

# The Representation of Skepticism in *Don't Look Up* Film: An Overview of Current Environmental Issue

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## ABSTRACT

This article explores the representation of skepticism in the film "Don't Look Up," highlighting its commentary on contemporary environmental issues. Through a satirical lens, the film portrays the tension between scientific evidence and societal indifference, revealing the complexities of public perception regarding climate change and ecological crises. The purpose of this study is to analyze the signs that represent skepticism in the film. This type of research is descriptive qualitative research using the semiotic theory of Pierce (1906) which consists of representation (sign), object, and interpretation. The researchers found types of representation in the form of 3 types of quali-sign, 15 sin-sign, and 2 legi-sign. The objects in the form 4 types of icons, 13 types of indexes, and a symbol. The interpretation in the form 17 of argument type. The signs that represent skepticism can be found in scenes in the form of dialogue, attributes, movements, and expressions. The film also represented that skepticism has a negative side towards the environment. In addition, this film represents that skepticism can be carried out in all aspects of social circles such as government, media, and society. The film serves as a critical reflection of current attitudes toward environmental challenges, emphasizing the dangers of misinformation and the necessity for collective action. Ultimately, this exploration underscores the film's relevance in stimulating discourse on the urgent need for recognition and response to the climate crisis, encouraging audiences to reconsider their roles in fostering awareness and advocacy in the face of skepticism.

**Keywords:** Don't Look Up, environmental issue, film, skepticism

## INTRODUCTION

Indeed, the environment is an element that cannot be separated from the existence of human beings. Concern for the environment is a type of understanding of the environment planted in society. This understanding manifests itself in the form of good behavior. Humans' activities and viewpoints significantly impact the surrounding environment (Wahab et al., 2017). The desire of humans to develop a socio-economic area by transforming agricultural land into land for residential, corporate, industrial, business centers, tourist centers, and other uses, which could turn this desire into a potential that could damage the ecosystem around it, is one example of how we could find a variety of environmental problems around us as a result of human actions.

How the media covers and communicates environmental information can alter the community's perception of these concerns. The media can create the public agenda by choosing which subjects to cover and how they do so (Nasution et al., 2023). Skepticism has been an



issue in society (Botwinick, 2010; Sinnott-Armstrong, 2006). This kind of distrust feeling is being investigated by scholars, even so a little. Skepticism is an indispensable component of the scientific repertoire (Klein, 2005; Williams, 2017). Undoubtedly, a considerable number of the most eminent skeptics have also been among the most eminent scientists of the globe (Baghrarian & Caprioglio Panizza, 2022). Huang & Darmayanti (2014) tried to investigate skeptical issues happening in society. Environment concerns have plagued a number of nations. A rise in gas emissions, specifically carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), has been identified as a contributing factor to the occurrence of natural catastrophes, including extreme temperature fluctuations and climate change, in a number of nations, including Indonesia. As a result, there has been a recent surge in the prevalence of environmentally friendly advertising campaigns. This study seeks to determine whether environmental concern, conservation behavior, and purchasing behavior characterized by skepticism toward green advertising claims are correlated. A survey was conducted to gather data from a sample of 150 respondents via a paper questionnaire. The researchers reached the conclusion that environmental concern had a positive effect on consumer skepticism regarding green advertising claims. Additionally, the result indicates that there is no statistically significant correlation between the degree of skepticism that consumers have towards green advertising claims and their environmental behavior. Consumer environmental concern exerts the most substantial impact on the degree of skepticism they exhibit towards green advertising claims.

