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COURSE NAME : Contemporary Social Problems Course

CREDITS FOR COURSE: 3 CREDITS

Introduction

As part of the preparation of my doctoral thesis in social policy at the Atlantic International University, based in HONOLULU in the United States, I took part in a course given on a very interesting subject relating to contemporary social problems of peoples, the course includes 10 themes on various subjects, touching the man as a whole. Now in this work, I will bring my modest answer to the 20 questions which constitute the financial evaluation relating to what I have learned in the various lessons of this course.

SUMMARY

1. Do you want to make a difference in the world? How can you tell the difference? How to develop civic responsibility?
2. Compare "ethical selfishness" and "ethical altruism"
3. Compare the normative ethical systems "utilitarianism" and "ethical formalism"
4. Describe two historical attempts by societies to resolve the effects of poverty
5. In the Christian bible, it is said that there will always be poor people. Do you agree? And even if there is enough wealth for everyone, why doesn't society completely solve poverty?
6. Karl Marx believed that poverty was the result of a capitalist system organized for profit, where its main motivation was to maximize profit and keep wages as low as possible. Now Karl Marx was in favor of cooperatives where all workers shared the profits. Do you think cooperatives would solve poverty?
7. Over the past decades, Africa and much of the developing world have accumulated debt in an attempt to improve infrastructure, such as building dams. Inequality and poverty persisted. What do you think is the best way to build the economy of a society in order to reduce poverty? Are you in favor of foreign aid in the form of loans?
8. What are the causes of homelessness?
9. In your opinion, what are the best policies to reduce homelessness? And why?
10. Is mental illness more prevalent today than in centuries past?
11. Describe the stress in modern society that seems to create mental illness? What mental illnesses are created by stress?
12. Why is "gender inequality" considered a contemporary social problem?
13. Quels sont les avantages pour la société d'avoir l'égalité entre les sexes ? La société et l'économie sont-elles plus fortes avec l'égalité entre les sexes ? Expliquer.
14. Is prison the best solution to crime in society? Is there a better way for society to solve the crime problem?

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15. Do you think it is better for society to legalize drugs? What type of drug could be legalized? Do you agree that alcohol should be legal while other drugs are not?

16. What are the benefits for society of freedom of expression?

17. What are the dangers to society when people do not feel free to say what they think?

18. In the summer of 2018, record temperatures spread across the northern hemisphere. Do you believe this is the result of global warming?

19. Why is global warming a threat to the world? Do you see any negative effects of global warming in your community?

20. How do you explain global warming to a person who doesn't believe it's real?

21 Conclusion

22 Website :

1. Do you want to make a difference in the world? How can you tell the difference? How to develop civic responsibility?

Of course, personally I would like to make a difference in the world, by adopting inclusive ethical values that incorporates the rise of social awareness, by respecting other members of society, this difference must come from some form of service significant to the community, returned on my part, in relation to civic responsibility. Giving myself to the public good can lead to a more solid view of this difference. For me to be a socially conscious citizen,

2. Compare "ethical selfishness" and "ethical altruism".

ethical selfishness	ethical altruism
According to this normative ethical theory, the only duty of a person is to promote his own good as much as possible. This means that in order to live a moral life, a good life, a person should only do what is in his best interest. The arguments commonly used to justify selfishness are that we are all intimately familiar with our own individual wants and needs, and therefore we should only focus on these because if we were trying to meet the needs of others, we might to spoil everything ; therefore, we should all "mind our own business". Many ethical egotists claim that to give charity to someone is to degrade them and deny their individual worth.	ethical altruism, which is an ethical doctrine that maintains that the moral value of an individual's actions depends solely on the impact on other individuals, regardless of the consequences on the individual himself. An action is morally right if the consequences of that action are more favorable than unfavorable to everyone except the agent. Altruism calls to live for the good of others. The word "altruism" was coined by Auguste Comte, a French philosopher, to describe the ethical doctrine he supported. He believed that individuals had a moral obligation to give up self-interest and live for others.

3. Compare the normative ethical systems "utilitarianism" and "ethical formalism".

ethical normative systems "utilitarianism"	ethical formalism
Utilitarianism is an ethical teleological system. The word teleological comes from the ancient Greek telos, which means end or goal. A teleological or consequentialist theory holds that an action is morally right if one person performs it results in good consequences, or if the action is of a type which, if everyone did, would have good consequences. The consequences of his conduct are the ultimate basis for any judgment as to the rightness or inaccuracy of that conduct. Either way, ultimately, it's the goodness or badness of the end result of the actions that makes them good or bad. In a consequentialist ethical system, the test of right and wrong actions is to apply a standard of value to the consequences of actions. If the consequences of someone doing	Formalism, on the other hand, is an ethical deontological system. Deontology comes from the Greek word deon, which means duty. Deontological theory holds that an action is right if it conforms to a moral rule, bad if it violates such a rule. Moral rules are based on an ultimate principle of duty which, unlike teleological ethics, does not specify an end or a goal or a consequence the pursuit of which makes actions righteous. In an ethical system, the consequences of one's actions play no role in determining whether the action is good or bad. Ethics maintain that it is not the quality or the badness of the consequences of an action that makes it good or bad, but the type of action it is. A person's motivation to act plays a big role in these ethical systems; if a person performs an act with good end results, but with bad intentions, that act has no moral value.

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4. Describe two historical attempts by societies to resolve the effects of poverty.

