

Climate change is not a 'hippie thing'

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Body

July 20--We need a presidential debate on the **climate** emergency so candidates can showcase their plans to stop the collapse of civilization as we know it and create millions of good jobs.

As a 12-year-old child, I support a **climate** debate because my parents need to be able to know which candidates plan to treat **climate change** like the crisis it is to save my future and the futures of my friends and siblings.

For much too long, the media and politicians have refused to do this, and the Democratic National Committee's ban on a **climate** debate is simply another example. This election is our final chance to create a survivable future. All around me, Oregon's luscious forests are being torn away. When my family travels to go on a hike or visit a waterfall, trees -- our simplest defense against **climate change** -- are being clear-cut, mile by mile.

Environmentalism is not a hippie movement, or a radical movement, but a survivalist movement, and therefore, to save our futures, I say again that we need a **climate** debate.

Thank you.

Gabriela Hernandez, Eugene

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