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## Climate Change

The world is getting warmer and the beaches are disappearing. Living two blocks from the beach makes me aware of the climate change because if nothing is done our entire city may be under water soon. Global warming and climate change directly affect sea level rising. The earth's climate is based on a flow of energy from the sun, which passes through the earth's atmosphere and heats the surface. When the temperature rises, the earth transmits heat waves or infrared radiation into air and space. Global warming melts mountain glaciers, icebergs, ice sheets and any frozen material into water that puts thousands of coastal cities, such as Miami, and islands of the Caribbean, in danger of being swallowed by the oceans. Sea levels rise due to carbon dioxide trapping heat on the earth; all the oceans get warmer and expand in volume. As sea water reaches farther inland, it can cause erosion, contamination of other bodies of water, and lost habitats for fish, birds and some plants.

Even though climate change seems inevitable, there are some methods to avoid it, or at least postpone the results. One course of action is to reduce our uses of fossil fuel in order to reduce carbon dioxide levels. Another idea is to protect native forests as "carbon store houses", and help plant trees that stop global warming by reducing greenhouse gases.

One could ask; what if these plans don't work? What if the ways to stop climate change fail? Will we be living in water? The answer to the last question is yes! Some scientists have come up with a way to build a house underwater that can function almost like a normal house above ground! They are called H2OMEs, a home that is usable for someone to live in underwater. Additionally, we can move to a city that is not in proximity to the coast or any body of water, for the matter. We can, and must, organize conservation groups to protect our beaches and forests. We must also make sure that the government is actively pursuing solutions, such as restricting pollutants, employing greener energy sources, and educating the public. Because billions of dollars worth of infrastructure and buildings are being threatened, big business could be enlisted to help do research.

Rising sea level and climate change are major problems that Miami Beach and many other cities in Southern Florida have to face. Scientists who have studied this have predicted that in fifty to one hundred years the South Florida area will be underwater. It was found that with just a few meters of sea level rise, thousands of acres along Florida's Atlantic coast, the Florida Keys and the Florida Gulf Coast would be engulfed in the treacherous waters of the sea. Significant flooding and environmental change in the Everglades would occur. Hopefully, however, we will find a way to prevent the destruction of our environment and bring back a better world for future generations.