

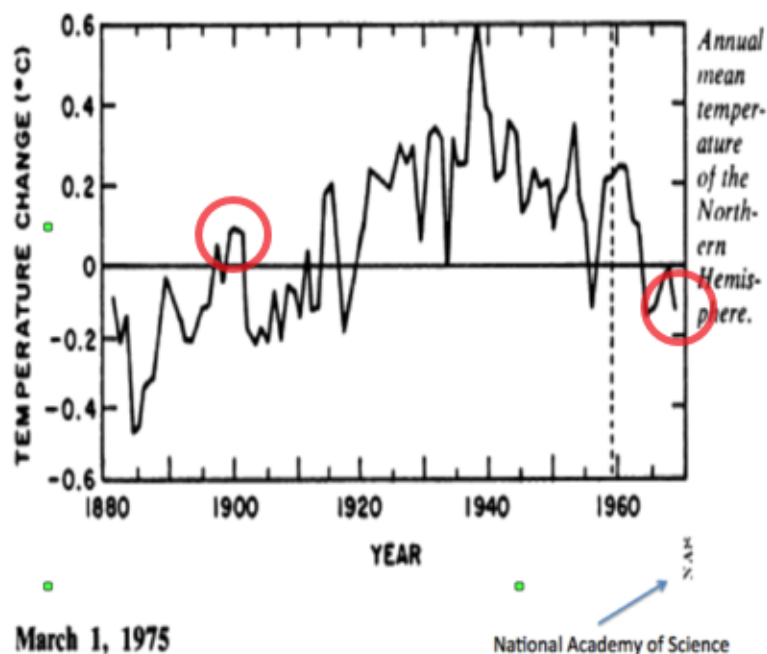
Should Global Warming be our #1 issue?

By Federico Nicola Pecchini

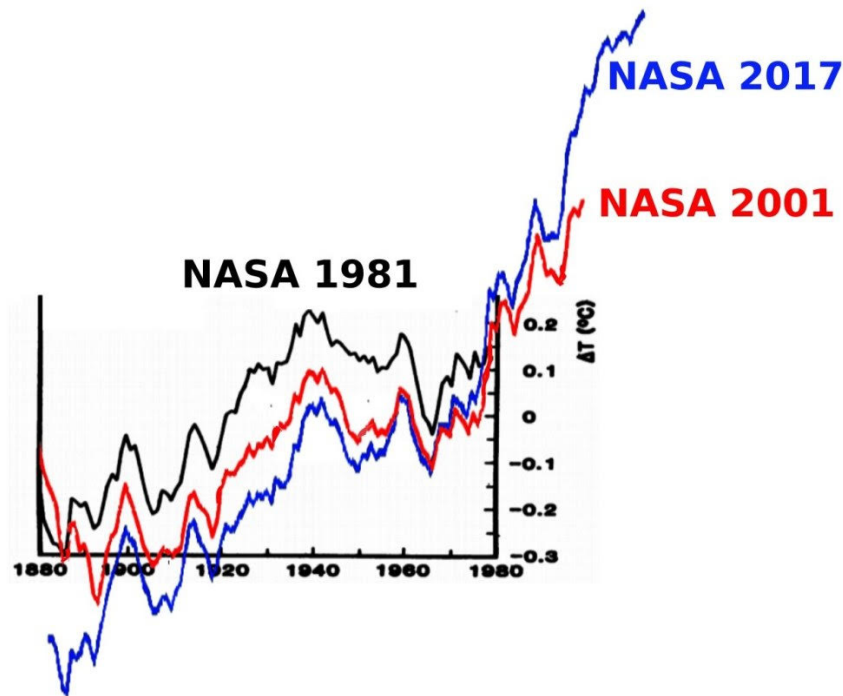
I don't think AGW is our number 1 issue.

