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Before the Flood



Nature before and after human action.

Before the Flood is a documentary with Leonardo DiCaprio, published on 21 October 2016 in the United States. Its director was Fisher Stevens; the producer was Appian way Productions; with the collaboration of Fisher Stevens, Leonardo DiCaprio, Trevor Davidoski, Jennifer Davisson, etc.

The documentary *Before the Flood* presents a riveting account of the dramatic changes occurring around the world due to negative human action. The film covers effects of climate change in various regions of the world and discusses possible solutions. Throughout the film, DiCaprio travels to various countries and speaks with scientists, activists, and world leaders to understand how human actions such as deforestation, the burning of fossil fuels, and excessive consumption are accelerating global warming. The documentary also criticizes the role of major corporations and governments that contribute to denying or ignoring the seriousness of the issue. In addition to presenting the visible environmental impacts, *Before the Flood* also proposes solutions, such as adopting renewable energy sources, changing consumption habits, and strengthening public environmental policies.

We see that vast scale of humanity's footprint across the globe, from Beijing to the blackened moonscape of the tar sands in Canada; the toll of rising seas from Miami to the Pacific Islands; the melting of the Greenland Ice sheet; and the destructions of greed rainforest for cattle ranching in the amazon and palm oil plantations in Indonesia.



This image shows the ice melting

Among the locations visited are Greenland, where accelerated ice melting is taking place; Kiribati, a Pacific island threatened by rising sea levels; and Sumatra, in Indonesia, where vast areas of tropical forest are being destroyed to make way for palm oil plantations. DiCaprio also visits Beijing, China, exploring the issue of air pollution and the country's investment in clean energy. In the United States, he travels to Miami, which is affected by sea-level rise; North Dakota, where fossil fuels are extracted; and Washington D.C., where he exposes the influence of lobbying on environmental policy.



Air pollution from industries.

The documentary presents alarming scientific facts, such as the rise in global average temperature, the accelerated melting of polar ice, sea-level rise, the destruction of rainforests, and the impact of livestock farming on greenhouse gas emissions. It also highlights the deliberate spread of misinformation by large corporations and political sectors with economic interests in fossil fuels. Despite the concerning outlook, *Before the Flood* also presents viable solutions. These include transitioning to renewable energy sources like solar and wind power; reducing meat consumption, especially beef, to decrease deforestation and methane emissions; implementing carbon taxes to economically penalize pollution; and protecting tropical forests.

The most powerful moment of the documentary for me was when they talked about deforestation in order to plant palm oil, I was surprised because I had no idea that this happened.

The documentary changed my life, because I began to see climate change in different ways and saw things that I did not imagine were like this. I already knew it was serious, but I didn't realize how much it's already affecting communities and ecosystems around the world. It also made me reflect on the impact of my daily choices and the importance of demanding change.

After watching the documentary *Before the Flood*, it becomes clear that climate change is a real and urgent threat. One of the first suggested changes is to reduce meat consumption, especially beef; another important step is to use energy more consciously; the transport sector is also a major polluter, thus whenever possible, we should choose more sustainable ways to get around, such as walking, cycling, using

public transportation, or carpooling; it is essential to consume more responsibly, many products contain ingredients linked to environmental destruction, such as palm oil from unsustainable plantations; another key action is to reduce, reuse, and recycle. By minimizing the use of disposable plastics, reusing materials, and properly sorting waste, we contribute to a more circular and less polluting economy; etc.

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