

Peter Raven

No doubt that human activities are warming the earth...

...without atmosphere, average temperature would be -5 rather than 60

Population

5.3 B use 40% of world's resources...

...estimates place stable world population at 10-15 B
consume all of earth's resources!

...1.2 B (20%) live below subsistence level

...500 M (10%) live below minimum caloric intake level

...e.g., are starving

Biodiversity

Disappearance of 25% of earth's species during our lives

Challenge

Focus

Criticizes self-indulgent nature of much of environmental movement...

...Focusing on toxic waste dumps, ALAR, etc....are trivial in the face of the fact that 25% of the world's population lives in poverty...and 10% are slowly starving to death!

Any UM student who graduates without understanding of global challenges

is uneducated for 21st century...unless they are going to sell junk bonds on another planet...

United States has most to lose...and to gain...from addressing global change.

"United States has both a moral responsibility and a great opportunity to protect the planet--and respond to the gravest challenge the human race has ever faced."