It is obvious that climate patterns affect us all, and that our quality of life depends on the persistence of a certain range of mild climate conditions which are conducive to life. But within that range there is solid scientific evidence that climate patterns have been changing all the time, depending mostly on the irregularities of our orbit around the sun. [1] The entire human civilization - the last 6000 years - emerged and thrived during an interglacial period, the "holocene", characterized by unusually mild and stable climate conditions which climatologists dubbed "climatic optimum". [2] As everything else in our universe, the irregularities far outnumber the regularities, and our cherished climatic optimum is most probably just another short-lived exception that will soon end, leaving the planet in a new Ice Age (by "soon" here I mean in next few thousand years, so of course we're talking about the very long term, in terms of human policy planning).

In the 70's, as some of you might remember, the climate consensus was that the world was cooling. In 1974, The National Center For Atmospheric Research (NCAR) generated this graph of global temperatures, showing a large spike in the 1940's, rapid cooling to 1970 and overall net cooling from 1900 to 1970. [3] In 1975, the National Academy of Sciences published a very similar graph for Northern hemisphere temperatures, which also showed net cooling from 1900 to 1970. [4]

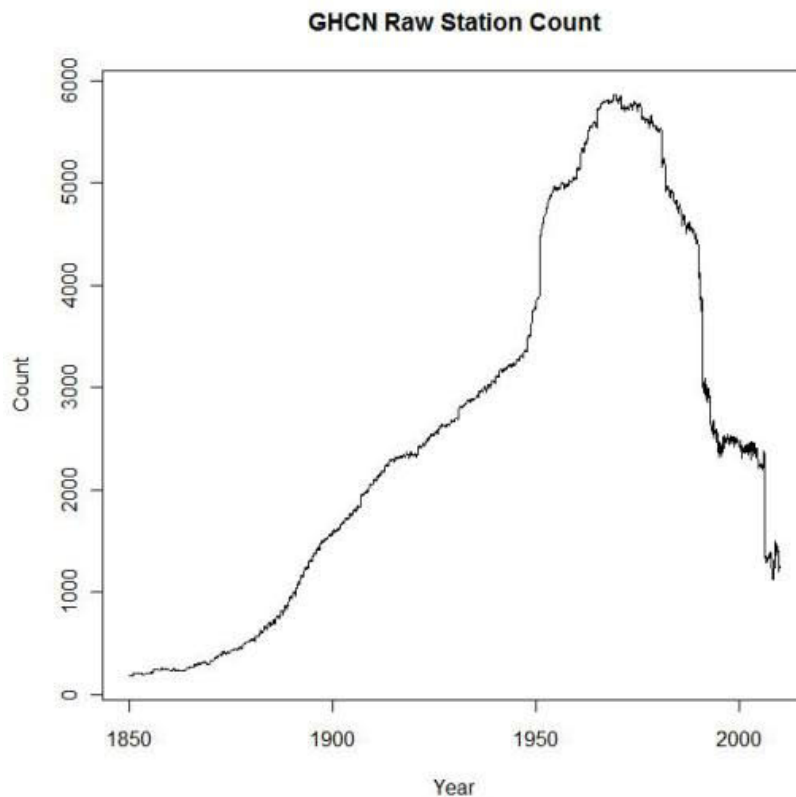


In 1981, James Hansen and his team at NASA published a new graph where global averages had consistently tilted to the left. Temperatures in 1970 were now about 0.1C warmer than in 1900. Quite interestingly, the change coincided with Hansen's interest in demonstrating a CO2 driven warming trend. [5] Since then, the graphs have been revised many times by NASA, with the past getting increasingly cooler and the present increasingly warmer.