Our study tried to figure out skepticism in a movie. Film is one of the most popular forms of mass communication with the general audience. Films frequently depict social phenomena such as societal trends, social dynamics, cultural customs, etc. Film, in particular, is a potent medium that effectively communicates the principles and convictions of modern cultures. Like other cultural products and mediums, film plays a significant role in creating and conveying meaning (Cloete, 2017). The film has several symbols, signals, and hidden meanings that the viewer can interpret (Danesi, 2004; Wollen, 2019). The relationship between representation and language is intimate, as representation fundamentally involves generating meaning through language. Hall asserted that representation facilitates the transmission of meaning among individuals and societies through visual depictions, symbols, and language (Erkkilä, 2004; Moore, 2014; Subardja & Arviani, 2021)

Schmerheim (2015) and Trifonova (2011) both explore the theme of skepticism in film, with Schmerheim focusing on the portrayal of skepticism in contemporary cinema and Trifonova discussing Stanley Cavell's perspective on the ontology of film. Moritz (2009) delves into the depiction of skepticism in the context of the relationship between science and religion in film, particularly in the works of Richard Dawkins, Bill Maher, and Dan Brown. Macarthur (2016) adds to this discussion by examining the paradoxical nature of acknowledging the human drama in film, as viewed through the lens of Cavell's ethical framework. These studies collectively highlight the diverse ways in which skepticism is portrayed and explored in film, from the questioning of reality to the examination of the human condition.

*Don't Look Up* (2021) is a film about the journey of a professor and his students who want to reveal the truth about a comet that will approach and destroy Earth. However, the professor's and his student's efforts were in vain, as the government's response to the information was skeptical. Skepticism is a philosophical idea that says we can't know reality as it is without looking at it through our own eyes. Skepticism has changed over time to mean not being sure about things most people think are true. All philosophical skepticism is epistemological, which means it is based on views about how much and how well people know things (Ottuh, 2022).

Hence, the researchers are intrigued by examining the film *Don't Look Up* (2021) due to its portrayal of a prevalent societal phenomenon - a critical stance towards environmental concerns. The film *Don't Look Up* (2021) conveys a poignant message urging us to prioritize

our stewardship of the surrounding environmental ecosystem. Through film, we can reduce skepticism towards the environment. In addition, this film also won at several award shows in various types of categories, such as the Top 10 Films category at the American Film Institute Awards in 2022, Top Ten Films category at the National Board of Review in 2021, Top Ten Films category at the New York Film Critics Online in 2021, and the Best Performance by an Ensemble category at the San Diego Film Critics Society Awards in 2022. The awards obtained prove that *Don't Look Up* (2021) is interesting to investigate. Based on the above, this study will find how the signs of skepticism are represented in the film *Don't Look Up* (2021).

## **METHOD**

The researchers used qualitative research methods with a descriptive approach in this research. The object of this research was the film *Don't Look Up* (2021). The researchers used Charles Sanders Peirce's Semiotics theory, which focuses on the triangle model of meaning consisting of representation (sign), object, and interpretation (Peirce, 1991). To find the representation (sign), the researchers focused on three important sign types: qualitative sign (quali-sign), indexical sign (sin-sign), and symbolic sign (legi-sign).

Quali-sign is a sign that expresses a quality or characteristic, often evoking emotions, sensations, or subjective interpretations. It operates through resemblance or analogy rather than direct representation or correlation. Quali-signs often convey mood, tone, or aesthetic experiences in a narrative. Some characteristics of quali-sign are subjectivity, imagery, and emotional resonance. Sin-sign is a sign that indicates or points to something else through a direct connection, often based on a causal relationship. Sin-signs signify their objects through their existence and context, showing a real-world correlation that can be perceived or observed. Some characteristics of quali-sign are direct-relationship, contextual meaning, and observable evidence. Legi-sign is a sign that signifies an idea or concept through a socially constructed or culturally recognized association. Legi-signs rely on learned meanings and shared understanding to convey their significance, often representing complex ideas, values, or emotions. Some characteristics of legi-sign are cultural significance, abstract representation, and learned meanings.

The researchers collected the data sourced from scenes showing signs of skepticism in the film *Don't Look Up* (2021) by using note-taking and capturing pictures of each scene related to the research focus. The data in this research were taken from the film which focused on scenes that signify skepticism in the form of images, actors, attributes, text or language, body language, and others. The data were collected in several steps. First, the researchers watched the film *Don't Look Up* on the Netflix platform repeatedly and carefully. Next, the researchers identified scenes in the film that focus on each character that contain elements of skepticism. After that, the researchers selected several scenes in the film because not all can be used as data. Last but not least, the researchers took documentation by taking pictures of relevant scenes and then analyzed them.

