



Polar bears are threatened with extinction by climate change

CLIMATE CHANGE 2

June 24, 2015

José Cruz: That'll pretty much destroy the viability of all of London (Mmm) one of the most important cities in the world.

Chris O'Sullivan: Possibly um, if you actually go to London and look where the Thames is and look where the embankments are of the river, the embankments are quite steep, so the the river's like- if you look on a bridge the river's down there. It's quite far away from where the bridges are etc. (Mm-hmm) So even if it were to rise two metres three metres London-Central London itself I don't think would be that affected. It would be the other sides of London. It would be the other side like to the East or the West I think would suffer the worst damage. Especially people's homes that are on the banks of the River Thames.

José: But are you just- are you sure you're not just imagining the river rising a metre and a-half. We're talking about ocean levels rising a metre and a-

half. The entire ocean surrounding the island nation of of (Hmm) England and and Great Britain. The whole thing is going to go up by a metre and a-half. Not just the river Thames.

Chris: Yeah well the flattest part of Britain is the East. The East coast. It's actually (Uhhh) Norfolk...

José: That's around um (It's usually No-) Dover and stuff?

Chris: Um. OK yeah. Kind of further North actually than that (OK) Kind of Norfolk Suffolk area. That's the flattest part of Britain (Flattest. OK) So that would be the worst affected. **So like you know**, towards Cambridge. You know it's all very flat there. (Really? OK) And and places like Norwich, Ipswich. Those places well, I don't know. They they would even e- You know, that part of Britain would just be lost. That chunk of Britain's gone.

José: Scotland is fairly mountainous, right?
(Yes) Um, Wales?

Chris: Mountainous, In the North anyway.

José: So the Welsh and the Scottish are **going to be kind of OK?** It's the English that are really going to take it?

Chris: Yeah the English would take it. Certainly on the East coast, the South coast. Uh and I guess parts of the Southwest. But parts of the Southwest are actually quite hilly, so they might be a bit better off. But anyway climate change, rising sea levels is going to affect every country. (Everything everything) But yes.

José: And especially Japan too, because of the nature of the geography of the country with so many mountains in the middle, um populations have congregated towards the coasts for many many reasons. It's a fishing country; that's where trading is done, and basically the mountainous areas it's much harder to populate. And with sea levels rising two and a-half, two metres in the next 85 years, this country is going to change incredibly, just drastically in terms of everything.

Chris: It just goes to show that were talking about this right now and it doesn't seem to be in the news very much that this is going to happen. Alright, we're talking about it like in theory this is- could happen in 85 years, but what are you hearing on the news or the media about climate change? What are governments doing around the world collectively to try to stop this, try to nip it in the bud. I mean they have to be doing something about it. You can't just say, we need to build bigger seawalls. That's not a solution.

José: No it's not. Not at all.

Chris: Nope no. There has to be a political solution driven by the needs of the people who live in these countries. And it's not just Japan or Britain or Canada, it's everyone. I mean you're you're going to lose part of your- you know the very existence of where you live.

José: There's going to be drastic changes not just in- You know people think, "Oh well, I'll recycle more". That's really not going to do anything. It's going to take incredible changes in our economic distribution systems. It's going to take incredible changes in terms of the population levels that we have right now just because- We cannot maintain this system. Um, but here's a question. **I mean like um**, It's a fairly provocative question, as people ourselves what are we willing to sacrifice? I'll give you one example, I, like you, I'm very happy that the air conditioning is now turned on at the university. (Mm-hmm) Can you imagine going through a Japanese summer, but because, you know, we we're sitting here, you and I both, right now we're calling for real drastic- real drastic action, real real changes in society and and economy. And if the government says, OK, well that means no air conditioner for anybody for the next 50 years because we've got to cut down on CO2 production, could you live with that? **Because** that's what it's going to take.

Chris: Yeah no. I don't **want to** live with that. And I don't want that to happen. So I'm pretty selfish, right? Um...

José: But I think we need to address that. I mean that's a natural reaction for a lot of people, "I don't want to". But wha- OK so then what are you willing to compromise on? And I'm not saying YOU, I mean to everybody.

Chris: They they all say that it's it's not really about what a certain country does, it's what the collective countries do. (Right) So if you stop using AC in Japan it doesn't matter if China and America are using their ACs because (Mm mm) they're hot. (Mm mm) It's no- The the effort we

can make isn't going to make any difference to the final result unless others do the same. Or at least collectively we all head in the right direction.

Word count	Time	Words/Min.
967	4:47	202.86

Pointers:

So like you know: a phrase used at the start of a sentence to allow a speaker to collect their thoughts (1:12)

going to: pronounced "GUNNA" (1:34)

kind of: pronounced "KAINDA" (1:34)

I mean like um: said at the start of a sentence to allow a speaker to collect their thoughts (3:39)

Because: pronounced "KUZ" (4:05)

want to: pronounced "WANNA" (4:08)

Discussion:

What is the most important problem the world faces today?

Is climate change real or not?

Are you getting ready for a world affected by climate change?

VOA ARTICLE: "MELTING ARCTIC SEA ICE SHOWS GLOBAL WARMING"
<http://bit.ly/2hhTs0n>

IMAGE COURTESY ANSGAR WALK
https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Eisbär_1996-07-23.jpg

