

A Speech by Greta Thunberg

Today I stand here at the United Nations in New York, and say to all the countries here: You have stolen my dreams and my childhood with your empty words. And yet I'm one of the lucky ones. People are suffering. People are dying. Ecosystems are dying. We have great climate challenges and all you can talk about is money and fairy tales of economic growth. How dare you!

For more than 30 years, the science has been clear. How dare you continue to look away and come here saying that you're doing enough, when the politics and solutions needed are still nowhere in sight.

You say you hear us and that you understand the urgency. But no matter how sad and angry I am, I do not want to believe that. Because if you really

understood the problem, but didn't do something to fix it, then you would be evil. And that I can't believe that.

World leaders say that air pollution must be cut in half in 10 years. But that only gives us half a chance of survival. Fifty percent may be acceptable to you, but not to young people across the world. So your plan for a 50% risk is simply not acceptable to us. We will have to live with the consequences.

How dare you pretend that climate change can be solved with business as usual and some technical solutions. You are failing us. But the young people are starting to understand your betrayal. The eyes of all future generations are on you. And if you choose to fail us, we will never forgive you.

We will not let you get away with this. Right here, right now is where we draw the line. The world is waking up. And change is coming, whether you like it or not.

Thank you.