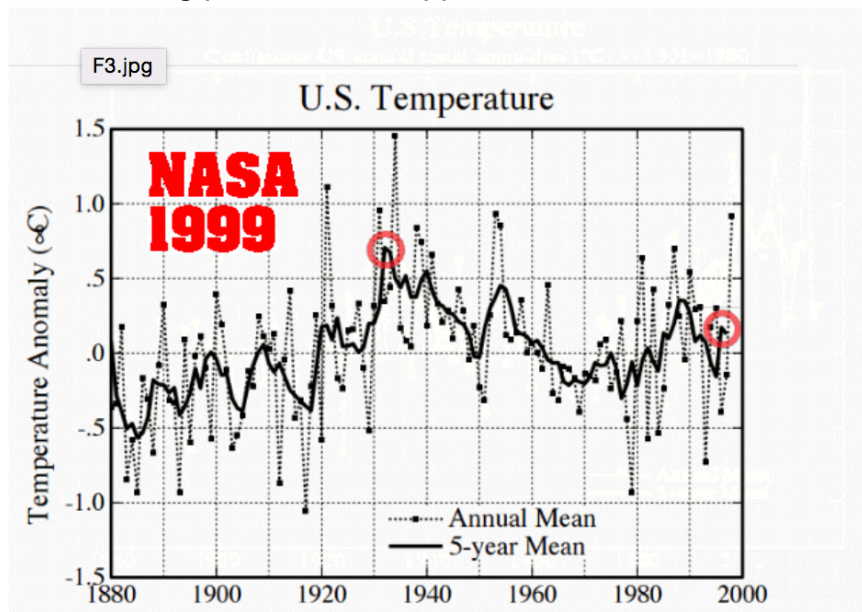


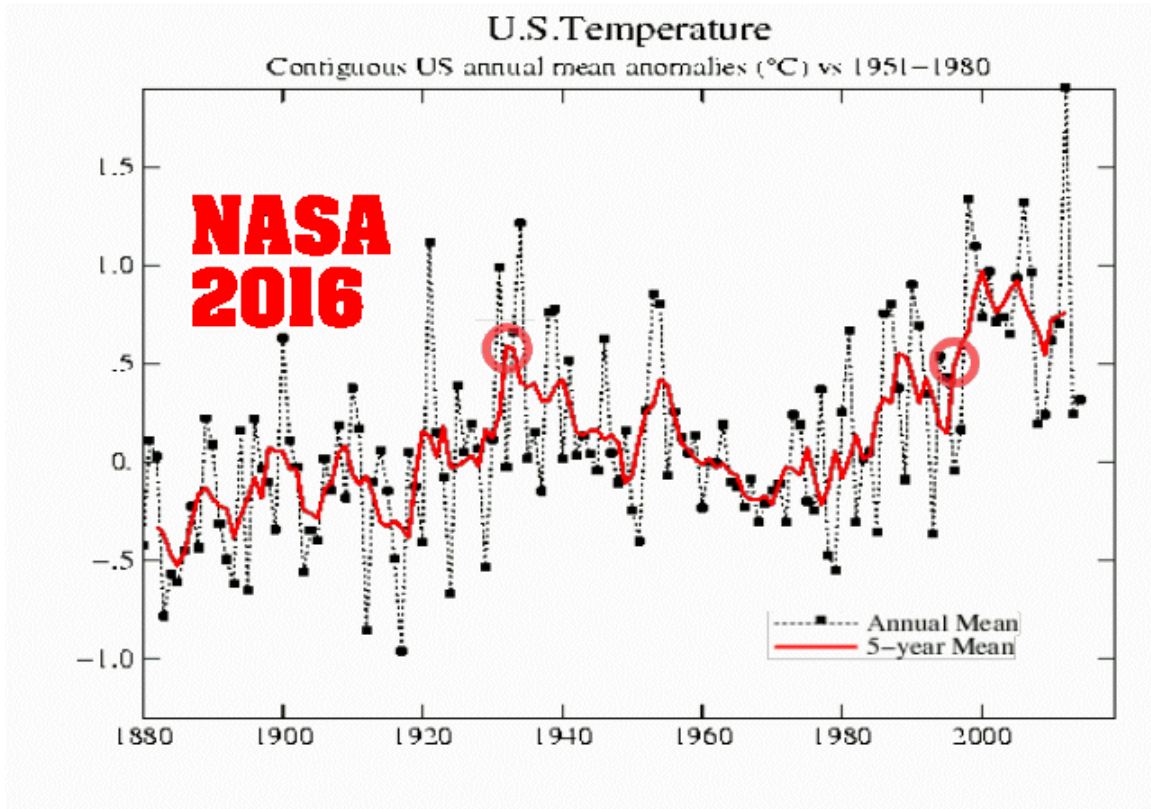
By 2016, in the dataset provided by NASA the cooling dip of the 40s-70s has become almost irrelevant. [6]

All of NASA temperature modeling is based on NOAA GHCN (Global Historical Climatology Network) data. If you think that maybe the changes come from a more thorough measurement done by NOAA since the 70's, think again: the chart below shows that the number of GHCN stations around the world dropped by a whopping 80% over the past 30 years.

