

Mom with Two Kids, Thomas Greene Park, Gowanus, Brooklyn  
June 26, 2021

Rachel (00:03):

So here's my, I'm going to ask you guys three questions.

Mom (00:06):

Do you want to sit down?

Kid 1 (00:06):

Okay.

Rachel (00:07):

The first is, and so this is a project about climate change and the emotional experience of climate change, so what does it feel to be living in climate change? So when you think about climate change, what do you think about, and how do you feel?

Kid 1 (00:30):

Well I think about it, I wish I could reset the earth to before climate change, because then it would snow a lot more and it wouldn't be as hot and then maybe some of the ocean's coral would maybe go back I don't know.

Rachel (00:59):

And so how do you feel?

Kid 1 (01:01):

I feel annoyed.

Rachel (01:02):

You feel annoyed? Are there other feelings that you have?

Kid 2 (01:08):

Not really.

Rachel (01:08):

No?

Kid 2 (01:08):

No.

Rachel (01:08):

Annoyed?

Kid 1 (01:09):

Yeah.

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Kid 2 (01:10):

I feel hot.

Rachel (01:11):

You feel hot? So what do you think about when you think about climate change?

Kid 2 (01:15):

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.

Rachel (01:34):

Oh, wow that does feel hot do you feel it's gotten hotter over the course of your lifetime or how do you two know that it used to snow more and that it snows less now, what gives you that information?

Kid 1 (01:51):

History class.

Rachel (01:52):

History Class, what are you learning on history class?

Kid 1 (01:58):

I'm learning about the wars mostly just going along in history, I think I learned about the civil war.

Rachel (02:05):

And so what in history class are they teaching you about? And yeah, you can hold it just from there perfect and so what are you learning when they teach you about climate crisis? What are you learning about?

Kid 1 (02:15):

Well, I'm learning about how that human's kind of poisoning the environment by doing mass animal breeding's and I'm getting too many factory and stuff.

Rachel (02:31):

And what about you? How do you know that it used to be snowier and that it's warmer Now?

Kid 2 (02:35):

Well one when we were doing a native American topic, we did one where they looked at the sun so we talked will about how the greenhouse effect.

Kid 1 (02:49):

Yeah.

Kid 2 (02:49):

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Because, they looked at the sun.

Rachel (02:53):

Nice, you guys know a lot about climate change?

Kid 2 (02:55):

Nope.

Rachel (02:57):

No.

Kid 2 (02:58):

Nope.

Rachel (02:59):

You know, More than I did when I was a kid.

Kid 1 (03:01):

That's because well.

Mom (03:04):

Maybe, You know not enough yet because we're still learning and it's important to learn more about it.

Kid 1 (03:09):

Exactly.

Rachel (03:11):

So what do you guys feel hopeful for the future?

Kid 1 (03:15):

Maybe, I think maybe the scientists can invent something to help reverse the process of climate change or just stop it where it is.

Rachel (03:25):

How about you?

Kid 2 (03:26):

Maybe we, or maybe we could get more stuff to be, get to be made in white also to get more electric cars.

Rachel (03:40):

Would you like to answer some of these Questions?

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Mom (03:40):

Yeah, I'll answer That question.

Rachel (03:42):

So when you think about climate change, what do you think about and how do you feel?

Mom (03:46):

So, I mean I definitely feel I've noticed change over even the past 15 or so years I remember snow in New York and blizzards, closing down schools at a more frequent basis, and now I mean if we get a dusting of snow I feel that's changing and I appreciate that climate may be a bit slickycal, but there's to me at least no, it it's an undeniable facts right? Where you see the data and how much change that's being affected in correlation with all of our practices, factory farming and consumerism and things like that so I definitely feel overwhelmed,

Rachel (04:38):

Overwhelmed.

Mom (04:40):

Many times and then I think to the last question that you had asked the kids, what am I hopeful for? I'm excited by how much they are trying to teach the kids because yeah nor I think that the scientists are working on it but because kids like you are learning about it, a lot of kids are trying to either do something that they can tangibly do every day, like take up trash or whatnot but they're also inventing stuff that's really cool Like 14 year olds are inventing things to pick up trash in the water so I'm powered by solar and so that's what I'm really hopeful about that enough people are being educated and that there are just enough smart people around to make maybe incremental changes until sort of corporations and policies catch up.

Rachel (05:35):

Cool, thank you so much is there any other things that you'd like to say for the archive for the future? Is there anything you'd like to tell people of the future about this moment In time?

Kid 1 (05:47):

No, not really.

Rachel (05:50):

And how About you?

Kid 2 (05:51):

I don't really know.

Rachel (05:54):

Yeah.

Mom (05:54):

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I think a lot of people don't know yet about how this is all going to shake up.

Rachel (05:58):

Yeah, Thank you so much, guys I really appreciate.