

## Letter to the Editor - Climate Jihadists

Anthropogenic Global Warming became a religion to many people pro and against the current theories on climate change. We read daily articles in the blogosphere with exaggerated views on cooling and warming of the globe. Some say to world is about to freeze, others point to an imminent disaster due to rapid warming that has failed to happen so far. Some days ago I wrote on this page that some scientist were claiming in 1997, during the Super El Niño, that El Niño would become permanent and that in a matter of a decade we would experience El Niño events of 18 years instead of 18 months of duration. A decade has passed and we have a sequence of La Niña episodes. Time will tell who is right or wrong in this heated debate over our climatic future.

For that reason, personally, I believe every scientific approach and scientific professional should be read and respected, despite my agreement or not with the opinion presented. In this context, it was a shock to me to read Gavin Schmidt attacks against ICECAP's Joseph D'Aleo on Real Climate webpage. Schmidt, a professional with a distinct and respectful biography, says D'Aleo is a "cherry-picker in chief" and goes further to state "scientific credibility is a hard won and fragile thing and he has none". Mr. Gavin Schmidt's biography and scientific opinions deserve my profound respect but his behavior and words towards D'Aleo are hateful, disgraceful and disgusting. Joseph D'Aleo credentials and work for many decades in the weather and climate forecasting do not allow any doubt on his credibility as a scientist. His name is highly known in the meteorological community in the United States and abroad, a merit that many others would like to enjoy. Furthermore, democracy allows him to question any theory he does not eventually agree. If anyone believe scientific thinking should always has only one theory discussed, as the proposed consensus on global warming, I recommend to take the next plane to Cuba, North Korea, Iran or any other place in the world without free flow of ideas and opinions.

There is a famous quote in the Latin world that declares: "It is not enough to the Caesar's wife to be honest, she also must be seen as honest". To Mr. Gavin Schmidt I would answer that it is not sufficient to be a respected scientist, but is also necessary to look and behave as one. The climate change debate deserves much more than smearing and false imputations. Let's promote science and debate, Gavin, not a climate jihad. You have much more to offer than frivolous words.

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