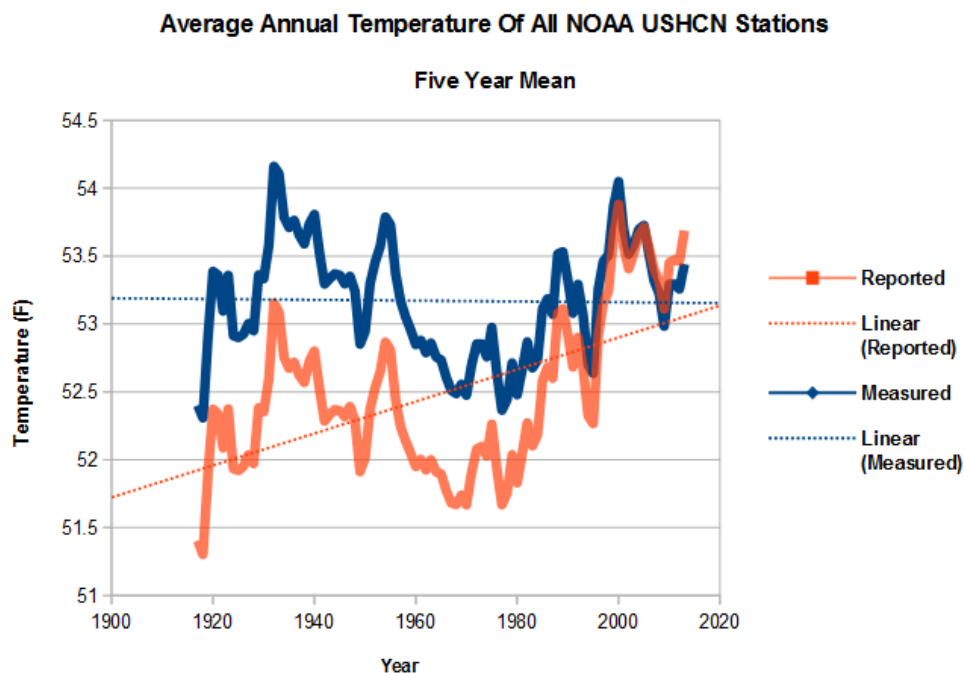


If we look at US temperature data, we see a similar trend: in 1989 NOAA reported no warming in the US over the past century [7], and in 1999 the same Hansen had reported 0.5C US cooling since the 1930's. [8] But again, by 2016, the post-30's cooling period had disappeared from the charts.

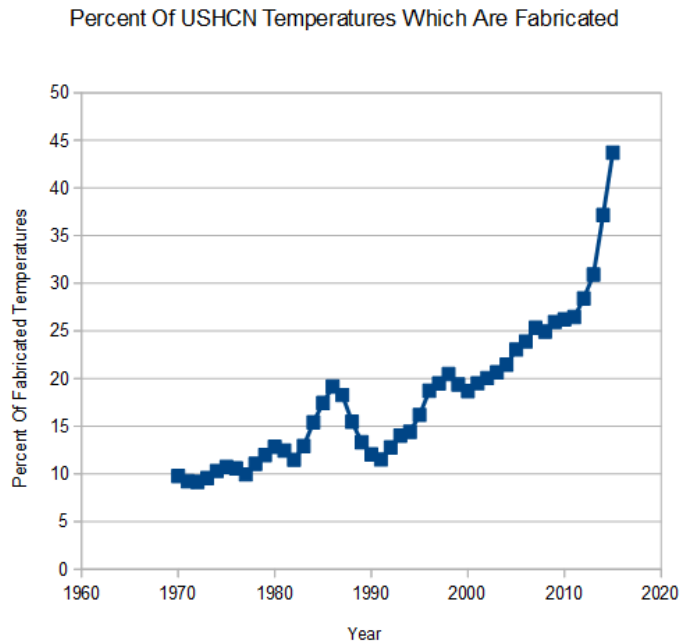




NASA US temperatures are based on NOAA USHCN (United States Historical Climatology Network) data. The graph below shows the average of their measured temperatures in blue, and the average of their “adjusted” temperatures in red. It appears that the entire US warming trend over the past century is due to data tampering by NOAA and NASA.