China (The Great Leap Forward), Refusal of foreign aid	Ghana, acceptance of foreign aid
<p>Communist leader Mao Zedong believed that China did not need foreign aid or capital investment from other countries. Mao was concerned about the poverty of his nation as a whole and disliked the idea of accepting help from others. Zedong believed that because China had such a large population, if he could put everyone to work on large-scale projects, the country would be as productive as other industrialized nations. And that's how he initiated the Great Leap. Cheeky. The Great Leap Forward of the People's Republic of China (PRC) was an economic and social campaign by the Chinese Communist Party (CPC) from 1958 to 1961, which aimed to rapidly transform the country from an agrarian economy to an industrialized economy. In order to make China productive in steel, Mao Zedong ordered everyone to have their own steel furnace in their backyards, and people were given strict orders to produce a certain amount of steel. This led the peasants to melt pots and pans in order to respect the quotas; most of the steel was unusable it was of such poor quality. The peasants could not use their pots and pans anyway, because there was nothing to eat. By turning to industry instead of food production, China was hit by a famine, known as the Great Leap Forward Famine. This famine would turn out to be a cataclysmic, even leading to the deaths of more than 30 million people in just a few years. So while China's Great Leap Forward is seen as a huge disaster</p>	<p>During the 1950s and 1960s, Ghana accepted huge amounts of foreign aid, millions of dollars in the form of high interest loans. The belief was that if you just gave these poor countries more resources so that they could build factories and other infrastructure projects, the spinoff economy would work, the economy would grow, and the benefits would go to everything. the world. Ghana borrowed money for one of these projects and built the huge Akosombo dam, at a cost of a quarter of a billion dollars. The damn was supposed to provide electricity to the country's newly formed aluminum industry, but the industry collapsed and the people of Ghana were left with a nearly worthless dam and a huge debt to pay. . Paying the interest on this debt would prevent Ghana from growing economically for decades to come</p>

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5. In the Christian bible, it is said that there will always be poor people. Do you agree? And even if there is enough wealth for everyone, why doesn't society completely solve poverty?

Several actions have been taken by all kinds of organizations around the world for more equity between the peoples of the world in order to reduce the problem of the poor to a significant extent, but it is still present, amplified by injustices, inequalities, wars, famines, endemic and pandemic diseases, climate change, which have a negative impact on soils through the phenomenon of soil aridity, which is a brake on agriculture, or through the phenomenon of floods, typhoons, storms, high winds which are a devastating phenomenon, which even rich countries do not escape. [12]. The situation is getting worse every year: the drought that is hitting the American West is reflected more and more concretely for the 40 million Americans who live in California. The Oroville dam lake is so low that hydropower production is about to be halted [13]. Africa is no exception to these natural phenomena which sow poverty and desolation [14] Globalization in itself is not a bad thing; it's about who controls the system. Right now we have a system designed by the rich, for the rich. Capital can flow wherever it can flow freely and be invested everywhere, but labor cannot. A poor Indian hairdresser who wants to work in Germany or America will not be able to do so.

Today we have started a new chapter in the history of poverty, because all poverty today is completely preventable. The poorest half of humanity earns less than 3% of overall household income, which in itself shows that poverty could be eliminated. If the world could be redesigned so that the poorest half received only 5% of global household income, it would dramatically improve the situation and at least eliminate the most extreme poverty in the world. In 2008, the World Bank estimated that there were an estimated 1,345 million poor people in developing countries who lived on \$ 1.25 a day or less. We still have a lot of work to do.

The phenomenon of poverty remains a very complex subject, parameterized by several factors which find their origin in sociology, geography, law, philosophy, geology, and even in the different economic systems that man has set up. . And this is why globalization, which saw the world as a global village, had allowed real hope, which was in vain due to the persistent inequalities between peoples. Even today, artificial intelligence and the various technologies revolving around the Internet still offer hope, despite the obstacle that today constitutes the multinationals which are not wars of the organizations of philanthropy. Men must turn to God as the bible suggests, while looking at themselves in the mirror with one hand on their heart to keep man as the super creature of God, who is therefore entitled to the benefit of all privileges. And it sounds as if to paraphrase a political leader: "America first" no, let's say it man first! And thus hope to reduce poverty to nothing.

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6. Karl Marx believed that poverty was the result of a capitalist system organized for profit, where its main motivation was to maximize profit and keep wages as low as possible. Now Karl Marx was in favor of cooperatives where all workers shared the profits. Do you think cooperatives would solve poverty?

We are very skeptical about this approach to solving poverty by cooperatives, wherever this model has been implemented in Africa, especially in the agricultural sector, the latter has failed. [11]. In different historical periods, institutional actors have appealed to the virtues of the cooperative enterprise as an instrument of transition from one society to another. Thus, to move from the pre-colonial period to the years of colonial domination, the colonizing states will at the same time inspire, encourage and even create organizations of cooperative model. They are convinced that to ensure the supply of the Metropolis with cash crops, it is absolutely necessary to mobilize the rural world and for them, the organizational form best suited to fulfill this mobilization function, is the cooperative organization. This ideological assumption is not made only by colonizing governments but also by international organizations. A resolution of the XVIIth congress of the ICA (International Cooperative Alliance born in 1895) on the development of cooperation underlines "the fact that a powerful development in the field of free and voluntary cooperation in underdeveloped countries is one of the means most effective in developing their economic and general progress ... "

The new "post-dependency" governments will not depart from the ideological and operational logic that prevailed in the previous period. Indeed, to ensure the exit from underdevelopment of young states by strengthening the production of cash crops providing foreign exchange to finance development, the cooperative formula will be imposed by the top in the countryside in the name of the interest general.

Finally, to adapt to the demands of the structural adjustment plans imposed by the Bretton Woods institutions and to cope with the vogue for "pluralist policies" in Africa, a new phase of cooperative development has emerged through the withering of the supervisory bodies. states and their civil servants within cooperative enterprises. This environment, in which the instruments of the domestic economy bathe, shows that the cooperative, born out of the will of devices (in the first years of its introduction), has developed normally. As the cooperative expands its field of operations and interventions towards "real society" approaches, its field of effectiveness decreases. It is starting to lose its credibility because its exogenous management style is increasingly at odds with the cultural behaviors of the society that hosts the organization. Once the development break-up threshold (S) is crossed, the imported cooperative is no longer a colossus at the foot of clay because social reality no longer responds to the rationality of the devices; his mode of organization and appreciation of events no longer allows him to fulfill the missions that are his; the conditions of efficiency and competition necessary for the proper development of this type of concrete social structure are no longer met.

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7. Over the past decades, Africa and much of the developing world have accumulated debt in an attempt to improve infrastructure, such as building dams. Inequality and poverty persisted. What do you think is the best way to build the economy of a society in order to reduce poverty? Are you in favor of foreign aid in the form of loans?

