

## When You Think About Climate Change, What Do You Think About and How Do You Feel?

*Phoenix Community Garden*

Speaker 1:

How do I feel about global warming? What's there to feel? We knew it was happening. It was brushed under the table. And even today, politicians, they don't think it's really something that exists and it does. And you can see it in the weather, the way the weather changes like this past summer, how many days consecutive heat or when it rains or snows in places it never did before. It's a very emotional thing so you just can't say how I feel. I feel terrible about it and just hope that I won't be here to see it.

Speaker 2:

It makes me sad because that's going to happen to my grandson? He's only five years old and I protect him whenever I can. Not no more, not the way things are going.

Speaker 3:

When I think about it, I see the destruction. It's very upsetting to me. Very, very upsetting.

Speaker 4:

I feel, I guess, just deep panic.

Speaker 5:

I mean, when I think about global warming, I get really scared because this is our only earth. And then we're in 90 degrees weather right now, whereas Monday, it was 60 degrees. I don't know. That's really scary. I try not to think about it because I get nervous.

Speaker 6:

It's a little nervewracking because I have a five-year-old and I want him to have space to enjoy. And even when he gets older and if he decides to have a family, I want generations to come to have the space so there's always this constant anxiety around what will 10 years look like from now or 20 years look like from now?

Speaker 25:

How do I feel? I'm concerned. I think there definitely needs to be more changes. I feel like the changes that are as a whole, as a country, as a planet, as a race, the human race, I feel pretty confident in that we can make the right decisions as a whole.

Interviewer:

You do?

Speaker 25:

I feel, yeah. I don't know if that's just part of my upbringing and everything else.

Speaker 9:

This glue is not working in this glue said this one is working.

Speaker 25:

Here we go. Try it again.

Speaker 10:

I feel sad that the climate is warming up.

Speaker 11:

I feel annoyed.

Speaker 12:

I think I always felt pretty anxious about it. I'm a young millennial and I grew up in California, so conversations about climate change were happening already when I was growing up. And at that time, at least the message that I got from the adults around me was, "This is your generation's problem," so it always has felt like a big pressure, like something that we've inherited.

Interviewer:

And how do you feel?

Speaker 13:

Well, I guess I don't feel happy made by the fact that it means the weather is getting hotter and there are other animals dying.

Speaker 14:

It's so scary to know that this, what we see right now, what we're living right now can really come to an end just because of the fact that not enough education is given to the people to know how to take better care of their home because this is where we live. This is our home.

Interviewer:

So what do you think about when you think about climate change?

Speaker 15:

Well, I don't really like it because it's getting hotter and hotter and some days it's super hot that even when I wear t-shirts and shorts, I'm still burning.

Speaker 16:

I immediately feel really sad. And I think about what is life going to be like for my two-year-olds later?

Speaker 17:

I'm not a climate change skeptic, but some days I am only because I'm like, "I don't need another crisis."

Speaker 23:

A lot of people are angry and frustrated that we feel we are doing what we can, but the people who have the power to do more are sitting on their hands.

Speaker 19:

It make me feel uncomfortable and I really want to do something to help, but I don't know what to do too much.

Speaker 26:

But I definitely feel hopeless sometimes because I'm one person trying to make all this change. Is anybody out there listening? Is anybody with me? And then at the same time, in the same breath, there's a sense of optimism because then I meet people like you and come to the places this on the farm and then join the fight and see that there are other people actually building the community around this and that there are the people that care and feel like me, so a lot of emotions around it, to be honest.

Speaker 21:

When you tell me about climate change, I think about the oil companies, how they are disturbing the whole planet.

Speaker 22:

Something like that really stuck to me because it was worrying, knowing that all these countries are going to want to take pieces of Africa. And what's going to happen to the people there? They'll probably just make them work in the farmlands and they just pay them a few cents an hour. That's what I imagined what would happen.

Speaker 23:

Anytime there's great change, there's some type of trauma that comes with it. Humans can't destroy the earth. The earth is not going to let us destroy her. She will wipe us away and will continue to exist before that happens.

Speaker 24:

I don't feel scared because a lot of people are scared about it. I feel like, "Okay, this just proposes a challenge." We just have to do things differently.

Interviewer:

So it sounds like what you think about is a lot of loss.

Speaker 25:

A lot of loss like animal loss, trees, fruit loss, time loss.

Interviewer:

And how do you feel?

Speaker 25:

Feel? Right now, I feel like there's nothing I can do to stop it because I'm just one person. One person is just not going to change the whole world.

Interviewer:

What does that make you feel like?

Speaker 25:

Powerless.

Speaker 26:

And that's what I think about when I think about climate. I think about me. I think about my people because they're the ones that are going to be affected by the most. And if we don't do something about it, then we're just going to get left here and everyone's going to go to the moon or Mars, wherever they want to go. They're just going to leave us here.