



Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Friends of Science Society Disputes David Suzuki Statements on Global Warming in National Observer Climate Change Article and Objects to Denier Label

Friends of Science Society rejects the comments made by David Suzuki about their organization in the National Observer on Sept. 1, 2015. Friends of Science also says the article's global warming and climate science claims do not reflect current evidence.



Friends of Science Billboard in Calgary

Friends of Science Society's core group of scientists have combined some 300 years of earth, atmospheric and solar science training and experience...Neither Dr. Suzuki nor his colleague are climate scientists

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According to Friends of Science Society, the article entitled [“Deniers are all over the map. Realists all over the world”](#) published Sept. 1, 2015 in the National Observer, written by David Suzuki and a colleague from the Canadian charity, the David Suzuki Foundation, makes incorrect statements about Friends of Science Society, and questionable statements on climate change science.

“Friends of Science Society's core group of scientists have decades of experience and training in earth, atmospheric and solar sciences and have spent over a decade doing climate change literature review,” says Michelle Stirling, Communications Manager for Friends of Science. “Neither Dr. Suzuki nor his colleague are trained in climate-related fields.”

The National Observer article criticizes Friends of Science and others who hold dissenting views on climate change for what Suzuki claims is a lack of cohesive view of the causes, outside a claimed 97% consensus of human-caused global warming.

Friends of Science says the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), in September 2013, in Chapter 9.2 of the IPCC's Working Group I report by the Physical Scientists, stated that there had been a 15 year hiatus in global warming (to 2012 - now 18+ years), despite a significant rise in carbon dioxide, [acknowledged by leading climate scientist Hans von Storch](#) in a Der Spiegel interview of June 20, 2013.

“That evidence challenges the assumed climate sensitivity, or warming effect, of carbon dioxide (CO2) and key aspects of the hypothesis of Anthropogenic (human-caused) global warming,” says Stirling.

Furthermore, Friends of Science point out that in 2007 the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change revised its [definition of climate change](#) from a sole focus on human cause, to include natural factors, stating that “It refers to any change in climate over time, whether due to natural variability or as a result of human activity.”

“Environmental groups focus on carbon dioxide and climate catastrophe as a means of fund-raising,” says Stirling, pointing to Suzuki Foundation's fund-raiser "Where will Santa Live?" reported in the Dec. 12, 2011 edition of [Marketing](#), and Dec. 14, 2011 of [The Blaze](#).

Stirling notes some environmental groups like Nature Conservancy deal in carbon trades, such as their Darkwoods Project as reported in the June 8, 2011 edition of the [Globe and Mail](#).

Other environmental groups advocating carbon instruments like one of Alberta Climate Change panel advisers [Pembina Institute](#), have been funded by offshore foundations as reported in [Alberta Oil Magazine](#) of July 2014.

Friends of Science strongly reject Suzuki’s use of the term ‘denier’ - associated with heinous crimes of denying the Holocaust or a serious psychological condition.

“How is it a charitable activity or acceptable to publicly denigrate our highly educated scientists and founders this way?” asks Stirling.

“Furthermore,” she says, “what do we deny? We agree climate changes and that human activity has influence. However, on geologic and astrophysical time scales, the evidence shows that climate fluctuations are the norm and the reasons are mainly due to the numerous natural influences and cycles. And there is no 97% consensus - that is a math myth, shown in our [research report](#).”

Far from getting a free pass in the media, as Suzuki claims, Friends of Science point out that their 2014 fact-based billboard campaign was blasted in the press as reported in the [Globe and Mail](#) June 27, 2014 [theglobeandmail.com/news/national/global-warming-has-stopped-provocative-group-claims/article19375718/] and [SLATE](#) June 12, 2014 [slate.com/blogs/bad_astronomy/2014/0612global_warming_denial_calgary_billboard_is_laughably_wrong.html].

“We are interested in the evidence over the ideology,” says Stirling.

About

Friends of Science Society has spent a decade reviewing a broad spectrum of literature on climate change and has concluded the sun is the main driver of climate change, not carbon dioxide (CO₂). Friends of Science welcomes earth, atmospheric and solar scientists, engineers and citizens who challenge the alleged consensus on climate change.

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