Geog 300 GTA

Student ID #: \*\*\*-\*\*\*-398

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Question #1-14; Word count: 550

CT # 1-8 & 9

Climate Change: The Economic Opportunity of Inequality

**Interpretation (30 words)**

Climate changes push migration from unlivable places to safer areas. Without proper

government humanitarian planning, both locations will experience significant social and

economic changes and pressures that promise increased inequality.

**Analysis (368 words)**

The privileged few are optimistic for the reduction in arctic sea ice to create new

economic resources from new shipping routes,traveling options, and survivable climate becomes

available. Many governments have priority to create new economic policies, as in the 11 th Arctic

Council meeting, where ambassadors ensure their commitments to economic possibilities while

ignoring the danger of expanding human impacts in the arctic (CNN, 2019, page 1).

However, this small hope of prosperity is a mirage of fools gold compared to the living

crisis and the expanding gap of social and economic inequality that many will face as climate

warming progresses. The International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the International

Organization for Migration (IOM) agree with estimates of 200 million people displaced from

climate change by 2050 (2008, page 13). Fleeing from coastal, arid, semi-arid, and humid areasmillions

will migrate north and inland, they are escaping erosion from sea-level rise, severe

storms or natural disasters, droughts and other inverse impacts on resources and livelihood

options, many to seek new opportunities in safer places (Meyers, 2005, page 24). Many people

feel the economic struggle of Southern production reducing 5% or more due to loss of workforce

and useable resources due to climate change and will turn to other means or significant changes

to their business in order to survive ( Simonelli and Graycar, 2016, page 14) . Compoundingly,

migrants and refugees have increased vulnerability as they leave: they lose assets, networks, and

are exposed to other hurdles such as disease, crime, and human trafficking (Brown, 20008;

Simonelli and Graycar, 2016, page 8 ). Historically, in rapid migration to urban areas, many new

arrivals take refuge in slums and “unordained living” areas, creating increasing city water

facilities and a decrease in WASH and sanitary ability for many people, causing higher rates of

disease and heat related mortality (Meyers 2005 page 23; Luca and Ingmar, 2011, page 7).

Governments already struggle to allocate resources for one-third of the word that currently live

in poverty-stricken slums (Stern, 2006, page 74) and without tax restructuring and other means

of government-public based-resources, many more will with increased climate driven migration,

this is likely to increase (Meyers,2005 page 26; Simonelli and Graycar, 2016, page 121 ).

**Evaluation (81 words)**

**Con:** “Models are always wrong, but sometimes they are useful” is an appropriate for Stern

report (2006) and in Marchiori and Schumacher (2009, page 26) . Their models are not able to

accurately take into consideration all of the factors of migration (ie wars and plagues) beyond

climate induced migration.

**Pro:** A more “per capita utilitarian approach” that relies on the utility of the northern citizens as

a resource to offset some of the effects migration without placing more burden on migrants.

**Inference (49 words)**

Governments in both the departure areas and receiving places need to expand plans preparing for

the economic and social changes. Priority to lessen inequality and preserve the health and

dignity comes from local level of authority and citizen interaction and resources to consider are

housing, health, and information resources.

**Explanation (22 words)**

Government failure to plan and provide can contribute and worsen the growing inequality,

suffering, and mortality related to climate change and migration.

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