

Conversation

Climate action: why don't people who care about the climate crisis follow through with their actions?

Absolutely
too terrifying

Can't go off
emotions all
the time

Emotions affect what
you want to
do

← mental
people
affect your
emotions

Why don't people who care about the climate crisis follow through with their actions?

Pessimistic about effects
Hard to have confidence in
something different or new
Knowledge - carbon analysis
Expense + legality

Pessimism, despair
exhausting going against society
Cognitive dissonance
Social pressure - people you know
- takes bravery + energy

Hypocrisy + laziness

Habits
Life rolls you along

Habits

Sense of what's normal necessary
or obvious

Beliefs can
be hidden
in tangible

People
don't
know
how bad
actions
are

Do we make
a decision or
choice - can be
easy to think
we don't

Limitations
- resources
- class, income
+ carbon footprint

Give an impression
of caring to fit in

possible to have a belief
but not know how to put
it into action

Our first thoughts and responses.

It's hard
Can mean giving up something
you like

Some people believe it's gov.
responsibility.

Some believe little things are all
they can do

Easier in pandemic because
everyone's doing it

Climate change less tangible
not seeing numbers change
in real time.

Long way from believing science to doing something about it.

What would it look like? Hard to be consistent.

Would be interesting to ask people. Imagine asking someone 'please don't fly'

If I tell people I don't fly - people take it a judgement
- a direct personal attack
- ignore it

Find it hard to have empathy sometimes
justifications

Lots of bad guys in the world - not fair to blame individuals, friends & family.

Overestimate how rational we are - decide first then justify.

- we emotions not facts + figures when voting
- climate generates negative feelings - scared worried

- fear → fight, flight, freeze
→ defensive

→ easy answers, group identity

- Sell it differently - image problem
- world we need seems quite nice.

- talk about biodiversity instead

Contradictory beliefs

Can Beliefs } culture
- freedom }
- individual } social organisation
- status }
- convenience }

Notes

The slides and notes we've made will be shared by email and on the website.

Is there anything you'd like removed or altered before we do that?

What do you think or feel at the end of today's conversation?

Interesting conversation

Made me think about how we're all quite complicated. Not black + white. We all have different situations.

Haven't been for a while. Nice to have broad, open conversations.

Sophisticated. Understanding it's complicated for people.

Interesting how people can have completely contradictory beliefs.

Not one or the other. Interested in interrogating sources.

What shall we talk about next time?

Cognitive dissonance
- believing contradictory things

- in us
or
- living in a world
full of contradictory beliefs
- responding to it.