Our response to this question is very nuanced, foreign aid used wisely can allow Africa to build viable infrastructure in order to modernize and therefore boost its economy, while diversifying it. But Africa in its current functioning, with sometimes incompetent, wasteful leaders, and even looters shines by the problems of embezzlement of public funds and even of corruption, most often the budgetary procedures, when they exist, are not even respected. Aid granted to pay for the construction of a bridge or a road sometimes goes towards the purchase of administrative cars. Thus the country does not build its infrastructure, but on the other hand is often very indebted, unable to repay the debts contact with donor countries. And then there ensued unnecessary debates on vague topics such as debt cancellation, debt relief. If aid is necessary for the development of Africa, it should perhaps take another form, several donor countries have already launched on the continent with great success. [9], The high level of corruption in Cameroon remains a specificity of the country. Despite international pressure and numerous anti-corruption plans or laws, the practice remains a constant in everyday life in this country, since, in 2004, more than 50% of Cameroonian households admitted having paid at least a bribe [10].

8. What are the causes of homelessness?

Homelessness describes the condition of people without regular housing Modern homelessness began as a result of economic tensions in society and the reduction in the availability of affordable housing. In the United States in the 1970s, the deinstitutionalization of patients from public psychiatric hospitals was a trigger in urban areas. In the mid-1980s, there was also a dramatic increase in the number of homeless people in families. Linked to this was a growing number of impoverished and runaway children, adolescents and young adults, which created more children or youth on the streets.

The main reasons and causes of homelessness, as documented by numerous reports and studies, include: unavailability of employment opportunities, poverty, lack of accessible health care (people who suffer from a disease or chronic and debilitating disability are just too weak to go to work every day), war or armed conflict, natural disasters, mental disorders (a United States federal survey indicated that at least a third of homeless men and women suffer from severe psychiatric disorders), traumatic brain injuries, social exclusion (especially due to sexual orientation and gender identity), drug addiction, affordable housing, domestic violence, relationship breakdown (especially when it comes to young people and their parents) and mortgage foreclosures (where mortgage holders see the best solution to a default is to take and sell the house to pay off the debt).

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9. In your opinion, what are the best policies to reduce homelessness? And why?

In our opinion, the best policies to reduce homelessness revolve around policies of access to employment for all, and the massive construction of social housing. Like this initiative of the American government:

In the United States, the government has asked many major cities to develop a 10-year plan to end homelessness. One of the results was à 'Housing First' solution, rather than letting a homeless person stay in an emergency homeless shelter, it was deemed better to get some sort of housing quickly. standing for the person and the support services needed to support a new home. Recently, the Central Florida Commission on Homelessness released a study that found that it is three times more expensive to leave homeless people on the streets than to house them and provide them with vocational training and health care. Currently, Florida taxpayers pay \$ 31,065 per year per chronically homeless person. The price covers the salaries of the lawyers. Law enforcement officers to arrest and transport homeless people - primarily for non-violent offenses such as trespassing, public intoxication or sleeping in parks - as well as the cost of prison stays, emergency room visits and hospitalizations for medical and psychiatric problems.

The same study found that it would only cost \$ 10,050 per year to "take care" of them. According to Amnesty International USA, there are five times more vacant housing than the homeless. In eight years, Utah has quietly reduced homelessness by 78% and is on track to end homelessness by 2015.

Utah solves homelessness by trying the radical idea of giving people homes. In 2005, Utah found that the annual cost of emergency room visits and jail stays for the homeless was about \$ 16,670 per person, compared to \$ 11,000 for providing each homeless person with an apartment and a social worker. Thus, the state began to give apartments, without any conditions.

Homelessness is (also) a housing problem: a snapshot of Norway A housing-based approach coupled with sustainable investments in the provision of affordable housing has helped reduce homelessness in Norway. Since 2010, she has made the prevention of homelessness the pillar of several successive national strategies whose objectives are to reduce evictions, eliminate homelessness and limit stays in temporary accommodation (Dyb, 2017 [32]). The current national strategy, Housing for Welfare: National Strategy for Housing and Support Services 2014-2020, calls on five ministries that work on different aspects of well-being and emphasize the coordination to be ensured with the policies of local planning, housing quality and local planning [4]

Source: Dyb, 2017 [32]; OECD, 2019 [7].

Long-term political support to overcome homelessness: a closer look at Finland In Finland, the number of homeless people fell by 39% between 2010 and 2018, thanks to measures for Housing First put in place in 2008 as part of the national program to end homelessness (PAAVO). The main innovation was to replace temporary accommodation with permanent furnished rentals allocated to people who have been homeless for a long time. The sustained political support and coordination between ministries and levels of government has been key to the success of this initiative, extended by a second National Homelessness Program (PAAVO II), followed by the Action Plan. 2016-2019 for

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the homeless in Finland. The latter aims to avoid social exclusion by integrating the housing first approach into national policies; in practice, it is about ensuring that everyone who uses social services has a home. Source: Ministry of the Environment, 2016, Pleace et al. 2015. [4]

10. Is mental illness more prevalent today than in centuries past?

In our opinion, yes, mental illness is more prevalent today than in past centuries, because our present societies are much more stressful, with the problems of poverty and inequality, with the excessive consumption of alcohol and drugs, with the problem of no fixed housing. There are also very few health centers that deal with these scourges, the work of psychologists and psychiatrists remains very invisible. In mental health, the gap between the need for care and the care provided is wide around the world. For example, 76% to 85% of people with severe mental disorders do not receive treatment in low- and middle-income countries; the corresponding range in high-income countries is also high, ranging from 35% to 50%. [2]

Health systems have yet to respond adequately to the burden of mental disorders. As a result, there is a huge gap in the world between the need for treatment and its availability. In low- and middle-income countries, 76% to 85% of people with mental disorders are not treated for this condition. In high-income countries, 35% to 50% of those affected are in the same situation [1].

The extent of the damage, to name only the European Union.

