



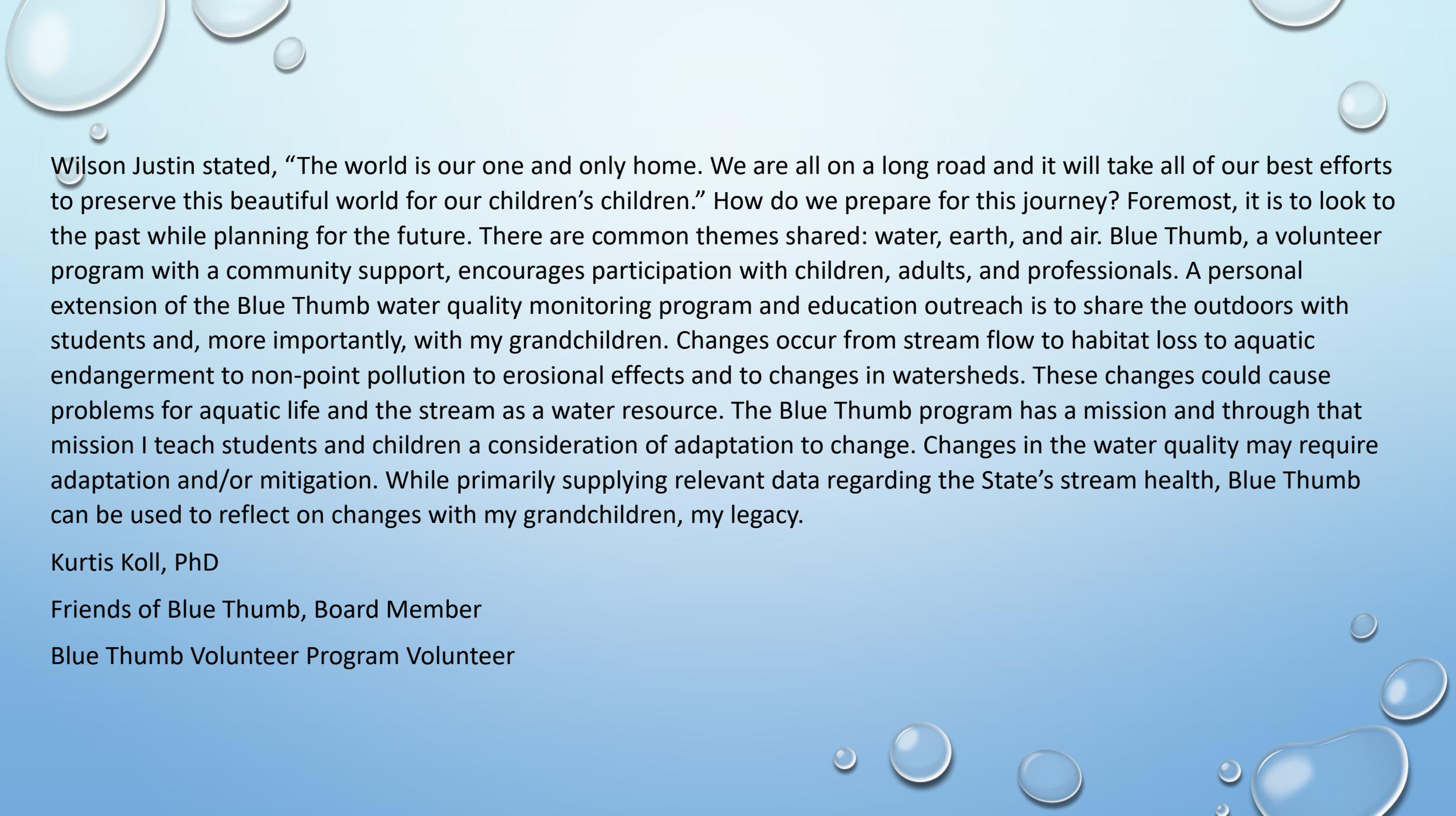
BLUE THUMB: WHAT'S  
IN THE DASH

1992 - 2019

DA - SH

LEAVING A LEGACY





Wilson Justin stated, “The world is our one and only home. We are all on a long road and it will take all of our best efforts to preserve this beautiful world for our children’s children.” How do we prepare for this journey? Foremost, it is to look to the past while planning for the future. There are common themes shared: water, earth, and air. Blue Thumb, a volunteer program with a community support, encourages participation with children, adults, and professionals. A personal extension of the Blue Thumb water quality monitoring program and education outreach is to share the outdoors with students and, more importantly, with my grandchildren. Changes occur from stream flow to habitat loss to aquatic endangerment to non-point pollution to erosional effects and to changes in watersheds. These changes could cause problems for aquatic life and the stream as a water resource. The Blue Thumb program has a mission and through that mission I teach students and children a consideration of adaptation to change. Changes in the water quality may require adaptation and/or mitigation. While primarily supplying relevant data regarding the State’s stream health, Blue Thumb can be used to reflect on changes with my grandchildren, my legacy.