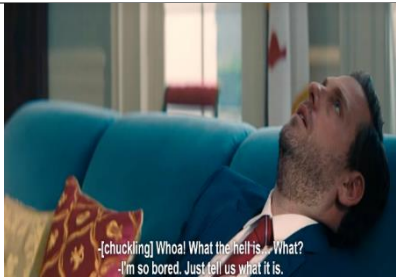
After categorizing the signs into quali-signs, sin-signs, and legi-signs, the researchers analyzed the data by examining how each type of sign contributes to the film's overarching themes of skepticism and societal indifference toward environmental issues. This involved exploring the emotional resonance of quali-signs to connect viewers with the characters' experiences, assessing sin-signs to understand the direct consequences of public apathy and misinformation, and interpreting legi-signs to highlight the cultural and political contexts that shape public perception. By analyzing the interplay between these signs, the researchers gained insights into how the film critiques current attitudes toward scientific warnings and the urgent need for collective action in addressing climate change.

## **FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION**

Here, the researchers displayed the results of the research. The researchers presented research results on the representation of skepticism in *Don't Look Up* (2021) film by using



Charles Sanders Peirce's semiotic analysis approach known as Peirce's Triangle of Meaning, which consists of representation (sign), object, and interpretation. After watching the film repeatedly and carefully, the researchers found several signs of skepticism in *Don't Look Up* (2021). Data is found in relevant scenes in the film.

Table 1. Data 2 (19.02)

Representation (sign)	Object	Interpretation
 <p>Jason Orlean Grumbled and leaned against the chair while listening to an explanation about the Dibiasky Comet.</p>	<p>Jason Orlean looks bored and grumbles while listening to the explanation from Dr. Randall Mindy, Kate Dibiasky, and Dr. Teddy Oglethphore about the information about the comet that will destroy Earth</p>	<p>Jason Orlean seemed uninterested in listening to the comet information as he jumped straight to the point of the comet discussion. He should have considered the importance of the comet explanation. This image interpreted the attitude as uncaring and dismissive of the explanation of the Dibiasky Comet.</p>


In data 2, the visible representation is a sin-sign in the form of a bored expression displayed by Jason Orlean. Legi-sign can be seen from Jason Orlean's body, leaning his head to the left and looking up. The object in this data is an index shown through the language Jason Orlean speaks—interpretation in this data, namely argument type.

Table 2. Data 3 (20.06-20.26)

Representation (sign)	Object	Interpretation
  <p>President Orlean denies the impact of the Dibiasky Comet.</p>	<p>President Orlean told Dr. Randall Mindy not to say 100% of the impact of the comet but only 70% of the impact of the comet. President Orlean denied that the impact of the Dibiasky Comet was 100%</p>	<p>President Orlean did not believe or doubt the accuracy of the consequences of the comet's fall to Earth even though Dr. Randall Mindy, Kate Dibiasky, and Dr. Teddy Oglethphore had given explanations about comet Dibiasky. It interpreted the attitude of a president who does not trust the accuracy of the information brought by scientists and doubts about the impact of comets.</p>

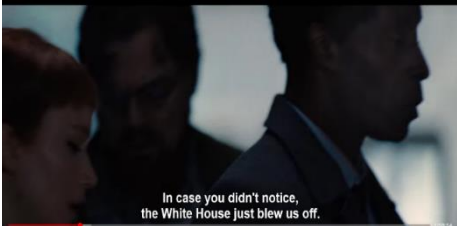
Data 3 shows the sin-sign in the form of President Orlean's expression, which looks relaxed in response to the information about the impact of the comet—the following representation in the form of legi-sign type. The object is an index. This refers to the language spoken by President Orlean. The interpretation of this data is argument-type.