Mental disorders in European Union countries: some figures

According to the latest estimates from the Institute for Metrics and Evaluation (IHME) 10, mental disorders affect more than one in six people in the European Union (17.3%), or around 84 million people. Anxiety is the most common mental disorder: 25 million people, or 5.4% of the population; followed by depressive disorders: 21 million people, or 4.5% of people. Bipolar disorder affects 5 million people (1% of the population) and schizophrenia affects 1.6 million people (0.3%). Prevalence rates vary greatly from country to country. The highest rates are observed in Finland, the Netherlands, France and Ireland (18.5% of the population). The lowest rates are observed in Romania, Bulgarie and Poland (15% of the population). These observed differences may also be due to the fact that mental illnesses are better diagnosed in some countries than others or that access to care is easier. Regarding mortality, 84,000 million people would have died in 2015 from mental disorders in the European Union, but this figure would **undoubtedly be underestimated 11**, because many people suffering from mental disorders die prematurely due to a very high rate. High rate of chronic diseases or other poorly treated health problems. In France, a study by Public Health France¹² based on the national database of the Epidemiological Center on the causes of death of the National Institute of Medical Research (CepiDc-Inserm) reported 783,403 deaths with mention of mental disorders (TM) on the 2000-2013 period, representing on average 55,957 annual deaths and 10.3% of all deaths occurring during this period. Age-standardized death rates with MT fell overall (-15.1%) over the entire period. For both men and women, the mean age at death was particularly low for schizophrenia (55.9 years and 67.6 years, respectively) and for alcohol-related MTs, 59.4 and 60.7 respectively. Years) The initial causes (CI) of death were distributed as follows: for deaths with mention of MT, suicide (11.1%) was in 3rd position, behind cardiovascular causes

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(27.3%) and cancers (18.1%), while for deaths without mention of MT, suicide (1.3%) was placed far behind cancers (31.0%) and cardiovascular (28.9%). [3]

These statistics alone, and only for this part of the world, safely show the extent of the harmful mental illnesses represent in our world today.

11. Describe the stress in modern society that seems to create mental illness?

What mental illnesses are created by stress?

The term "stress" designates, for engineers, the force or the stress which generates a deformation in the part which is subjected to it. In biology and medicine, this expression has a different meaning (Levi, 1971): it designates a process which has its seat in the organism, namely the overall response of the organism to the action of factors which require the adaptation of the latter to the influences, modifications, solicitations and tensions to which it may be exposed. This reaction of the body is triggered, for example, when an individual is attacked in the street or when he is subjected to the action of ionizing radiation or extreme temperatures. However, attacks of physical origin are not the only ones capable of triggering the process in question: mental or social factors can also provoke it; this is the case, for example, when the memory of an unpleasant event comes to mind, when we are called upon to perform a performance that seems to us to be beyond our means or when we are preoccupied, rightly or wrongly, by some aspect of our work or our family life. [5]

Your stress is bad for your health. And you can't imagine all the problems it can develop in your body. Stress is not without consequences for our health. When our body is subjected to a period of strong anxiety, it manifests itself in different ways. Sleep disturbances, joint pain, memory loss are some of the ailments that can occur if you don't stop your stress. But these reactions can cause even more serious ones.

Digestive diseases

Stomach ulcers are often associated with stress. This painful condition is not the only digestive condition associated with anxiety. In general, a feeling of intense stress can manifest itself in different forms such as dry mouth, bloating, diarrhea or even gastritis.

Cardiovascular disorders

In the 1950s, American researchers conducted a study that highlighted the link between stress and the development of cardiovascular problems. During this study, the researchers compared the rhythms of life of two categories of people: type A individuals, stressed on a daily basis in a life that they consider to be a competition and type B individuals, rather introverted, relaxed, who do not see their life as a struggle. At the end of this observation, it appeared that type A individuals were more likely to be victims of a myocardial infarction, in particular because of the bad habits that accompany stress: consumption of alcohol, tobacco, but also because that stress promotes the presence of atheroma deposits on the arteries that supply the heart.

Gynecological disturbances

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It is not uncommon for a stressed woman to observe an imbalance in her menstrual cycle. A re late periods or even a lack of periods can occur over a shorter or longer period. Stress can also be the root cause of a couple's form of infertility. Infertility that will go away when appeasement returns.

Psychiatric complications

Stress is one of the first manifestations of certain more serious pathologies, such as depression or phobias. Some studies have also shown that when it occurs over a long period of time, stress causes changes in the structure of the brain. When it is chronic, stress can also lead to depression. The increasing suicide rates in large companies where stress is intense, can testify to the dramatic consequences of overwork on the mental health of employees.

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Dermatological disorders

All those who suffer from herpes, psoriasis or even eczema will confirm it: their lesions vary according to their level of stress. These dermatological pathologies are in fact directly associated with the state of anxiety of those who suffer from them. Sometimes these disorders can become more disabling and stress can cause itchy attacks or even hair loss.

The impact of stress on the immune system

Numerous studies have highlighted unintended consequences for the immune system. Anxiety, when it is chronic, thus promotes a weakened immune system and the body becomes more weakened by certain diseases. Using this reasoning, some specialists consider that stress could have, to some extent, a role to play in the development of more serious diseases such as cancer [6]