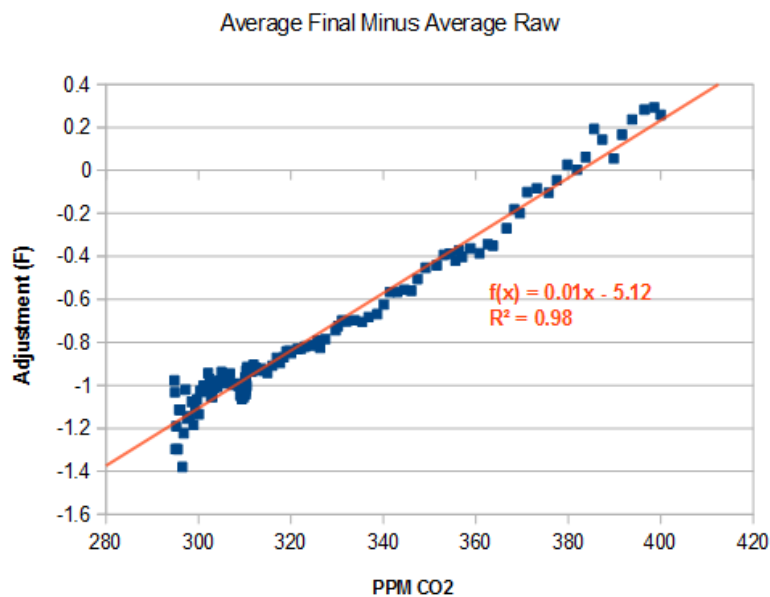


The bulk of the data tampering is being done by simply making temperatures up. If NOAA is missing data for a particular station in a particular month, they use a computer model to calculate what they think the temperature should have been. In 1980 about 10% of the data was fake, but now almost half of it is fake.



And here is the smoking gun: the adjustments being made correlate almost perfectly to the rise in atmospheric CO2. It suspiciously looks like data is being tampered with to match the greenhouse gas warming theory.

USHCN Temperature Adjustments Vs. Atmospheric CO2



In November 2009, just before the Copenhagen Summit on climate change, thousands of emails were hacked from a server of Climatic Research Unit (CRU) of East Anglia University, in the leak that was later dubbed "Climategate". In some of those emails, climate scientists were found discussing with each other ways to alter the data to make it agree with their theory. Here's an email sent from Tom Wigley to Phil Jones: [\[9\]](#)

From: Tom Wigley <wigley@ucar.edu>
To: Phil Jones <p.jones@uea.ac.uk>
Subject: 1940s
Date: Sun, 27 Sep 2009 23:25:38 -0600
Cc: Ben Santer <santer1@llnl.gov>

<x-flowed>
Phil,

Here are some speculations on correcting SSTs to partly explain the 1940s warming blip.

If you look at the attached plot you will see that the land also shows the 1940s blip (as I'm sure you know).

So, if we could reduce the ocean blip by, say, 0.15 degC, then this would be significant for the global mean -- but we'd still have to explain the land blip.

I've chosen 0.15 here deliberately. This still leaves an ocean blip, and i think one needs to have some form of ocean blip to explain the land blip (via either some common forcing, or ocean forcing land, or vice versa, or all of these). When you look at other blips, the land blips are 1.5 to 2 times (roughly) the ocean blips -- higher sensitivity plus thermal inertia effects. My 0.15 adjustment leaves things consistent with this, so you can see where I am coming from.

Removing ENSO does not affect this.

It would be good to remove at least part of the 1940s blip, but we are still left with "why the blip".

Let me go further. If you look at NH vs SH and the aerosol effect (qualitatively or with MAGICC) then with a reduced ocean blip we get continuous warming in the SH, and a cooling in the NH -- just as one would expect with mainly NH aerosols.

