

5 December 2011

Salutation First name surname

Title

School

Address Line 1

Address Line 2

SUBURB STATE POSTCODE

Dear Salutation surname,

Climate change is a topic too important to be taught from just one perspective.

Although the media and many politicians would like us to believe that the debate about the science of climate change is over, the truth is that there is a spirited scientific debate currently occurring about the extent to which humans contribute to global warming. Serious, respected scientists like Nobel Prize-winners Dr Norman Borlaug and Dr Ivar Giaever question the theory that humans are responsible for climate change.

Indeed, even scientists who subscribe to the Anthropogenic Global Warming (AGW) thesis are starting to speak out about the manipulation of science to achieve political goals. For example, just a few years ago many climate scientists claimed that global warming would lead to more dangerous weather events like hurricanes. Former US Vice-President Al Gore famously claimed in his documentary *An Inconvenient Truth* that natural disasters like Hurricane Katrina would be more common thanks to global warming.

But others like Dr Roger Pielke Jr of the Centre for Science and Technology Research at the University of Colorado at Boulder have consistently argued this is false. Now even the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has admitted in its latest report that the scientific evidence that global warming causes more hurricanes is very weak.

Ultimately, even if most scientists agree with a proposition, that doesn't make it true. Science is not, and has never been, about consensus. Previous scientific consensus argued that the world is flat and the universe revolves around us. It was only thanks to so-called sceptics that these false scientific consensus were overturned. Scientists have been wrong in the past and they will make mistakes in the future. Scientific debate is crucial to uncovering scientific truth, and without it the whole scientific process is compromised.

That's why it is vitally important that all students are given the full picture, not just one side of the debate. Too often schools only teach one side of the climate debate.

That's why we are writing to you today. Included with this letter is a free copy of *How to get expelled from school: A guide to climate change for pupils, parents and punters*. The book presents complex scientific information in an

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accessible manner, and provides a crucial alternative scientific perspective.

We hope that this book is a useful tool for your teachers and students to learn more about the wide range of views in the scientific community about climate change. For more information contact the IPA on 03 9600 4744.

Yours sincerely