12. Why is “gender inequality” considered a contemporary social problem?

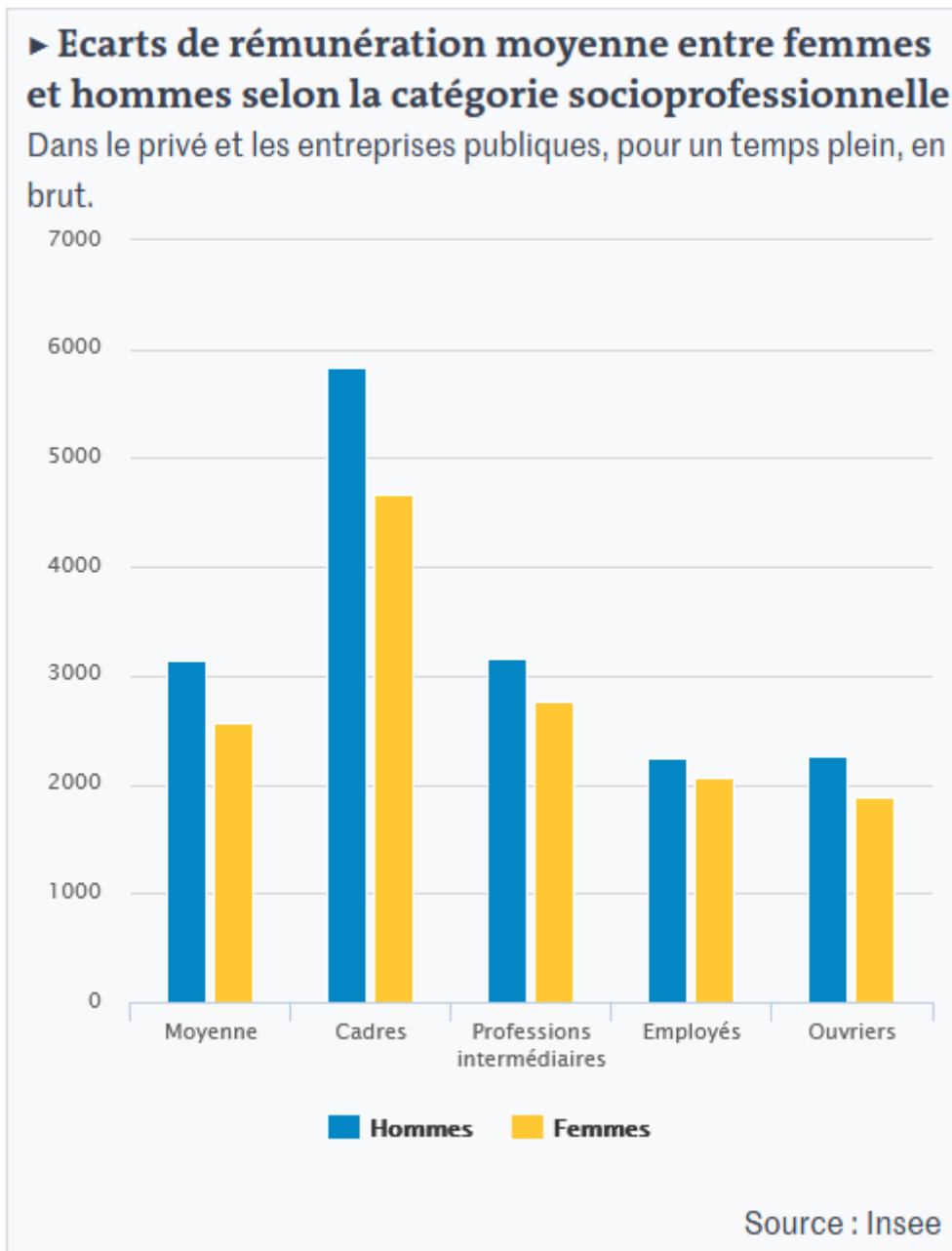
A social or ethical problem (also called a social problem or a social disease) refers to a problem which influences and is fought by a considerable number of individuals within a society, therefore gender inequality is one, because " it affects several thousand women around the world, resulting in nauseating effects in all sectors of life, here are some statistics concerning a country like France: Gender inequalities are manifested by violence, wage disparities, cultural persistence .etc. just as regards remuneration, we can see it in the graph below, and what raises social discontent among women, see photo opposite **(picture 1)**

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Picture 1



Manifestation pour les droits des femmes, à Paris, le 8 mars 2014. PIERRE ANDRIEU / AFP



13. Quels sont les avantages pour la société d'avoir l'égalité entre les sexes ? La société et l'économie sont-elles plus fortes avec l'égalité entre les sexes ? Expliquer.

The benefits of gender equality lie in valuing men and women equally and promoting the right of men and women to have equal opportunities for the achievement of important societal goals such as education, employment and income, and contribute to political, social and cultural development at all levels. This kind of gender equality will lead to a more socially enlightened society from which we can all reap the benefits.

14. Is prison the best solution to crime in society? Is there a better way for society to solve the crime problem?

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The criminals are these human beings, citizens of various countries who pose despicable and inhuman acts, to regulate life in societies, the public authorities usefully thought of extracting them from society in order to isolate them in highly secure places called prisons. Punishment is thus a place of correction, a place of re-education, the hope is that upon release from prison, the citizen thus punished does not reoffend. But as this is not always the case, several ploys are put in place to try to achieve the best goal of protecting the noble and respectful citizen of society. Thus some criminals will quite simply be eliminated by condemnation to the death penalty, the less dangerous will follow the social reintegration programs available in prisons, such as apprenticeship in trades, and on leaving will benefit from social assistance. But it should be noted that all these methods put in place do not always give optimal results, so it is time to ask the question whether the best solution to crime is necessarily prison? In the face of heinous crime, it might be laudable to proceed with the systematic elimination of criminals in the hope of purifying society, but that would not be a just war, because the presumption of innocence remains a sacred principle of modern democratic societies. It is therefore necessary to appeal to justice to carry out its procedure, in order to identify the truth in order to render justice correctly. And obviously once the culprit has been found, the latter must be punished, that is to say isolated from society, to protect it from crime, and in the hope of rehabilitating the accused after correction, this process therefore makes the unavoidable prison. This place, it must be said the prison is controversial, because it is sometimes the subject of various slippages and inhuman treatment, which disturbs morals, because the protection of the human species is a sacred principle of human rights. man, it is then necessary to reinvent the prison to adapt it to the principles of modern societies respecting human rights.

14

15. Do you think it is better for society to legalize drugs? What type of drug could be legalized? Do you agree that alcohol should be legal while other drugs are not?

In my opinion, it is preferable to legalize drugs for a better control of the admissible doses, and for a better control of the economic flows linked to them, for a better knowledge of the actors, alcohol as well as harmful drugs. to health, but alcohol has the advantage of being tolerated by the public, without really knowing the magnitude of the effects of alcohol compared to drugs, it is pernicious to allow it.

16. What are the benefits for society of freedom of expression?

Freedom of expression is a fundamental right, defined and guaranteed by law. It is about the freedom to express one's opinion, one's thought by all means, the press, art, writing, speech, demonstration, meeting, association. Depending on each person's point of view, it must either be strictly framed by law or completely unlimited. Whatever his opinion on freedom of expression, it is closely linked to the question of living together and associated with the question of democracy [15].