Table 3. Data 4 (21.48-22.31)

Representation (sign)	Object	Interpretation
 <p>President Orlean responds to Comet Dibiasky's impact.</p>	<p>President Orlean said, "Sit tight and assess," and laughed at Dr. Randall Mindy, Kate Dibiasky, and Dr. Teddy Oglethphore for the information they conveyed to President Orlean.</p>	<p>In this scene, President Orlean ignores the seriousness of a comet that will hit Earth and responds casually not to worry about the comet's impact. Thus, the president appears skeptical about the Dibiasky Comet despite having heard direct explanations from scientists.</p>


Data 4 above shows a representation in the form of a sin-sign, which can be seen from the laughing response given by President Orlean. The object in this data is in the form of an index. The representation in this data is an argument.

Table 4. Data 5 (24.21)

Representation (sign)	Object	Interpretation
 <p>Dr. Teddy Oglethphore talked to Dr. Randall Mindy and Kate Dibiasky after visiting a White House</p>	<p>Dr. Teddy Oglethphore said, "In case you didn't notice, the white house just blew us off," to Dr. Randall Mindy and Kate Dibiasky.</p>	<p>Dr. Teddy Oglethphore noticed the dismissive attitude of the government people when they were discussing and questioning the government's attitude towards Dibiasky Comet. It is interpreted that Dr. Teddy Oglethphore is aware of the attitude of the White House people who are skeptical about the information they provide. The people of the White House do not believe in the existence of a comet that will hit Earth and the threat that can destroy Earth.</p>

Data 5 shows the representation of the sin-sign type, namely the expressions of Dr. Randall Mindy, Kate Dibiasky, and Dr. Teddy Oglethphore, who look frustrated after leaving the White House. The object in this data is the index type. At the same time, interpreting this data is the type of argument.

Table 5. Data 6 (30.39)

Representation (sign)	Object	Interpretation
 <p data-bbox="204 499 671 568">Women 1 talked to man 1 about the attitude of the government.</p>	<p data-bbox="699 255 959 584">A woman spoke to a man about the government's denial of meeting with D. Randall Mindy, Kate Dibiasky, and Dr. Teddy Oglethphore at the White House.</p>	<p data-bbox="986 255 1390 987">In this scene, a woman realizes that the government had met Dr. Randall Mindy, Kate Dibiasky, and Dr. Teddy Oglethphore at the White House and heard information about the discovery of a comet that will destroy the Earth but the government has not broadcast or informed about the comet that would soon destroy the Earth. It is implied that a woman is aware of the skeptical attitude of the White House people who deny having met and heard information about the comet threat, so that information about it has not been followed up on and broadcast to the public.</p>


Data 6 shows the representation of the sin-sign type, which can be seen from the expression of a woman who looks serious. The object in this data is the type of index. Meanwhile, the interpretation of the data is the type of argument.

Table 6. Data 7 (39.42-40.54)

Representation (sign)	Object	Interpretation
 	<p data-bbox="735 1272 986 1895">The host told Dr. Randall Mindy, "It's something we do around here. We just keep bad news light" during a live program on a television station called Daily Rip. In addition, the host addressed the general audience, "can come back anytime, but the yelling lady. Not so much" before closing the event.</p>	<p data-bbox="1002 1272 1390 1895">In the first sentence spoken by the anchor to Dr. Randall Mindy in the middle of the broadcast, it is interpreted that this show does not want to broadcast bad news. This scene shows that they did not care and underestimated the seriousness of the comet's impact. This scene indicates the attitude of the Daily Rip hosts, who do not believe the comet threat spoken by Kate Dibiasky. In addition, it can be seen from the expressions of the hosts that they consider the information mere dogma.</p>
<p data-bbox="204 1843 703 1982">The host of Rip Daily was broadcasting live information about Dibiasky Comet with Dr. Randall Mindy and Kate Dibiasky.</p>		

Data 7 represented a sin-sign type, namely the expression shown by the Daily Rip host, who expressed happiness. The object in this data is a type of index. Meanwhile, the interpretation of this data is the argument type.


