



# FUTURE GENERATIONS MATTER

## THE CLIMATE CRISIS IS DESTROYING THE FUTURE OF CHILDREN ACROSS THE PLANET. WE MUST ACT FOR THEM.

Are you a parent or care about protecting children? Then you are probably worried about the climate crisis. What the scientists warned us about decades ago is coming to pass and will worsen unless we do something. And the truth is nowhere near enough is being done to protect the lives, hopes and dreams of our future generations. We are committing an intergenerational crime because we refuse to change, refuse to sacrifice for the greater good.

### The warning signs are here

The raging forest fires around the world, the increasingly frequent heatwaves and declining crop yields, the bigger and fiercer storms and hurricanes, melting glaciers and poles, the rising seas, the accelerating extinction of millions of species, pervasive microfiber plastic pollution, the acidification of the ocean and the die off of coral reefs that are a food source for billions, these are telling us humanity is rapidly going in the wrong direction. A direction that will degrade and threaten the lives of future generations. Politicians speak a good game, but the numbers don't lie. Carbon emissions are increasing, ecosystems continue to be pillaged, while unaccountable corporations profit. It doesn't have to be this way.

### Facing reality

We have to face it, business as usual means our future children will suffer needlessly because we refused to do the right thing. Because it was too inconvenient, too risky, too hard, too costly. This simply means we will pass on the inconvenience, the risk, the hardship and costs to our future children. This is one of the greatest moral issues of our time. We must face it and force change.

### Act now

If you find this unacceptable and morally outrageous, then it's time to act. This is a planetary emergency. We need radical change now, even if the costs are high. Business cannot continue as usual. So what can we do? Here is a list of 10 things that can make a difference. These are just a few ideas - there's so much more.

1. First of all, allow yourself to **acknowledge the gravity** of the climate crisis and what it means. It's okay to feel anxious, to feel grief and anger. These emotions are a sign of basic sanity. They mean you are not checked out or in denial.

2. **Find like-minded people** to talk to and take action with. Join a group like Friday's for Future, Parents for Future, Extinction Rebellion and so on and get involved and donate if you can. <https://parentsforfuture.org/>  
<https://fridaysforfuture.org/>

3. **Protest and engage in civil disobedience.** The stakes are high. The civil rights movement ended segregation largely because ordinary people were willing to put themselves on the line and risk arrest. We must do the same. It's time for courage.

4. **Stop or drastically reduce personal vehicle use.** For your daily mobility, choose low-carbon transport, such as bicycles, public transport, e-bikes or walking.

5. Reduce or **quit air travel.** And if you must fly, at least offset the carbon emissions of your flights: <https://co2.myclimate.org/>

6. **Stop or reduce your consumption of meat and dairy.** Try to eat more plant-based food. The UN recommends this: <https://bit.ly/3cDwO0H>

7. Contact your local politicians and **demand** they divest public funds from fossil fuel companies and end fossil fuel subsidies. Politicians are being lobbied by powerful industry groups trying to prevent change. Make your own voice heard.

8. **Choose electricity companies using 100% renewable energy** and banks that have divested from the fossil fuel industry.

9. **Consume less.** This is one that big business doesn't want you to follow. If we are to tackle our ecological crises we have to get used to consuming less and not getting whatever we want, whenever we want.

10. **Buy second hand and repair.** Rather than buying new, try to buy second hand first. And repair, repurpose, recycle and reuse whatever you can. We need to transition to a circular economy: <https://youtu.be/zCRKvDyyHml>

**Download this leaflet** (<https://bit.ly/3bJYpNA>) and share it along with **#futurelivesmatter** on your social media accounts. Future generations will one day inherit the earth and will either be grateful for our action or hold us in contempt. It's up to us which it will be. Let's act out of love for them.