What is the fundamental importance of freedom of expression?

Freedom of expression is a fundamental right in a democracy and it is also a condition for the exercise of many other rights, but not all. Freedom of expression is first and foremost the right to express personal opinions, ideas and beliefs. On the one hand, it is linked to the freedom of

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conscience which has been at the heart of the Reformation in Europe since the 16th century; on the other hand, it is linked to the freedom to communicate opinions, to exchange arguments, to debate publicly. The link with democracy becomes obvious: it is the essential condition for political participation and the ability of citizens to defend their rights and protest against what they consider, rightly or wrongly, to be unjust.

This general principle of freedom of expression applies differently from society to society. other. What are the major traditions in this matter? For example, is there a difference between the United States and Europe? And does Quebec stand out in any way?

Taken in the abstract, the principle of freedom of expression is simple. But it can come into conflict with other fundamental rights, and it is therefore subject to different interpretations according to political and legal cultures. There are at least two main concerns that can limit freedom of expression: safety and respect for people (or the protection of social conditions of self-esteem). In other words, in a democracy we recognize that each person has the right to be protected in their physical and moral integrity.

In the United States, freedom of expression is more extensive than in continental European countries, notably in France, Germany and Austria. The history of American jurisprudence is complex, but it can be said that the freedom of political participation is highly valued, as is the freedom of conscience, which is inseparable from the right to express one's beliefs. The only limit on the expression of political opinions, however racist, is if it causes real, manifest and imminent danger. Europeans, for their part, place greater importance on the protection of moral integrity, the respect due to individuals and their right not to be intimidated or publicly insulted. The history of Nazism has considerable weight in this difference in legal culture. On this issue, Quebec is much closer to Europe than to the United States.

Is there a difference between freedom of speech and freedom of expression? Are forms of visual expression, such as caricatures, statues or flags, a particular problem?

The tensions that one regularly see resurfacing in Europe over cartoons depicting Muslims stem from the very imperfect application of the right not to be stigmatized in public. A significant proportion of Muslims, in France for example, feel deeply insulted by degrading representations in a society where they are already in a situation of inequality and discrimination. This poses the problem of the status of visual representations which ambiguously convey ideas and help to **diffuse** a negative image of certain groups. But precisely this ambiguity is essential, because it is more difficult to interpret the meaning of a caricature than the meaning of a racist statement. Visual representations (and works of art in general) are not reducible to opinions, let alone arguments.

The case of public monuments, such as the statues at the heart of the Battle of Charlottesville, is different. Monuments are historical heritages and they bear witness to the way in which a community has conceived its official history. However, communities change and fragment, and debates about history are part of their identity. There are always several historical accounts which are often conflicting and irreconcilable. In Charlottesville, the mainstream history of slavery is challenged by a section of the population, who wants to publicly write another story. One can understand the resistance of the other part of the population, which is attached to this contested

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history and which does not renounce the debate on the meaning of their history and on their identity. But it seems that the compromise on slavery is now obsolete and, as in any period of historic transition, the statues of a society that we no longer recognize as our own are being brought down.

In Charlottesville, Quebec, we saw symbols and heard slogans that can shock, openly discriminatory. Demonstrators and counter-demonstrators have come to blows. Do we absolutely have to defend freedom of expression?

In the far-right protests in Charlottesville and more recently in Quebec, two things must be distinguished: the right to express opinions and the right to safety. Even in a very liberal regime like in the United States, freedom of expression does not imply the right to violence and, if a demonstration presents a real and imminent danger, the mayor or the judge can prohibit it. This is what happened in 1977 in Skokie, near Chicago, when the NSPA (American Nazi Party) wanted to demonstrate with swastikas and other Nazi symbols in this small town where the Jewish population was the majority. The Illinois Supreme Court ultimately overturned the ban for reasons that I believe are central to considering limits on freedom of expression.

First of all, it was considered that the demonstrators expressed political opinions and that their right to political participation was conditioned by their right to express their ideas. s. True, their ideas were anti-Semitic, disrespectful of Jewish citizens, and damaged their self-esteem; but their public expression was protected by a fundamental right enshrined in the First Amendment. Then we took into account the risks of violence, first of the demonstrators and then of the counter-demonstrators. Jewish citizens could legitimately feel threatened by such protests. But the rule in a strong and healthy democracy is that people have the right to express their views as long as they do not resort to violence, and that freedom of expression cannot be restricted every time those who do not. are not happy threaten to resort to violence to prevent the former. This is why we protect Charlie Hebdo journalists from those who threaten them, without which they would be condemned to self-censorship. This protection work belongs to the police, and the police must be absolutely incapable of containing the violence before a demonstration that risks escalating can legitimately be banned. Finally, it should be added that there are many gray areas and that the social and historical context is important in determining the concrete and changing limits of freedom of expression. The fact that the American government, in the person of the president and his closest adviser, deliberately played on racist and xenophobic passions changes the situation considerably compared to 1976. Caution is in order, and it would not have been illegitimate that the Charlottesville demonstration was banned. [16]

Thus, freedom of expression appears to be the basis of democracy, from the divergence of opinions, the truth often springs forth, and this being quite simply the glue of advanced peoples, a society more expressly guarantees social progress and struggles effectively. against poverty and illiteracy, because constantly watered by the mass media.

17. What are the dangers to society when people do not feel free to say what they think?

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Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UN, 1948, article 19) also affirmed this fundamental right: "Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression, which implies the right not to be worried about his opinions and that of seeking, receiving and disseminating, regardless of frontiers, information and ideas by any means of expression whatsoever. "

The birth of freedom of expression in political doctrines is part of the broader process of recognizing the role of the individual within civil and political society and, in particular, his liberation from power, in particular from power. spiritual. Man is thus gradually given a central role in the democratic organization of social life. Acquired from the Enlightenment movement developed during the 18th century in Europe and across the Atlantic, the recognition of freedoms by positive law requires the affirmation, formal and solemn, of a certain number of individual guarantees, such as the French Declaration of 1789. The same is true on the international scene, where the normative guarantee of human rights first experienced a purely proclaiming phase, like the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of December 10, 1948. This process then develops through the consecration, legally binding this time, of freedom of expression in catalogs of individual rights endowed with constitutional or conventional force.