Table 7. Data 8 (42.29)

Representation (sign)	Object	Interpretation
	<p>A post on the internet was a meme of Kate Dibiasky being likened to an owl.</p>	<p>Data 8 shows how people made Kate Dibiasky jokes on social media just because she explained Comet Dibiasky's information. This indirectly shows the public's attitude towards the information the Daily Rip broadcasts. This scene implies skepticism about the threat of Dibiasky's comet even though they have watched the Daily Rip broadcast about the discovery of a comet that can threaten the safety of humanity. Instead of being earnest, people tend to be skeptical by ignoring the information and making Kate Dibiasky a joke.</p>

A meme post on the internet

Based on data 8 above, it can be seen that the representation contained is a type of sign. The object in this data is the type of icon. At the same time, the interpretation of this data is in the form of an argument.


Table 8. Data 9 (01.09.26-01.09.43)

Representation (sign)	Object	Interpretation
	<p>Peter Isherwell explained the content of the Dibiasky Comet, which was helpful for the Bash company. Peter Isherwell laughed while saying, "So you can imagine."</p>	<p>Peter Isherwell, CEO of BASH company, explains the content possessed by the Dibiasky Comet, which is very useful and has benefits for the Bash Company. This represented the CEO BASH, as more concerned with mining the Dibiasky Comet. The scene showed Peter Isherwell's attitude did not care about the seriousness of the threat of the Dibiasky Comet. Peter Isherwell thought that mining comets would generate greater profits than how to solve the problem of comets falling to Earth</p>

Peter Isherwell was describing the contents of the Dibiasky Comet.


Based on data 9 above, the representation is contained as sin-sign. The object in this data is an index in the form of speech spoken by Peter Isherwell about the content of the Dibiasky Comet. At the same time, the representation in this data is the types of decent (decision) and argument.

Table 9. Data 10 (01.10.06)

Representation (sign)	Object	Interpretation
 <p>President Orlean responds to Dibiasky Comet's content</p>	<p>President said, "If we're to proceed,"</p>	<p>This scene implies that President Orlean is skeptical about the danger of the comet falling and destroying humanity. President Orlean prefers to agree to mine comets rather than provide a handling that could protect humanity from the threat of comets.</p>


Based on data 10 above, the sin-sign type is represented in the form of a smiling expression. The object in this data is an index. Meanwhile, the interpretation contained in this scene is an argument.

Table 10. Data 11 (01.25.13)

Representation (sign)	Object	Interpretation
 <p>Dr. Randall Mindy spoke to Peter Isherwell about the Dibiasky Comet mining mission.</p>	<p>Dr. Randall Mindy told Peter Isherwell, "You're not approaching this mission like a businessman."</p>	<p>This scene is interpreted as Dr. Randall Mindy warning Peter Isherwell not to underestimate the comet and not behave like a business person who only wants to make a profit. This is like a warning to the CEO of the Bash Company, who is skeptical about the threat of the Dibiasky Comet.</p>

Based on data 11 above, there is a representation, namely sin-sign, in the form of Dr. Randall Mindy's expression, which looks serious while talking to Peter Isherwell. The object is an index in the speech spoken by Dr Randall. The interpretation of this data is an argument.

Table 11. Data 12 (01.32.19)


Representation (sign)	Object	Interpretation
 <p>Dr. Randall Mindy speaks out forcefully on the live Daily Rip.</p>	<p>Dr. Mindy told the public during the live broadcast of Daily Rip, "Right, well, the president of the United States is fucking lying!"</p>	<p>Data 12 showed a sign in the form of expression and language spoken by Dr. Randall Mindy to the whole community to believe in the comet that would fall to Earth, and the government's attitude to protecting humanity is a lie. The government is skeptical</p>



about the threat of the comet Dubinsky. The government and the Bash company only want to profit from the mining of Dibiasky Comet.

Based on data 12 above, the representation is a type of sin-sign in the form of Dr Randall Mindy's angry and firm expression. The object in this data is an index. The interpretation of this data is an argument type.

