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My Speech

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1XWVmspofptg1GV4DvRoedY-BUaOIHntJ/view?usp=sharing>

My Speech Transcript

We know that we live in a warming world. We know that the climate crisis is an issue happening right now, and we know that it is a global issue. Every single person on the planet will be impacted by climate change. But not everyone will be impacted evenly. In the United States, 9 million people live by hazardous waste sites. More than half of these people are people of color. According to the World Health Organization, as of the year 2030, climate change is expected to contribute to approximately 250,000 additional deaths per year, from malnutrition, malaria, and heat stress. People living in poverty are much more likely to experience these impacts. Women and girls are also disproportionately impacted by climate change. This is because of perpetuated gender inequality, lack of access to resources, and gender -biased poverty. In America, 70% of people in poverty are women. We cannot talk about solutions to the climate crisis without talking about climate justice. Climate justice is a way to evaluate solutions with everyone in mind. Without recognizing the disproportionate impacts warming and pollution has on the worlds many diverse citizens, we cannot evoke justice. We must also remember who makes the big decisions. Corporations are destroying our planet with corporate greed for more money, more resources, more power. Then there's burning. The burning of fossil fuels used to power our growing need for modern day comforts and technology. The burning greed within the 1% that holds 40% of my country's wealth, and of course, the literal burning of our forests due to drastic climate changes. But we need to start a fire within the souls of every person on this planet. We need to start burning with questions, and burning with answers on how to solve these problems. We can not be complacent. We must demand change, and come up with innovative solutions that address climate change and climate injustices on a systematic level. We must recognize the change making roles and capabilities of world citizens, and the power that we have to come together and make change. Personal actions hold importance, but the most progress will come from standing together and coming up with unique solutions. Without diverse opinions, burning questions, and passion for creating a bright future for every

person on this planet, we will not succeed. It cannot be left to those bearing the worst effects of climate change to solve these problems. Stand behind those who need it, empower yourself and others to speak out against climate injustices, tell your legislators what you want your world to look like, and don't forget to vote. Everyone must do their part.