The danger for societies where citizens do not feel free lies in the non-respect by these societies for individual and collective freedoms, however proclaimed in the laws. These societies are quite simply dictatorships. These are imperfect societies where all kinds of social evils, favoritism, tribalism, moral and economic corruption, criminality, drug use and alcoholism reign. They are also most often societies in turmoil, because social discontent is almost a mode of expression, most often harshly reprimanded by public authorities.

18. In the summer of 2018, record temperatures spread across the northern hemisphere. Do you believe this is the result of global warming?

Of course, yes, as the experts point out in the excerpt below:

Global warming refers to an unequivocal and continuous increase in the average temperature of the Earth's climate system. Since the turn of the 20th century, when accurate records began to be kept, the global temperature of the air and the sea surface has risen by about 0.8 ° C (1.4 ° F). Each of the past three decades has been successively hotter on the Earth's surface than any he previous decade since 1850. In the northern hemisphere, 1983-2012 was probably the warmest 30-year period in the past 1400 years. Scientific understanding of the cause of global warming has increased. In its fourth assessment of the relevant scientific literature, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) said scientists were over 90% certain that most of global warming was caused by increasing concentrations. of greenhouse gases produced by human activities. The greenhouse effect is a process by which thermal radiation from a planetary surface is absorbed by atmospheric greenhouse gases and is re-radiated in all directions. Since some of this re-radiation returns to the surface and the lower atmosphere, the result is an increase in the average surface temperature above what it would be in the absence of the gases. Earth's natural greenhouse effect makes life as we know it possible, with it it would be too cold for life. However, human activities, mainly the burning of fossil fuels and the clearing of forests, have intensified the natural greenhouse effect, causing global warming.

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19. Why is global warming a threat to the world? Do you see any negative effects of global warming in your community?

Of course, in our community we perceive climate change in our daily life, through several sources including the shift of the seasons, the retreat of rivers and rivers, the rise of sea water, which causes flooding in some of our cities, we see unusual climate variability.

20. How do you explain global warming to a person who doesn't believe it's real?

The mere mention of global warming gives rise to controversy, with some people remaining unconvinced of the explanations and scientific reasoning that is developed to assert the existence of advanced climate disturbances. But as long as we dwell a bit on the events that arise in our daily lives, they eventually realize that something is wrong with the weather. The mere fact that the world maintains this controversy around the climate is enough on its own to convince more than one person of the global warming which is due in large part to the heavy use of fossil fuels in many sectors of the world. activities such as transport, manufacturing industry.

Definitions of global warming

Simple definition of global warming

Global warming is a global phenomenon of climate transformation characterized by a general increase in average temperatures (in particular linked to human activities), and which permanently modifies meteorological balances and ecosystems.

When we talk about it today, it is about the phenomenon of rising temperatures that has been happening on Earth for 100 to 150 years. Since the beginning of the Industrial Revolution, the average temperatures on earth have indeed increased more or less regularly. In 2016, the average temperature on planet Earth was about 1 to 1.5 degrees above the average temperatures of the pre-industrial era (before 1850).

Scientific definition of global warming

More specifically, when we talk about global warming, we are talking about the increase in temperatures linked to industrial activity and in particular to the greenhouse effect: we therefore sometimes speak of so-called "anthropogenic" global warming. "(Of human origin). It is therefore a form whose causes are not natural but economic and industrial. Many scientists are studying this phenomenon and trying to understand how the activities of human societies cause this warming. These scientists are grouped within the IPCC (International Group of Experts on Climate), and they regularly publish reports studying the evolution

History of science

First discoveries of the greenhouse effect and definition of global warming

The first assumptions about the greenhouse effect were made by scientist Jacques Fourier in 1824. Several scientists after him went on to study and attempt to quantify the phenomenon, such as Claude Pouillet and John Tyndall. But the first experiment to validate and precisely quantify the

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greenhouse effect was carried out by scientist Svante Arrhenius at the end of the 19th century. In the 1890s, he discovered that air rich in carbon dioxide retained more heat from solar radiation, which led to an increase in air temperature. He concludes that if large amounts of carbone (due to industrial activities using the combustion of coal), the air will take on CO₂ and retain more heat. The first estimates of the increase in temperatures made by Arrhenius or other scientists of the time such as geologist Thomas Chamberlin are as follows: if you double the amount of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, the temperature average will increase by 5 degrees. In 1901, Gustaf Ekholm first used the term “greenhouse effect” to describe the phenomenon. For several decades these discoveries were not taken seriously in the scientific community. At the time, many scholars believed that nature could regulate itself and that the impact on humans was minimal. Notably, many scientists believed that the excess CO₂ would be absorbed by the ocean anyway, which is true, but not totally. However, the thesis of the possibility of global warming linked to greenhouse gases (including carbon dioxide) was eventually validated in the 1940s by Gilbert Plass. Using modern technology, he provides definitive proof that the concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere affects the air's ability to retain infrared rays and heat. These are the first definitions of global warming.

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Awareness

In the 60s, several scientists will show that the presumptions about the greenhouse effect are in fact true. Charles David Keeling, for example, proves that the concentration of CO₂ in the atmosphere is gradually increasing thanks to his measurements near Hawaii. Roger Revelle proved that the carbon released by the combustion of fossil fuels was not immediately absorbed by the ocean. Scientists are starting to worry more and more about global warming, and as a result, political society will begin to take this issue into account. In 1971 the first Earth Summit evoked for the first time in a major international conference the definition of global warming and its consequences. In 1972, John Sawyer published a scientific report showing more and more clearly the links between global warming and the greenhouse effect. For more than a decade, the evidence accumulated in the scientific community to the point that in the mid-1980s, the 7 largest world economic powers (the G7) asked the UN to create a group of experts responsible for studying the matter. This is the first time that there has been a real consideration and a real definition of global warming as a public problem by international institutions.