Table 12. Data 13 (01.01.39)

Representation (sign)	Object	Interpretation
 <p>President Orlean is on the campaign trail.</p>	<p>President Orlean campaigned and said, "Cause they want you to be afraid."</p>	<p>The sentence spoken by President Orlean to the public interprets that President Orlean is trying to persuade the public not to believe in the comet that will fall to Earth and says that Dr. Randall Mindy and Kate Dibiasky only want to scare the public.</p>


Based on data 13 above, the interpretation found in the type of sin-sign can be seen in the severe expression of President Orlean. The object in this data is an index type. The interpretation in this scene is the type of argument.

Table 13. Data 14 (01.39.56-01.40.04)

Representation (sign)	Object	Interpretation
 <p>Social media user posts</p>	<p>Posts on social media that say to don't look up.</p>	<p>The posts in this scene interpret that some people still do not believe that there will be comets that would fall to Earth and destroy it. Data 14 shows a sign in the form of a public response posted online. Some people support the government not looking up comets and being skeptical about comets. This can be seen from posts that state don't look up.</p>


Based on data 14 above, there is a quali-sign type of representation. The type of object in this data is an icon. The type of interpretation in this data is the argument type.

Table 14. Data 15 (01.41.09)

Representation (sign)	Object	Interpretation
 <p data-bbox="204 495 695 566">President Orlean wore a hat that read don't look up and people scream.</p>	<p data-bbox="735 255 959 734">President Orlean was seen wearing a hat written Don't Look Up to support Don't Look Up action and the shouts of the people who supported President Orlean to ignore Comet Dibiaksky.</p>	<p data-bbox="983 255 1390 987">This picture interprets that President Orlean does not trust the comet that will fall to Earth. This can be seen from President Orlean's hat, which reads Don't Look Up. The government also campaigned to persuade the public to side with the government. In addition, some sentences showed the attitude of the community by cheering on the Don't Look Up out by the president. The society's attitude that rejects the warnings given by scientists shows that some people are still skeptical, trusting the government more than scientists who have stated the threat of Dibiaksky Comet.</p>

Based on data 15 above, the type of representation in the scene is the sin-sign type. The type of object in this data is an icon in the form of a hat worn by the president, and the index in this scene is the shouting of the people who say Don't Look Up, which shows an alignment. The type of interpretation in this scene is the argument type.

Table 15. Data 17 (01.47.39)

Representation (sign)	Object	Interpretation
 <p data-bbox="204 1585 695 1615">Don't Look Up Campaign.</p>	<p data-bbox="735 1303 959 1489">People cheered as they didn't believe the comet.</p>	<p data-bbox="983 1303 1390 1780">Data 17 shows a sign of skepticism carried out by the community and the government through the provision of the Don't Look Up campaign, which aims to invite the community to side with the government. This can be seen from the ornamentation on the campaign stage in the form of a banner that reads Don't Look Up and the shouts of people who say Don't Look Up.</p>

Based on data 17 above, the type of representation found is quali-sign. The objects in this scene are in the form of icons and indexes. Interpretation in this scene is in the form of an argument type.

According to Pierce's theory, the representation of skepticism in the film Don't Look Up, there were 23 scene pieces grouped into 17 data. The representation elements are 3 types of quali-signs, 15 sin-signs, and 2 legi-signs. The objects consist of four types of icons, 13 types of indexes, and a symbol. The researchers also found 17 in the argument types. The film Don't

Look Up represented a sign of skepticism towards environmental issues; this can be seen from several signs in the film through dialogue, attributes, movements, expressions, and music contained in the film. The Don't Look Up (2021) film showed that a skeptical attitude has a negative side to environmental issues. In addition, this film shows that skepticism can be carried out in all aspects of society, such as government, media, and society.

Skepticism is manifested through gestures and dialogues. Data 3 reveals President Orlean's skeptical stance toward the integrity and impact of the comet's effects. This is evident from President Orlean's explicit gesture while contradicting Dr. Randal Mindy's statements and President Orlean's specific request to refrain from using the phrase "100%". The manifestation of skepticism is evident in President Orlean's response, as demonstrated by the dialogue uttered by President Orlean, namely, "All right, presently, I propose we remain cautious and evaluate the situation." The statement "I propose we remain stationary and evaluate" suggests that President Orlean fails to fully comprehend the magnitude of the comet Dubinsky, which, if not addressed, will destroy the planet. Data 15 and 17 provide depictions of skepticism through qualities such as President Orlean wearing a hat with the words "Don't Look Up" and banners exhibited during the Don't Look Up action campaign.

