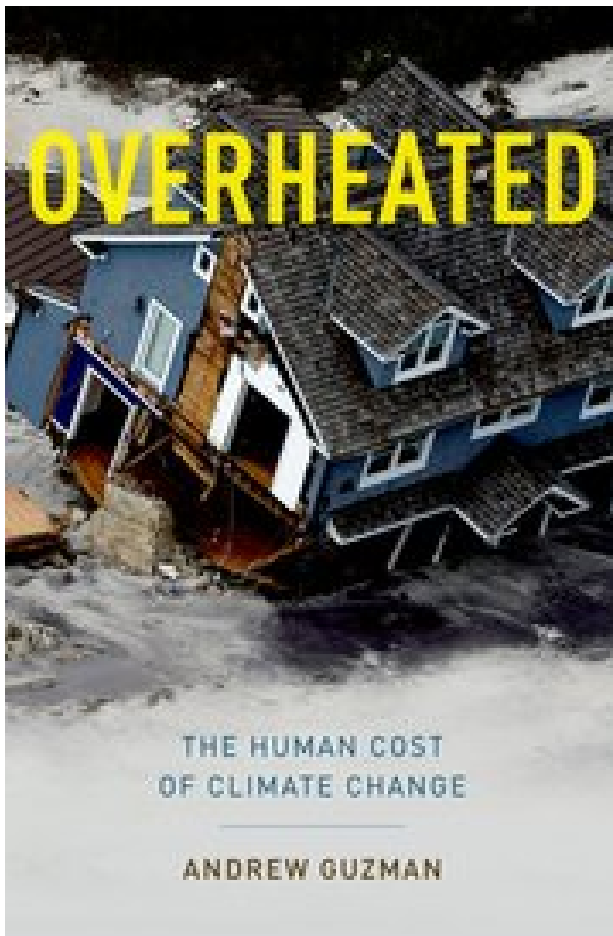


## OMNI Center for Peace Justice & Ecology

No. 10, 29 July 2013

### OVERHEATED, Andrew T. Guzman



Climate Change Book Forum

1:30 -3:00 PM Sunday, 4

August 2013

Leverenz Room, Fayetteville Public Library

Chad Pollock will moderate the discussion of the widely acclaimed book, "Overheated" by Andrew T. Guzman, Professor of Law, Berkeley School of Law.

Deniers of climate change sometimes quip that claims about global warming are more about political science than climate science. They are wrong on the science, but may be right with respect to its political implications. A hotter world, writes Andrew Guzman, will bring unprecedented migrations, famine,

war, and disease. It will be a social and political disaster of the first order. In *Overheated*, Guzman takes climate change out of the realm of scientific abstraction to explore its real-world consequences.

He writes not as a scientist, but as an authority on international law and economics. He takes as his starting point a fairly optimistic outcome in the range predicted by scientists: a 2 degree Celsius increase in average global temperatures. Even this modest rise would lead to catastrophic environmental and social problems. Already we can see how it will work: The ten warmest years since 1880 have all occurred since 1998, and one estimate of the annual global death toll caused by climate change is now

300,000. That number might rise to 500,000 by 2030. He shows in vivid detail how climate change is already playing out in the real world. Rising seas will swamp island nations like Maldives; coastal food-producing regions in Bangladesh will be flooded; and millions will be forced to migrate into cities or possibly "climate-refugee camps."

Even as seas rise, melting glaciers in the Andes and the Himalayas will deprive millions upon millions of people of fresh water, threatening major cities and further straining food production. Prolonged droughts in the Sahel region of Africa have already helped produce mass violence in Darfur. Clear, cogent, and compelling, *Overheated* shifts the discussion on climate change toward its devastating impact on human societies. Two degrees Celsius seems such a minor change. Yet it will change everything.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR -- Andrew T. Guzman, Jackson H. Ralston Professor of Law and Associate Dean, International and Graduate Programs. Tel: 510-642-8074 Fax: 510-642-3856 Email Address: [aguzman@law.berkeley.edu](mailto:aguzman@law.berkeley.edu)

Andrew Guzman is Professor of Law and Director of the Advanced Law degree Programs at Berkeley Law School, University of California, Berkeley. Professor Guzman holds a J.D. and Ph.D. (economics) from Harvard University. He has written extensively on international trade, international regulatory matters, foreign direct investment and public international law, and served as editor on the recently published *Handbook of International Economic Law* (Elgar Publishers) and authored *How International Law Works* (Oxford University Press). Professor Guzman is a member of the Institute for Transnational Arbitration's Academic Council and is on the board of several academic journals. Professor Guzman has taught as a visiting professor at Harvard Law School, the University of Chicago Law School, the University of Virginia Law School, Vanderbilt Law School, the University of Hamburg, and the National University Law School in Bangalore, India.



Professor Guzman's personal website is <http://andrewguzman.net/>. Education: B.Sc., University of Toronto (1990) J.D., Harvard University (1996) Ph.D., Harvard University (1996)

## WHY 350?

Our Newsletter, 350PPM (parts per million concentration of carbon dioxide in the Earth's atmosphere) seeks to educate the public about the impending crisis of global warming and climate change. We must reduce greenhouse gas emissions and return the levels of CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere to no more than 350 parts per million. It is only at these levels or below that the climate and environmental systems of the earth as we know them can be maintained. As a point of reference it was 1988 when the earth's atmosphere contained 350 PPM of CO<sub>2</sub>.