

# This Is Your Home

## Suggestions for a Group Leader

Your role as a facilitator is to stimulate discussion and encourage everyone to get involved by asking questions and helping participants to engage the issue of global climate change and their response to it.

### Equipment Needs

- Television with DVD player (or computer with digital projection if downloading the PowerPoint version from [http://www.ihmsisters.org/www/Justice\\_Peace\\_and\\_Sustainability/climatechange.asp](http://www.ihmsisters.org/www/Justice_Peace_and_Sustainability/climatechange.asp))
- Sheets of paper or notebooks and pencils for each participant

### Space Needs

- Viewing area large enough to accommodate all the participants
- Ability to move chairs into a large circle and, depending on the size of the group, smaller discussion circles
- Whether the setting is a home, a classroom or a church meeting room, the discussion will be enhanced if care is taken to make it beautiful.

### Time Needs

- Take advantage of the structure and content of the slide show by planning scheduling three sessions, one for each part of the presentation.
- It takes 16-18 minutes to view each part. Allowing ninety minutes to two hours will reserve enough time for prayer and introductions, showing the DVD (or PowerPoint), facilitating a discussion and closing with a ritual. If only hour-long slots are available, the time is probably best spent showing the DVD and facilitating a discussion.

### Climate Change Skeptics

*This Is Your Home* includes the science of global climate change, including the evolution of an atmosphere that is hospitable to human life, how the greenhouse effect works, damage to the environment, the dangers of feedback loops. Also included are statements by credible scientific organizations.

Because vested interests (like the oil and gas industries) have invested enormous sums of money to cast doubt on the reality of global climate change and the seriousness of the issue, some people are still skeptical about it. As a facilitator it is important to distinguish between a participant's grappling with the issue and a blind denial of the overwhelming testimony of scientists about the dangers of global climate change. The first instance is the reason we created *This Is Your Home* – and probably why you are using the materials with your group. The second instance can derail the sincere quest of the group to examine the issue of global climate change in the context of faith.

### Goals of the Project

The purpose of these materials is to:

1. Educate youth and young adults about global climate change and the risks associated with it;
2. Help participants apply principles of Catholic Social Teaching to the problem of global climate change;
3. Facilitate plans for individuals and groups to take action at the personal, business and political spheres to address global climate change.