The other interesting thing is (as Foukal et al. note -- from MAGICC) that the 1910-40 warming cannot be solar. The Sun can get at most 10% of this with Wang et al solar, less with Foukal solar. So this may well be NADW, as Sarah and I noted in 1987 (and also Schlesinger later). A reduced SST blip in the 1940s makes the 1910-40 warming larger than the SH (which it currently is not) -- but not really enough.

So ... why was the SH so cold around 1910? Another SST problem? (SH/NH data also attached.)

This stuff is in a report I am writing for EPRI, so I'd appreciate any comments you (and Ben) might have.

Tom.

As to why on Earth would NASA, NOAA and the IPCC have an interest in manipulating temperature data to fit the AGW narrative, maybe the answer can be found, once again, in the ideas of the Club of Rome. I had mentioned the CoR some time ago, when reviewing Michael's paper on population equilibrium, and if I remember well Tony had said that nobody believes their models any more. But I think we're being naive, if we dismiss the influence of such think tanks in shaping the global narrative. The Club of Rome (and its 2 siblings in Budapest and Madrid) sports members such as the king of Spain, Gorbachev, Al Gore, the Dalai Lama, Bill Gates and many others. Here's some revealing quotes from their 1991 book *First Global Revolution* [\[10\]](#):

*"It would seem that **men and women need a common motivation, namely a common adversary against whom they can organize themselves and act together.** In the vacuum such motivations seem to have ceased to exist - or have yet to be found.*

*The need for enemies seems to be a common historical factor. Some states have striven to overcome domestic failure and internal contradictions by blaming external enemies. The ploy of finding a scapegoat is as old as mankind itself - when things become too difficult at home, divert attention to adventure abroad. Bring the divided nation together to face an outside enemy, either a real one. or else one invented for the purpose." [...] **"New enemies have to be identified, new strategies imagined, and new weapons devised."** [...] **"In searching for a common enemy against whom we can unite, we came up with the idea that pollution, the threat of global warming, water shortages, famine and the like, would fit the bill.** In their totality and their interactions these phenomena do constitute a common threat which must be confronted by everyone together. But in designating these dangers as the enemy, we fall into the trap, which we have already warned readers about, namely mistaking symptoms for causes. All these dangers are caused by human intervention in natural processes, and it is only through changed attitudes and behaviour that they can be overcome. The real enemy then is humanity itself."*

And here's some more interesting quotes from leaders of the Environmental Movement:

"On the one hand, as scientists we are ethically bound to the scientific method, in effect promising to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but - which means that we must include all the doubts, the caveats, the ifs, ands, and buts. On the other hand, we are not just scientists but human beings as well. And like most people we'd like to see the world a better place, which in this context translates into our working to reduce the risk of potentially disastrous climatic change. To do that we need to get some broadbased support, to capture the public's imagination.

*That, of course, entails getting loads of media coverage. **So we have to offer up scary scenarios, make simplified, dramatic statements, and make little mention of any doubts we might have.** This 'double ethical bind' we frequently find ourselves in cannot be solved by any formula. Each of us has to decide what the right balance is between being effective and being honest. I hope that means being both." -- Prof. Stephen Schneider, Stanford Professor of Climatology and lead author of many IPCC reports, in an interview with Discover Magazine, pp. 45-48, Oct. 1989*

*"We've got to ride this global warming issue. **Even if the theory of global warming is wrong, we will be doing the right thing** in terms of economic and environmental policy." -- Timothy Wirth, US Senator and President of the UN Foundation, National Journal interview, 1990*

"No matter if the science of global warming is all phony... climate change provides the greatest opportunity to bring about justice and equality in the world." -- Christine Stewart, former Canadian Minister of the Environment, Calgary Herald, December 14, 1998

"Nobody is interested in solutions if they don't think there's a problem. Given that starting point, I believe it is appropriate to have an over-representation of factual presentations on how dangerous (global warming) is, as a predicate for opening up the audience to listen to what the solutions are..." -- former US Vice President Al Gore, in interview with Grist Magazine May 9, 2006

So given the statements above, I think the least we could say is that AGW is a scientific issue which has been heavily politicized. The rethorical exaggerations might be needed to convince some classes of society, but don't help us to frame the problem scientifically. And while I fully agree with our leaders' intent of bringing humanity together and re-organizing society, I honestly don't think it can be done by telling people more lies or creating new ad-hoc enemies to serve the scapegoat purpose.