Kurtis Koll, PhD

Friends of Blue Thumb, Board Member

Blue Thumb Volunteer Program Volunteer



We are all on a long road and it  
will take all of our best efforts to  
preserve ..... Wilson Justin

# EXPECT CHANGE



# WHICH WAY ARE WE GOING?



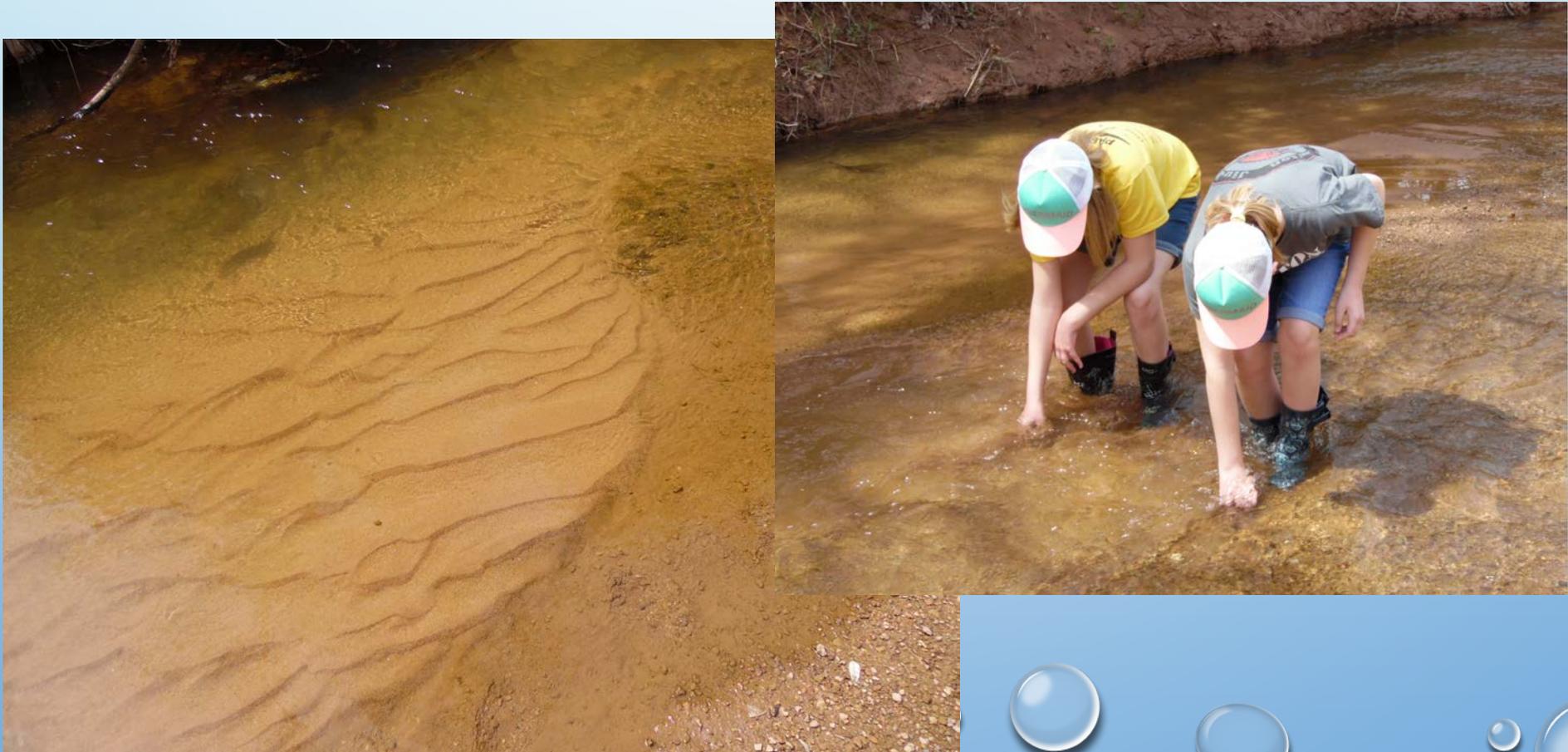
Senator Amy Klobuchar, D – Minn, referred to an Ojibwa saying, “not for now but 7 generations from now.”