The researchers also looked at the results and conversations and compared them to the results of other studies. The earlier results came from a study entitled Representation of Feminism in The Film of Jane Eyre (2011): Semiotics Analysis Study of Charles Sanders Pierce (Sarah, 2021). The researcher is primarily interested in what the feminist symbols in Jane Eyre mean. The researcher used Charles Sanders Pierce's semiotic theory method to gather, analyze, and show data. This study used scenes from Jane Eyre's movie as data. The data were then put into Pierce's Triangle Model of Meaning theory, which comprises representation, object, and meaning. Studies of the significant character Jane Eyre's movie show that it has feminist themes. These themes can be seen in several scenes, characters, and objects used in the movie. The main character of the 2011 movie Jane Eyre is shown to be an independent woman who is free from men who hurt her and who control her. She is also shown to be a woman who can make choices.

The findings of this research are derived from social processes that manifest in our surroundings—for instance, environmental concerns such as climate change, global warming, flooding, and other occurrences. The environmental difficulties are primarily created by human indifference towards environmental sustainability and a skeptical attitude towards the future consequences of their acts (Doherty & Clayton, 2011; Milfont, 2010). The environmental difficulties we face today are primarily created by human indifference towards environmental sustainability and a skeptical attitude towards the future consequences of our actions. This indifference and skepticism lead to a lack of commitment to necessary changes, such as reducing greenhouse gas emissions, conserving natural resources, and protecting biodiversity. As a result, we see the acceleration of climate change, deforestation, pollution, and the degradation of ecosystems. These environmental challenges are further exacerbated by the focus of many companies and brands on minor green activities rather than sustainable practices.

This indifference towards the environment stems from a lack of awareness and understanding about the direct impact that our way of life has on the natural world. In order to raise environmental awareness, people must feel a personal connection to the environment and understand how their actions are harming it (Mravcová, 2019; Weber, 2010). One of the main reasons for this indifference is the belief that individual actions do not make a significant difference in the grand scheme of things (Hoffmann et al., 2022). However, research shows that individual actions do play a crucial role in environmental sustainability.

## CONCLUSION

Don't Look Up movie serves as a poignant critique of contemporary skepticism surrounding environmental issues, particularly in the face of scientific consensus on climate change and ecological crises. The film effectively employs satire to highlight the societal

indifference, misinformation, and political apathy that characterize modern responses to urgent environmental threats.

Through its narrative and character dynamics, the film illustrates how skepticism can manifest in various forms—ranging from outright denial of scientific evidence to the prioritization of entertainment over critical discourse. The contrasting responses of the scientific community and the general public emphasize the challenges faced by advocates of environmental awareness. The characters of Dr. Randall Mindy and Kate Dibiasky represent the frustrated voices of scientists striving to communicate the reality of impending disasters, while societal reactions reveal a troubling tendency to dismiss or trivialize these warnings.

Moreover, this movie underscores the role of media and political leadership in shaping public perception and skepticism. The film critiques how sensationalism in media coverage can dilute the gravity of scientific warnings, transforming existential threats into mere spectacles. Similarly, the portrayal of political figures prioritizing their interests over genuine concern for public safety serves as a stark reminder of the systemic failures that perpetuate environmental crises.

In conclusion, this movie not only reflects current environmental issues but also serves as a call to action against skepticism that hinders progress. By highlighting the dangers of indifference and the consequences of ignoring scientific warnings, the film encourages viewers to confront the realities of climate change and engage actively in advocating for a sustainable future. Its timely commentary urges society to overcome skepticism, embrace scientific truths, and work collectively to address the pressing environmental challenges facing our world today.

## DECLARATION

We declare that this work presented is original and has not been published or submitted elsewhere.

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