

## Jenna Kay

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**From:** Monica Zazueta <zazuetamonica0813@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2025 8:42 PM  
**To:** Jenna Kay; Amy Koski; sylvia@mosaicresolutions.com; Dana Hellman; Ben Duncan; Nicole Metildi; Harrison Husting; tlunford@parametrix.com  
**Subject:** Global heating 101 Rapid-Fire Answers to the Biggest Climate Questions with Stefan Rahmstorf

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Global heating 101  
Rapid-Fire Answers to the Biggest Climate Questions with Stefan Rahmstorf

<https://youtu.be/UgF2TwJ5d6w?si=hwFvTSeaUybfRGh8>

Here is a concise summary of the key points from the video:

This conversation with climate scientist Stefan Rahmstorf provides a comprehensive overview of the current state of the climate and the risks we face going forward.

Some key takeaways:

- Atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> levels are now the highest in at least 3 million years, and global temperatures have reached record highs not seen in over 120,000 years. This rapid warming is undoubtedly caused by human-induced climate change.
- Even small increases in global average temperatures, like 1-2°C, can have severe and nonlinear impacts. A 3°C warmer world would bring extreme heat waves, droughts, floods, and ecosystem collapse that would make many regions uninhabitable.
- The oceans have absorbed around 90% of the excess heat trapped by greenhouse gas emissions, acting as a buffer. But this buffering capacity has limits, and ocean deoxygenation and acidification are growing threats.
- Reaching net-zero emissions by 2050 is crucial, but even then the climate will continue to change for centuries due to the inertia in the climate system. Urgent global cooperation and action is needed to avoid the most catastrophic outcomes.

The overall message is that the scientific evidence is clear - we are in a critical period where the decisions made this decade will determine the climate our descendants inherit for thousands of years. Raising awareness and enacting effective climate policies are vital to securing a livable future.