It is our moral duty to do the right thing...Senator Klobuchar (speaking about climate change – March 27, 2019 12:30 pm ET)

**IT DID NOT LOOK LIKE THIS ONE WEEK AGO!**



AS LONG AS THE GRASS GROWS AND THE RIVER  
FLOWS .....



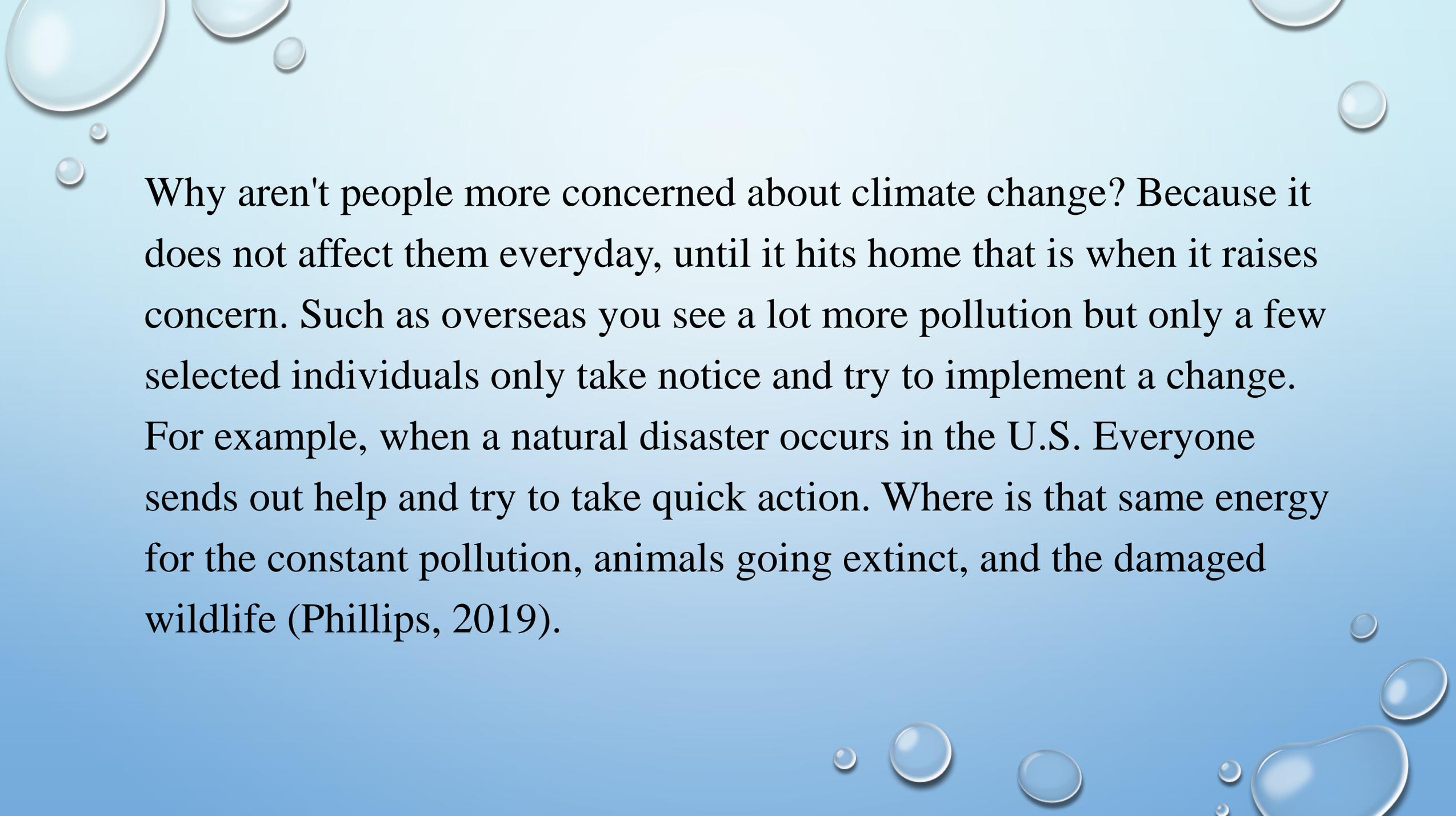
People aren't more concerned about climate change, because for years people have been saying what we are not going to be able to do because we are damaging climate. They have constantly been speaking on how we are destroying the ozone and the effects it is having on the world. The climate has changed dramatically since I was a little boy, and we have learned to just deal with it and move on. No one like changes, and as people we refuse to change from our way of life, whether good or bad. We rather deal with the complications later on when it gets here. We are so focused on right now. (Dodd, 2019)



