

# ***Anthropogenic Global Warming...Fact or Fiction***

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The whole world is on the brink of deciding the future of an emissions trading scheme to limit carbon dioxide emissions. The financial and economic consequences of this are so great that it appears beyond accurate analysis.

The existence of greenhouse gases is the reason for life on earth as we know it. Without this blanket of protection the earth's temperature would be minus 19 degrees centigrade not plus 14 degrees centigrade as an average.

Spain has already embarked on an active program of limiting carbon dioxide emissions and the results have been catastrophically bad regarding employment, the economy generally and the standard of living.

Much of the IPCC work and analysis has been based on the Mann Hockey stick graph illustrated below in figure 1.

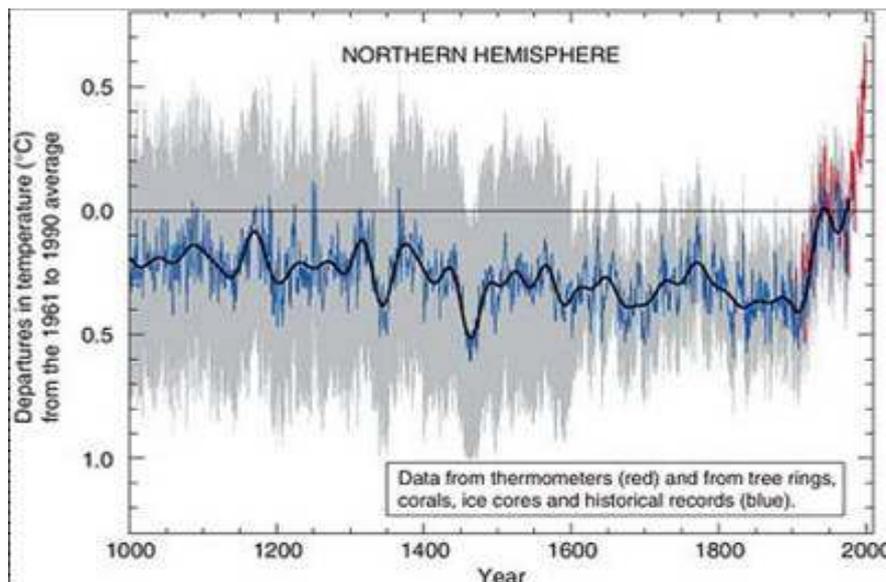
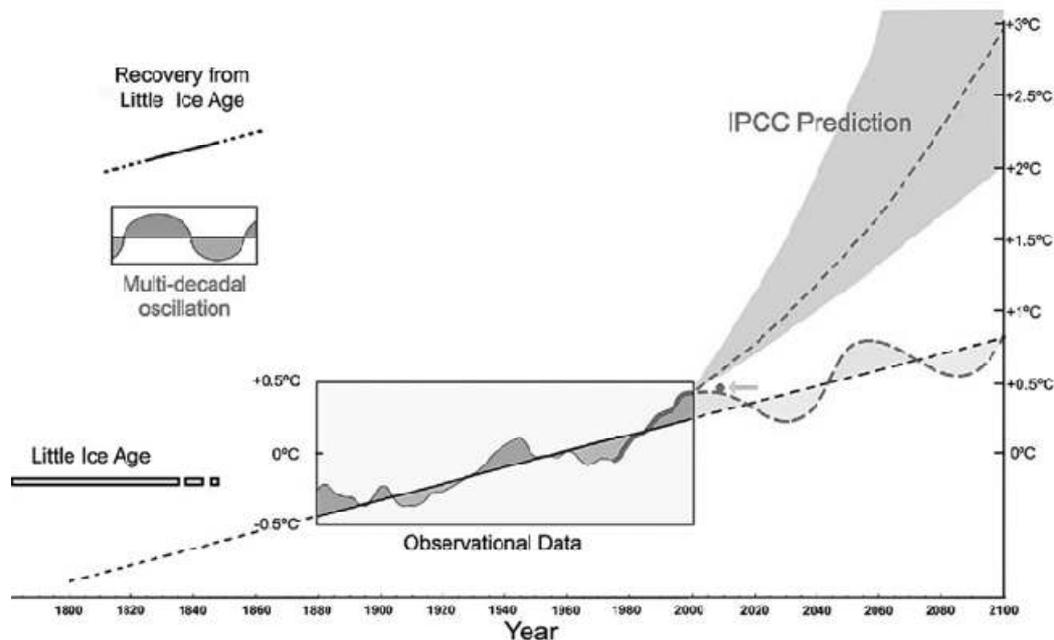


