

To the Senate Inquiry.

I'm a 32 year old living in suburban Perth. I live in an average house, in an average suburb, not surrounded by bush, and not in typical cyclone areas or with any other great risk factor. HOWEVER, every day I think about what impact climate change is already having, and will have on my own life, the lives of my parents, my nieces, their children, and those all over the world whose lives will be negatively impacted by the most serious threat to human existence - created by us.

Every day I wonder what will be done. In my own life, I am trying for the moment to use 50% of the electricity and petrol that I consume - I think if I want others, and our government policy, to reflect this, I must be prepared to do it myself.

This is the single issue that will affect all of us, not to mention all the species of the planet. If my elected representatives cared about one issue, this would be it. I have decided to make 2013 the year I actually speak my mind about this - to friends, relatives, my audience as a musician, reviewer and writer - even if people find it uncomfortable.

Because the fact is, cyclones, rising waters, death of species, food insecurity, temperature increases, wild fires and all the other extreme outcomes of climate change are going to be uncomfortable.

This affects every single one of us. I beg the senate to think of your children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews as you make policy and laws - in relation to extreme weather, but of course, first and foremost to do whatever you can to make Australia a nation that acts immediately to try and mitigate us causing these extreme conditions. I want my representatives to make decisions based on the future of the globe, and for you to be leaders for your constituents and the rest of the world.

Sincerely, and with hope,

Amber Flynn