The first reports of the IPCC

The IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) was created in 1988 with the objective of studying the evolution of the phenomenon of global warming and its consequences. It brings together hundreds of scientists, climatologists, geologists, oceanographers, biologists, but also economists, sociologists, engineers and other specialists from various fields in order to have a global vision of this phenomenon. The IPCC is structured in three working groups:

- the first to study climate change as a phenomenon: the process, its magnitude;
- the second specializes in the consequences of global warming, the vulnerability of ecosystems and societies and adaptation to global warming;
- finally the last group is responsible for studying the issue of the fight against global warming.

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The IPCC issued its first report in 1990, then several others periodically until its last report in 2014. In these reports, the IPCC scientific community analyzes the causes of global warming, and its impact on the ecosystem and on society, by developing predictive models. From these models and forecasts, governments and businesses can put in place strategies to combat global warming or to better adapt to it.

The causes

The IPCC models have made it possible to establish the causes of global warming, that is, to know where this global warming comes from, and what causes it. Thanks to scientists, we know that it is mainly human-made greenhouse gas emissions that influence the climate. But where do these shows come from? Primarily, it is the production of energy (electricity, heating) and fuel for transport (mainly cars, but also in part aviation or maritime transport) that cause global warming. Then comes the management of territories and in particular deforestation, agriculture but also livestock. For more information, see: The causes of global warming.

The results

Thanks to the work of the IPCC and other scientists who are working on the definition of global warming, we now better understand the consequences of this phenomenon on our lives. In the minds of many, global warming is a relatively distant problem that simply implies that it is going to get hotter. But in fact, the consequences run much deeper.

Consequences on the ecosystem and the planet

First, an increase in temperatures due to global warming affects the entire global ecosystem and not just the heat felt. The weather is disrupted, with an increase in extreme weather events, changes in usual weather patterns. It means more storms, more floods, more cyclones and droughts.

To know more :

- The ecological consequences of global warming on the planet, ecosystems and the weather?
- Floods and global warming: what are the links?

The regulating capacity of the oceans is also affected by an increase in temperatures. If global temperatures increase very significantly, there will therefore be an increase in ocean levels, but also acidification and deoxygenation of ocean areas. In addition, too much ocean acidification could limit the ability of the world's seas to produce oxygen and store CO₂, and thus further increase global warming. But it can also affect areas of forests and fragile ecosystems (coral reef, Amazon rainforest) as well as biodiversity (corals, some insects and even mammals may not survive).

- The consequences of global warming on the oceans

Consequences on society and the economy

On society and the economy, global warming can potentially have several consequences: the ability of societies to adapt to a new climate, to adapt their infrastructures, especially medical ones, but also their buildings. Global warming will also have consequences on public health, the food capacity of countries, etc.

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For more information

- The consequences of global warming on society
- The economic risks of global warming

Consequences on companies

Finally, businesses are also at risk of being affected by climate change and global warming. Indeed, in a context where the climate is changing, it is more difficult to adapt its activities.

To know more :

- The consequences of global warming on businesses

How to fight against global warming

To fight against global warming, it is above all necessary to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The first way to do this is to turn to renewable energies and avoid fossil fuels. But we must also reduce our energy consumption, avoid food waste, eat better by avoiding products that have too large a carbon footprint, optimize the use of resources ... In short, we must adapt our lifestyle to the concept of resilience and sustainable development. We must also transform our societies to move towards an industrial model and globalization that takes ecology into account. For more information :

- 10 actions to be implemented in companies to fight against global warming
- How to fight against food waste?
- How to fight against global warming in concrete terms?
- Global warming: myth or reality?

Like many social and scientific issues, global warming has been the subject of controversy from the start. Some scientists and commentators have questioned global warming. They are called climate skeptics. Several arguments are invoked, for example:

"Global warming does not exist, it is a lie"

This argument often used by skeptics wants global warming to be a lie, invented by states, or global elites and the media. No evidence or explanation could be provided to support this argument.

- Is global warming a lie?
- "Global warming is natural, it does not matter"

This argument is often advanced by climate-skeptical scientists to question the media attention to global warming. Their idea is that climate change is a natural, normal and cyclical phenomenon, and there is no need to worry about it. The work of Keeling or Revelle, then the work of the IPCC and hundreds of more recent independent works proved that this argument was false, and that global warming was indeed a phenomenon of human origin and that it was dangerous on the plan of ecosystems and societies. For more info:

- The r global warming real?
- The consequences of global warming on the planet and the weather

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- The social consequences of global warming
- Global warming could lead to a global economic crisis
- The human origin of global warming: greenhouse gases

Some scientists also question the human origin of global warming, arguing that the CO₂ released into the atmosphere by human activities does not really affect the climate and the ecosystem. They argue that these gases are either regulated by ecosystems, or that they are not released in sufficient quantities to have an impact, or that other gases (such as water vapor) have a greater impact on global warming than industrial CO₂. While all of these positions are partly true, they do not question the human origin of global warming. Thus, CO₂ is well absorbed in part by the ocean and by plants, but not quickly enough to be regulated, for example. For more information :

- What is the real impact of human activities on global warming?
- Global warming; Myth or reality ?

We don't really know how the climate works and therefore global warming

Other climate skeptics argue that as climate science is very complex and made up of so many factors, it is difficult if not impossible to predict the consequences of an event such as an increased concentration of CO₂ in the atmosphere. These critiques therefore call into question the reliability of the IPCC models and therefore their predictions, to varying degrees. While it is true that climatology is a complex science, predictions so far of rising temperatures and the meteorological consequences of global warming have turned out to be rather close to reality.

The scientific consensus on global warming

In the end, the overwhelming majority of world scientists in all relevant fields agree on the causes of global warming and most of its consequences on ecosystems and on society. There is therefore no scientific doubt that global warming exists. It remains to be seen what we want to do politically and socially with this definition of global warming.

21 Conclusion

In the end, I was very attracted by this course which takes stock of the contemporary social problems facing our world today. While going through the various chapters, I have little apprehension of the immensity of the task of a specialist in social sciences, moreover the very one who could be solicited when his opinion on questions which touches the social field, that is to say that of men and women on this earth. I was much more impressed by the issue of poverty and climate change, I noticed links and connections between the different topics that this course addresses.

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