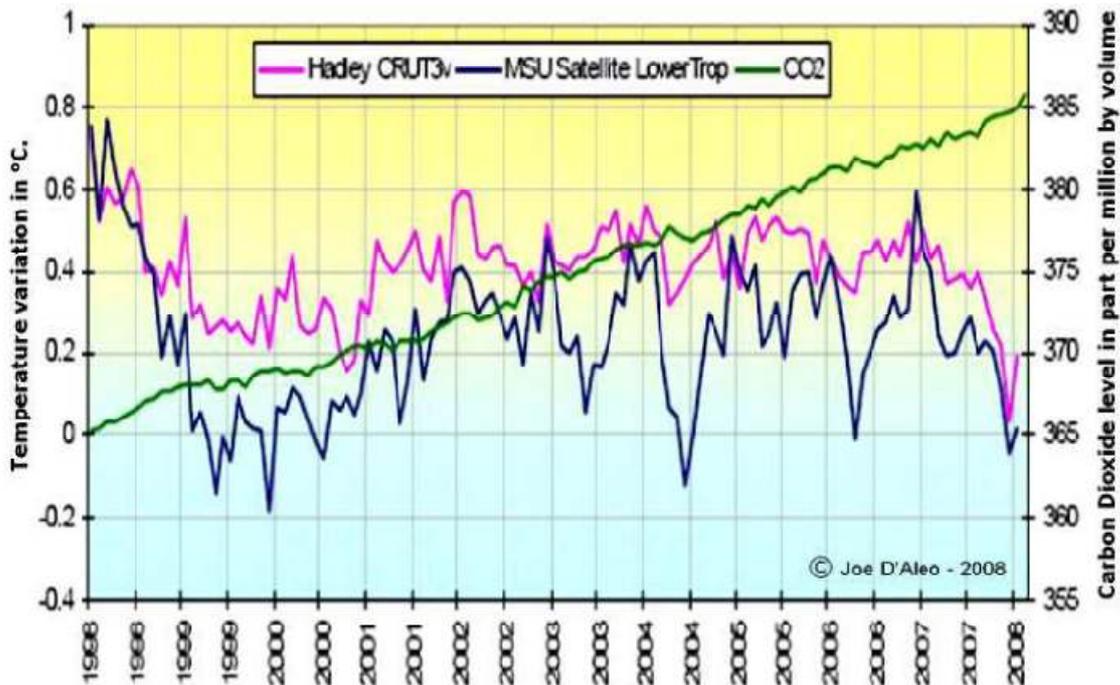
Figure 1 The Mann Hockey Stick Graph (1,2).

Both Al Gore and Tim Flannery used this graph to build an argument that the sudden rise in the earth's temperature was due to human induced carbon dioxide increasing the greenhouse effect and so increasing the earth's temperature. Figure 2 below tells a very different story.



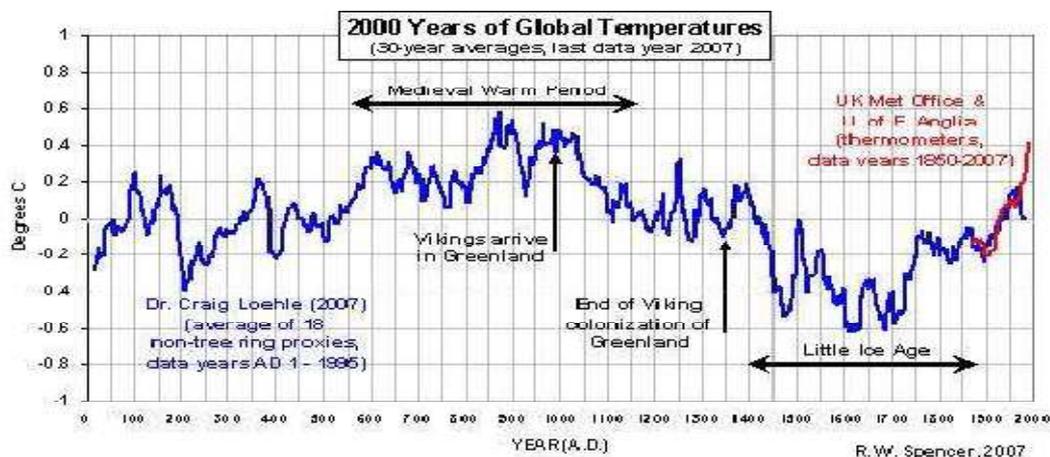
As shown in Figure 2 above, the trend line for the earth's temperature is certainly increasing. The almost sinusoidal curve superimposed is that due to the 10 year cycle (decadal cycle ... the SOHO effect), of sunspot activity. Mann extrapolated the ramping up part of the curve to yield his hockey stick graph. How valid is this extrapolation? Sun spot activity and the natural, changes in the earth's elliptical path, and precession and the change of the angle of tilt alter with every rotation of the earth around the sun (the Milankovitch effect). and it is most likely that this is the cause of any global warming occurring at the moment. The Mann Hockey stick graph has now been so discredited that it has been taken down from the IPCC website without comment.

The figure 3, below, shows the relationship between carbon dioxide levels and the earth's temperature. Clearly there is no positive correlation.



[http://icecap.us/images/uploads/Correlation\\_Last\\_Decade.pdf](http://icecap.us/images/uploads/Correlation_Last_Decade.pdf)

There is little doubt that climate change is real and that the earth is probably warming. The main reason for this is that from AD 1300 to AD 2000, we have been in a goldilocks era after the medieval warming period, a mini ice age, and we are now returning to a period as shown in figure 4 below, to temperatures akin to the medieval warming period (AD 600 to AD 1000). This was acknowledged as due to natural causes not carbon dioxide.



Carbon dioxide is only approximately .03% of the green house gases, 97% is water vapour. An elevation in carbon dioxide concentration in the atmosphere increases plant and crop yields by up to 70%. Australia is responsible for approximately 1.4% of all human generated carbon dioxide emissions. Carbon dioxide is a clear and harmless gas not a pollutant.

It is inevitable that the earth's temperature will gradually rise since we are leaving a mini ice age. Reducing human generated carbon dioxide emissions will have no measurable influence on reducing global temperatures. Sea levels will rise as a result of the increase in global temperatures. We should direct our efforts to focusing on ways to manage the effect of this on existing infrastructure and finding new places for an increasing population to live.

I do not profess to be an expert on climate change but I would like someone to explain to me what is wrong with the above argument.

References.

1. Tim Flannery, "The Weathermakers"
2. IPCC Report. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.
3. Ian Plimer "Heaven and Earth"
4. A. Barrie Pittock "Climate Change"

**Comments are invited by Friday 27 November please.**

**John**