CLIMATE CHANGE COULD CAUSE AN INCREASE IN VIOLENCE AROUND THE WORLD

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Scientists have determined that small changes in temperature or rainfall could be at fault for the increase in murders, assaults, gang conflicts, and even war.

The team of U.S. scientists said this week that with the current projected levels of climate change, the world is likely to become a more violent place to live in according to BBC.com.

"This is a relationship we observe across time and across all major continents around the world. The relationship we find between these climate variables and conflict outcomes are often very large," said Marshall Burke, one of the experts involved in the study, according to BBC.com.

The team reviewed 60 separate studies from around the world with data spanning over hundreds of years.

They were able to find a "substantial" link between conflict and climate change.

One of the examples they listed in the study included an increase in domestic violence in India during recent droughts, and an increase in assaults.
murders, rapes during recent heat waves in the U.S.

“One of the main mechanisms that seems to be at play is changes in economic conditions. We know that climate affects economic conditions around the world, particularly agrarian parts of the world,” said Burke according to BBC.com.

The study also indicates that rising temperatures could mean larger conflicts around the world, like ethnic battles in Europe and civil wars in Africa.

Researchers estimate that a 2C (3.6F) rise in global temperature could see personal crimes increase by 15 percent and group conflicts could increase by 50 percent in some locations.

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