

# 11th Hour not too late for Earth—DiCaprio

## filmreview

### 11th Hour

Opens 31 August  
Garneau Theatre  
Narrated by Leonardo DiCaprio  
Directed by Leila Conners Petersen  
and Nadia Conners

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Leonardo DiCaprio is all grown up, and the former teen heartthrob is out to prove it. He's produced and narrated *11th Hour*, a gripping documentary about humanity's impact on the environment and the dangers that our species could face if we don't stop abusing the Earth. The message is urgent and clear: if we don't change the way we live, the climate will alter so drastically that our species will become extinct.

The film interviews more than fifty prominent experts and activists—scientists, cultural/media critics, and writers—who, one by one, map out the climate change problem. Some identify causes of global warming, while others examine the extreme effects that climate change has had on weather patterns; a few even predict the inevitable outcome of letting current trends continue unchecked. *11th Hour* also deviates from ecological discussions and examines the role that American culture, politics and economics play in perpetrating this problem.

This well-rounded portrayal of the planet's pollution problem works very well. Furthermore, the movie's editing is spectacular, melding fifty-plus interviews into a cohesive and interesting



story while allowing each expert's individual personality and views to shine through. DiCaprio's subtle narrative segments tie together the thematic elements of the movie, without overshadowing the voices of the experts or drawing too much attention to himself.

It's easy to wag a finger at the current U.S. administration and multinational oil companies and blame them as the ones who hasten environmental decline, and *11th Hour* certainly does that. But

here it's done with a subtler approach than similar enviro-documentaries. The film doesn't just blame the big corporate faces; it also reminds us that we, as individuals, are also responsible for the present state of the planet.

The entire movie isn't all gloom and doom, however. The best part of *11th Hour* is the second half when, after scaring us into thinking that the world is facing imminent disaster, the experts begin to calmly discuss practical actions

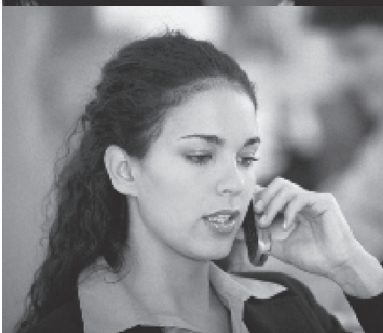
individuals and societies can perform to lessen our impact on the environment. Most of these changes are quite realistic, obtainable, and in many cases, quite creative. The experts even provide some astounding visual depictions of different sustainable technologies to show how they would work. The message of change comes very directly, but without patronizing the viewers or shaming them into action.

This latter part of *11th Hour* also moves

at a slightly faster pace than the first half—there, some of the commentary becomes redundant. The second part of this film has a much fresher feel to it, offering previously unexplored angles and solutions to this worldwide problem.

Some people might wonder how a movie about environmental destruction could actually be a film about hope for the future, but *11th Hour* pulls it off very nicely—not bad, coming from the star of *Titanic*.

## Vaccine to Prevent Genital Herpes



### Volunteers Needed

#### Who?

Women age 18-30 who have never had cold sores or genital herpes.

#### How?

Division of Infectious Diseases, University of Alberta Hospital, is doing research with an investigational vaccine for prevention of genital herpes.

Participants receive:

- Free screening for herpes
- An investigational vaccine against herpes or against hepatitis A

#### Call

407-6272 or 407-6945 to talk with a research nurse

### The Facts

- This vaccine CANNOT give you herpes
- Approximately one in five Canadian women have genital herpes
- Many don't know they are infected with herpes
- Herpes can be spread to those you love
- In rare cases, women can pass herpes to infants during delivery



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