The main reason why people are not worried about climate change is because they do not have any experience that personally connects them to climate change. Many people already have the knowledge having to do with climate change such as what it is, what causes it and measures to take to control. The climate change. however, even though there is the existence of having all this information, people still don't care enough to be personally involved in any measures being done/tried to control the climate change since they feel no connection at all. They would rather those concerned to deal with it (Erb, 2019).

No one cares about climate change, and that may be an exaggeration, but most people simply do not care about climate change. It does affect everyone in the long run, but that is the whole point, it is something that we as humans won't really notice until it is too late. That and no one cares if it does not affect them now. People are all about the here and now. If there is not some GIANT impact that will affect the people of today then no one will very much notice nor care.

People will care about themselves, friends, and family. Human beings will not care about the end of the world unless it affects those they love and care about. People can be scared by the news and documentaries about climate change and what it is doing, but no one will care because they have no need to, because it will not affect them right then and there. The same thing could be said about cigarette commercials. People that smoke will not experience immediate cancer or gum diseases, so they do not take these impending issues to heart most of the time (Christensen, M., 2019).

The background is a light blue gradient with several realistic water droplets of various sizes scattered across it. The droplets have highlights and shadows, giving them a three-dimensional appearance. The text is centered in the middle of the page.

Why aren't people more concerned about climate change? Because it does not affect them everyday, until it hits home that is when it raises concern. Such as overseas you see a lot more pollution but only a few selected individuals only take notice and try to implement a change. For example, when a natural disaster occurs in the U.S. Everyone sends out help and try to take quick action. Where is that same energy for the constant pollution, animals going extinct, and the damaged wildlife (Phillips, 2019).

Today people can identify ways they can help relieve worldwide climate change, however they don't see it as a close term need. I believe the main reason is because many believe it is not humans that are not the cause of climate change, but Mother Earth itself (Salasar, 2019).

“However, climate skeptics continue to state that there is no scientific consensus that climate change is occurring, or that human activity is contributing to it, often citing a petition signed by over 31,000 American scientists urging that global warming does not exist. The argument is then made by the other side that many of these scientists are not climate experts or that climate change is not their field of study.” (Tuthill,2013).

Tuthill, S. (2013, May 19). Tilting at Windmills: Arguments for and Against Climate Change. Retrieved March 14, 2019, from <https://www.accuweather.com/en/weather-news/an-interpretation-of-data-argu/12036797>

Why are more people not concerned about climate change? I believe several factors contribute to the laissez-faire attitude of people in general about climate change.

I believe a partial contributing factor is there is no longer any respect for the environment. We pollute our environment with waste and litter our oceans and land. By no longer caring about the earth, we do not care about climate changes either. Furthermore, the air we breathe, the gas we put in our cars or heat our homes have always been at our disposal. We have forgotten these resources have to come from somewhere; causing further pollution and environmental changes.

I also believe another factor to not caring about climate change is, we, as a society, have become significant consumers; where goods are replaceable without concern for where the materials necessary for replacement is coming from. This attitude, seems to me, to breed the “who cares” attitude. If an item is “needed,” one can order from the internet or go to a brick and mortar store to purchase.

With this type of uncaring stance, it is truly no wonder the environment and climate are seeing the changes they are (Hammond, 2019).

Research (2008) shows that most Americans do not feel a personal connection to climate change. Even though many individuals are aware of climate change and may rank it as a concern, they do not perceive it as a priority; like they might health reform. Social science suggests that for climate change information to be understood (absorbed) by people, it must be communicated using appropriate language and analogies (good storytelling and images balanced with scientific information). Climate scientists must effectively communicate the climate change issue. It is also important to use terms that do not convey a negative image (Koll, 2019).

