

Don't blow it – good planets are hard to find ÷

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Earth is 4.5 billion years old and it has lived its peaceful life until the first modern humans appeared 300,000 years ago. Since they stepped the foot on the ground, it has all gone downhill for the Mother Earth. ÷

You are maybe asking yourselves what is meant by “it has all gone downhill”. Well, let's start with comparing the obvious things. When we take the first satellite picture ever and compare it with the most recent ones, we can see how much ice has actually melted. So what about it, things change, right? Sea levels are rising every day and they are rising faster than we actually think they are. In fact, some cities and famous islands are in a lot of danger of practically disappearing due to their sinking. But why is all that ice melting? Global temperature is rising and at the moment it's higher than it has ever been and it is really concerning. Global warming must happen, it is a normal thing, but what's not normal is the speed of the temperature rising.

The villains of this story are of course, humans. Greenhouse gases, such as carbon dioxide and methane, are our heaters because the atmosphere absorbs some of the heat of sunlight and they absorb the energy that radiates from it. They are one of the main sources of life on Earth. However, those gases are also released when burning the fossil fuels, meaning that we are constantly adding more gases to the atmosphere. Easier to say, we are just adding more flames to the fire. What is directly intertwined with the atmosphere is the ozone layer.

Due to incorrect sorting of refrigerators, gases that are harmful to the environment are leaking and causing molecules of ozone to disappear, resulting in so called holes in the layer. Another thing damaging our shield from the UV rays, are aerosol pulverizers. This above stated is a reason enough to explain why sorting our garbage is crucial.

If more people payed attention to recycling, this world could be a lot better place. Firstly, there would be much less pollution since the garbage would be properly taken care of, not being scattered on some sidewalk waiting to be thrown away or being burned on a landfill releasing more greenhouse gases. Second of all, energy would be saved since it takes a lot more time to produce something new than to reuse an already made product, meaning that it also has economic benefits. Sadly, sometimes we are only thinking of our benefits and not about the other beings living with us. We destroy their habitats without thinking about future consequences. We cut forests because we need the space to make another building or a hotel and while doing so not only do we reduce oxygen levels, but we also destroy the home of hundreds of species that have lived there unbothered for a long time.

All this above may not be so concerning for us since we will be safe and live well, but what about the future of humankind? What awaits them? The Earth that their ancestors so selfishly destroyed. Do we really want that? I am not so sure. We should not stop raising the awareness of the negative outcome we are causing by our own behaviour. We should take care of ourselves and of this planet we call home because we do not have another one to inhabit.