is vague in its promise to do so, so it's up to us to hold the elites accountable, the same elites that allowed our existence to be jeopardized in the first place.

An increasing number of people are producing an increasing amount of garbage from using an increasing amount of resources that are not being replenished fast enough by a factor of at least four from what I learned from my time in Dr. Costello's Conservation Science and Practice course at SDSU in 2016, but a factor of 1.7 according to the World Wildlife Fund's "Living Planet Report 2012". Excessively repetitive conventional monoculture agriculture continually reduces soil quality around the world and contributes to desertification and the loss of arable land (this is from Dynamic Causal Patterns of Desertification, Geist and Lambin, 2004). Runoff from conventional agriculture makes its way into groundwater sources and the oceans where eutrophication kills ocean life and dead zones continuously spread (this is from Dr. Costello, Conservation Science and Practice, SDSU, 2016)(Phosphorus control is critical for mitigating eutrophication, Carpenter, 2008). Pollution in the oceans destabilizes ecosystems killing other life such as plankton and algae, which we depend on to breathe (this is from Rising Arctic Ocean temperatures cause gas hydrate destabilization and ocean acidification, Biastoch, Treude, Rupke, 2011) (Plastic Pollution: a Worldwide Oceanic Problem, Coleman and Wehle, 1984) (Save the Plankton, Breathe Freely, Nelson, National Geographic, 2019) (Ocean acidification decreases plankton respiration: evidence from a mesocosm experiment, Spilling, Paul, Virkkala, 2016) (Impacts of ocean acidification on marine fauna and ecosystem processes, Fabry, Seibel, Feely, 2008). A reduction in concentrated animal feeding operations would lead to a reduction in runoff from CAFOs making its way into the oceans, reducing eutrophication and the spread of dead zones. Consumers can demand and switch to more sustainable products and services as demand creates more options; the more demand from consumers, the faster the implementation of more sustainable products and services and. More sustainable products and services would lead to less garbage in the ocean, preserving more ocean life and crucial sources of our oxygen. Crop rotation and planting for the rejuvenation of soil should be implemented where monoculture depletes soil quality. A Green New Deal has a goal of removing pollution from agriculture and industry as much as is technologically feasible, and protecting our oceans and ecological stability, but it is vague in its promise to do so, so it's up to us to hold the elites accountable, the same elites that allowed our existence to be jeopardized in the first place.

More forests are being lost than replaced which reduces biodiversity and destabilizes ecosystems, and reduces carbon sinks and increases rates of climate change (this is from Effects of Biodiversity on Ecosystem Functioning: A Consensus of Current Knowledge, Hooper, III, Ewel, 2005) (Biodiversity and Ecosystems, U.S. Global Change Research Program, 2014) (Forests as Carbon Sinks, Friedel, American Forests, 2017) (Tropical forests are a net carbon source based on aboveground measurements of gain and loss, Baccini, Walker, Carvalho, 2017). Increasing negative feedback loops from the increase of numerous insulating gases are increasing average global temperatures where at this rate they will melt permafrost and release enough methane to increase temperatures at such a rate that certain keystone insect species could not adapt and photosynthesis of certain keystone species could not adapt, which could mean most life dependent on the failing keystone insect and plant life could be threatened, a separate issue from the pollution and killing of almost all ocean life as we know it which itself could kill off most terrestrial life as we know it (this is from Dr. Hope, Hydrology and Global Environment Change, SDSU, 2016) (Professor Murren, Environmental Policy, SDSU, 2017) (Climate Change Impacts: Insects, Strange and Ayres, 2010) (Complex Life Cycles and the Responses of Insects to Climate Change, Kingsolver, Woods, Buckley, 2011) (Climate Change Effects on Plant Growth, Crop Yield and Livestock, Rotter and Geijn, 1999) (Biodiversity and Ecosystems, U.S. Global Change Research Program, 2014) (Diversity loss with persistent human disturbance increases vulnerability to ecosystem collapse, MacDougall, McCann, Gellner, Turkington, 2013) (Rising Arctic Ocean temperatures cause gas hydrate destabilization and ocean acidification, Biastoch, Treude, Rupke, 2011) (Ocean acidification decreases plankton respiration: evidence from a mesocosm experiment, Spilling, Paul, Virkkala, 2016) (Save the Plankton, Breathe Freely, Nelson, National Geographic, 2019) (Impacts of ocean acidification on marine fauna and ecosystem processes, Fabry, Seibel, Feely, 2008). Reforestation projects and alternatives to lumber should be sought and implemented to prevent the degradation of ecosystems and their services that we depend on for our survival. Discontinuing the use of energy sources with byproducts that insulate the atmosphere reduces the need for keystone species of insects and plants to adapt to changing temperatures, reducing the risk of their failure to adapt to changing temperatures and reducing existential stress of symbiotic relationships with their dependent species in their greater ecosystems, including humanity. A Green New Deal has a goal of stabilizing our ecosystems and reducing our greenhouse gas emissions as much as is technologically feasible, but it is vague in its promise to do so, so it's up to us to hold the elites accountable, the same elites that allowed our existence to be jeopardized in the first place.

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planet can only take so much of society's abuse before it no longer supports society. The United State's environmental problems have massive implications for the American people and others around the world. It is our responsibility as citizens of this nation to do whatever we can to minimize our environmental impact on each other and others around the world. Our longevity on this planet is not guaranteed; we have to fight for it! That is what millions of people around the world are fighting for today. This is why we fight!"