I think the consciousness shift all of us envision can happen only if for once we stop treating humanity as a herd which must be managed with carrot and stick. The consciousness shift can happen if we radically change both the ends and the means of our economic, political and cultural (educational) models. It is the master/slave relationship, the hierarchical pyramid of power, the shepherd/sheeps dynamic which must be upturned. It's not a time for shortcuts. As the Internet says, you cannot solve a problem by using the same level of thinking that created it.

I'm all for dropping fossil fuels and shifting to renewables for example, but for much more complex reasons than just keeping our temperature in check. Agreements like that of Paris only focus on a single variable, temperature

change, and put all the effort in keeping it below a certain threshold. But unfortunately the approach used is linear, while the problem is complex. This has recently led IPCC scientists to officially endorse geoenineering practices such as stratospheric aerosol injections in order to mitigate the temperature rise [11], which is just what crazy chemtrail conspiracy theorists had been saying all along.

I just don't like being treated like a little kid by the elites. And I guess I'm also convinced that not only is their approach unnerving, but also profoundly detrimental for the conscious development of myself and my fellow human beings. I'd like to quote once again Indira Gandhi [12], as I think she puts it beautifully:

"Life is one and the world is one, and all these questions are inter-linked. The population explosion; poverty; ignorance and disease, the pollution of our surroundings, the stockpiling of nuclear weapons and biological and chemical agents of destruction are all parts of a vicious circle. Each is important and urgent but dealing with them one by one would be wasted effort.

*It serves little purpose to dwell on the past or to apportion blame, no one of us is blameless. If some are able to dominate over others, it is at least partially due to the weakness, the lack of unity and the temptation of gaining some advantage on the part of those who submit. If the prosperous have been exploiting the needy, can we honestly claim that in our own societies people do not take advantage of the weaker sections? **We must re-evaluate the fundamentals on which our respective civic societies are based and the ideals by which they are sustained.** If there is to be a change of heart, a change of direction and methods of functioning, it is not an organization or a country-no matter how well intentioned--which can achieve it. While each country must deal with that aspect of the problem which is most relevant to it, it is obvious that all countries must unite in an overall endeavour. **There is no alternative to a cooperative approach on a global scale to the entire spectrum of our problems.** [...]*

We must concern ourselves not only with the kind of world we want but also with what kind of man should inhabit it. Surely we do not desire a society divided into those who condition and those who are conditioned. We want thinking people capable of spontaneous self-directed activity, people who are interested and interesting, and who are imbued with compassion and concern for others.

It will not be easy for large societies to change their style of living. They cannot be coerced to do so, nor can governmental action suffice. People can be motivated and urged to participate in better alternatives.

It has been my experience that people who are at cross purposes with nature are cynical about mankind and ill-at-ease with themselves. **Modern man must re-establish an unbroken link with nature and with life.** He must again learn to

invoke the energy of growing things and to recognize, as did the ancients in India centuries ago, that one can take from the Earth and the atmosphere only so much as one puts back into them. In their hymn to Earth, the sages of the Atharva Veda chanted-I quote,

"What of thee I dig out, let that quickly grow over, Let me
not hit thy vitals, or thy heart".

So can man himself be vital and of good heart
and conscious of his responsibility."

As Religious Naturalists, I think we must be bold enough to speak truth to power. Our elites don't need any more complacent intellectuals parroting whatever they say. They need honest, big-picture advice. They need a new vision, that which Indira was talking about. Our elites are not monsters and should not be accused of all the wrongdoings of humanity, but the shortcomings of their social modeling are now evident even to themselves.

I hope this critique of mine may be constructive towards a less conventional and less biased assessment of the climate issue, able to reintegrate it in the larger perspective of social, economic and cultural change.

Yours,

Federico