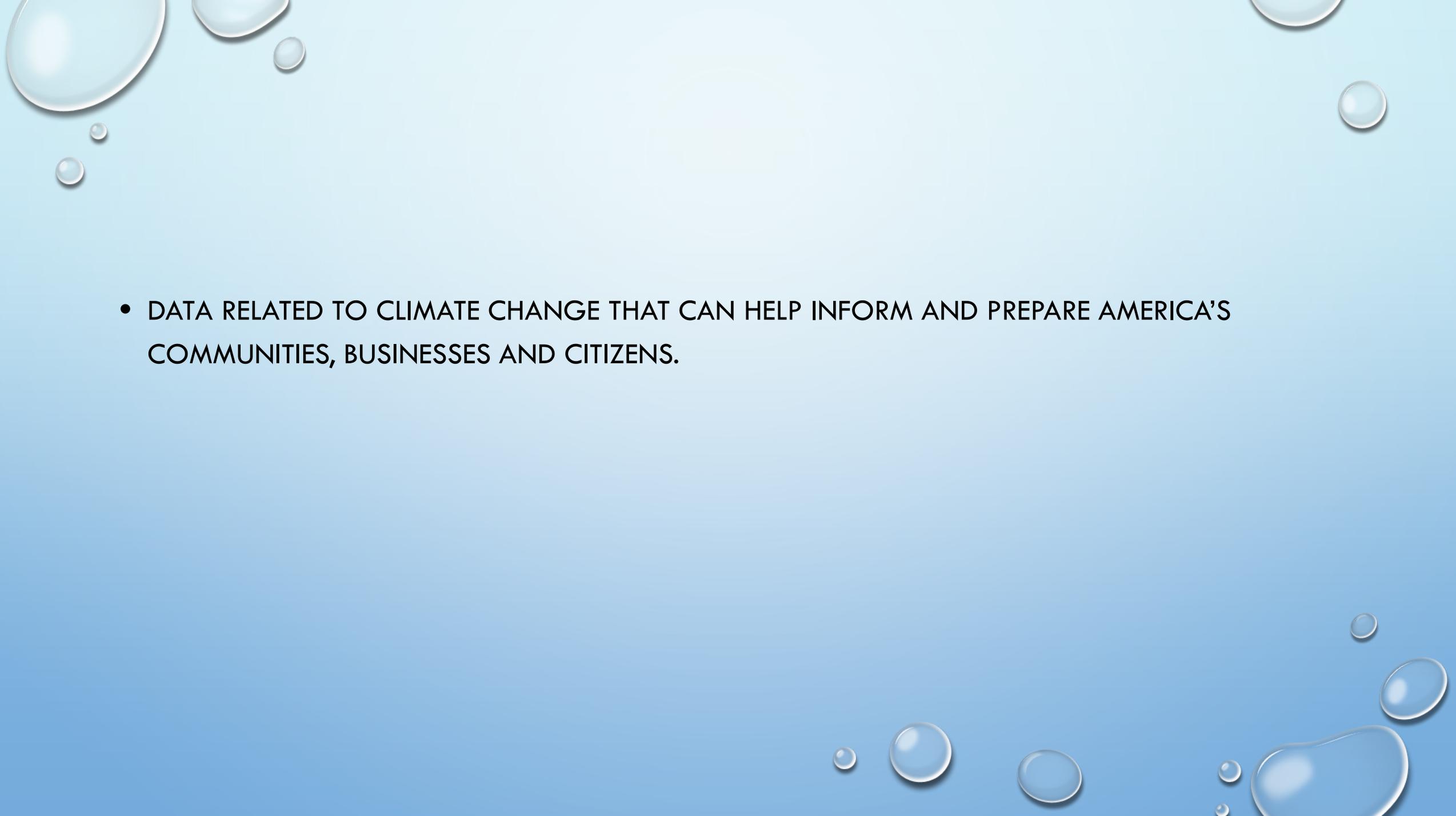
We are so focused on right now. (Dodd, 2019)

The main reason why people are not worried about climate change is because they do not have any experience that personally connects them to climate change (Erb, 2019).







- 
- DATA RELATED TO CLIMATE CHANGE THAT CAN HELP INFORM AND PREPARE AMERICA'S COMMUNITIES, BUSINESSES AND CITIZENS.



