



Written by [Dran Reese](#) on October 7, 2025

Climate Fear Is Hurting Our Children and Strangling Our Businesses

Imagine being a child today, told repeatedly that the world may not survive long enough for you to grow up. From classrooms to TikTok, young people are bombarded with the message that their future is bleak because the planet is on the verge of collapse. This is the environment many of our children are growing up in — a climate of fear.

A Generation in Panic

Children are told that their homes will flood, their crops will dry up, and their air will become unbreathable unless they take urgent action. The emotional toll is enormous. In a [global survey](#) of 10,000 young people aged 16-25, 59 percent said they were very or extremely worried about climate change, and 84 percent were at least moderately worried. More than 45 percent said these feelings negatively affected their daily life and functioning. [Another U.S. survey](#) found 85 percent of youths were at least moderately worried, and nearly 58 percent reported being very or extremely worried.



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Instead of encouraging stewardship, this constant drumbeat of fear manipulates children. It pressures them toward activism, not out of hope but out of dread. They are told that unless they take to the streets, their very future will vanish. Such despair is not education — it is indoctrination.

Fear as a Political Weapon

Fear is a powerful motivator, and unfortunately, it has become a tool of politics. When children are convinced that only government policies can save the planet, they become easy supporters of regulations, restrictions, and taxes that promise salvation but deliver very little. The “crisis narrative” becomes a convenient excuse to expand government reach, redistribute wealth, and impose burdensome rules on families and businesses.

Crushing Innovation and Business

The tragedy is that fear-driven regulations often crush the very innovation that could solve environmental challenges in practical ways. Small businesses, in particular, cannot afford the lawyers and compliance officers needed to keep up with shifting requirements. Many are forced to close their doors, not because they are harming the environment, but because the cost of paperwork and penalties



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is simply too great.

Large corporations may survive, but they pass the costs down to consumers. Families pay higher prices, and workers lose opportunities, all in the name of saving the planet. Meanwhile, the actual environment sees little measurable benefit.

Stewardship Versus Control

There is an important difference between true stewardship and political control. Stewardship means caring for the environment with practical, common-sense actions: keeping waterways clean, disposing of waste responsibly, and finding innovative ways to reduce toxins. Most people already support this.

But control means using fear to demand compliance, regardless of whether the rules make sense or not. Control punishes businesses for existing, frightens children into submission, and makes citizens feel helpless in the face of overwhelming global “crises” they cannot possibly solve.

Hope Versus Fear

The irony is that the Earth is still here, still beautiful, and still able to sustain us. Yes, we must care for it. But children should not be robbed of hope for tomorrow. They should be free to dream without believing their very lives are destroying the planet.

Instead of fear, let’s give them perspective:

- Yes, we will have clean air and water. Science and innovation continue to make strides.
- Yes, we will eat fresh fish and grow crops. Agriculture adapts, just as it always has.
- Yes, we will walk city streets and travel the world. Civilization is not ending — it is adapting.

It is time to stop torturing our children with scare tactics. Fear should never be the primary tool for motivating the next generation. Nor should businesses be shackled with regulations so heavy they can barely function. Instead, let us teach balance: gratitude for creation, common-sense stewardship, and freedom to innovate.

The world is not ending. Tomorrow is worth looking forward to. And our children deserve to grow up with confidence, not fear.



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