

Natural forces, not capitalism, at play in sea level rise

<https://www.lcsun-news.com/story/opinion/2022/02/13/letters-editor-national-guard-schools/6767069001/>

Algernon D'Amassa's, opinion piece, "How capitalism surfs the rising seas of human folly," is the product of an imaginative mind, schooled in Fine Arts, demonstrating creative writing skills, but unencumbered with knowledge of earth science and history.

We have sea level data and CO2 concentrations at New York City's Battery in since 1856, when Franklin Pierce was President. The rate of sea level rise has not changed since 1856, giving strong evidence that natural forces, not capitalism, and increasing CO2 concentrations, cause the seas to rise.

In my [Watts Up With That blog post](#) I outline sea level and human history.

Sea levels were 400 feet lower than today 20,000 years ago, the end of the Wisconsin Ice Age. At that time the Wisconsin Ice Sheet covered New York City with glacial ice. The ice sheet then started, and continues, to melt; sea levels have risen in the centuries since. But the rise in sea level was interrupted by the Little Ice Age when sea levels fell.

In the Middle Ages Pisa was a powerful city-state. Maritime trade brought goods on ships into her port. Goods were taxed; the revenues supported Pisa's reign as a military power. That ended in 1309 AD, the Little Ice Age onset, when sea levels fell, and ships could no longer sail to her port. Today Pisa is 7 miles inland from the Ligurian Sea. During the height of Pisa's power sea levels were a lot higher than today.

The Little Ice Age ended about 160 years ago; tide gages show that sea level has steadily risen — with no correlation to CO2. Sea level is a dynamic property of Earth, not capitalism.

D'Amassa's thesis that sea level rise is caused by capitalism is ignorant of sea level and human history.

Robert Endlich, Ph.D., Las Cruces