Lord Monckton wins Press Club debate and persuaded 9% more Australians to his view that ‘Concerns about Global Warming are exaggerated’

Despite negative publicity surrounding Lord Monckton’s visit to Australia, the results of a special Roy Morgan Reactor test over the last 24 hours show Lord Monckton won the debate and persuaded a substantial 9% of Australians to his view that ‘Concerns about Global Warming are exaggerated.’

People reacted along party lines with L-NP supporters reacting positively to Lord Monckton and negatively to Dr. Denniss, while ALP and particularly Greens supporters reacted positively to Dr. Denniss and negatively to Lord Monckton. However, as shown by the white line below, the Reactor spent more time in ‘positive territory’ when Dr. Denniss was talking than when Lord Monckton was.

When asked after viewing the Reactor to nominate a winner of the debate, more respondents (49%) nominated Lord Monckton as the winner ahead of Dr. Denniss (37%) and 14% couldn’t say.

The crucial issue at the heart of the debate is whether either speaker managed to considerably shift the views of respondents reacting to the debate. Did either Lord Monckton or Dr. Denniss change the views of how ordinary Australians view the issue of Global Warming?
Before viewing the Reactor respondents were asked for their views on Global Warming: 44% of respondents said of Global Warming – ‘If we don’t act now it will be too late’, 43% said ‘Concerns are exaggerated’, 10% said ‘It is already too late’ and 3% couldn’t say.

After viewing the Reactor these views had shifted with 52% now saying ‘Concerns are exaggerated’ – an increase of 9%, 38% (down 6%) saying ‘If we don’t act now it will be too late,’ 7% (down 3%) saying ‘It is already too late’ and 3% couldn’t say.

The changes demonstrated by this question definitively back up the view of respondents that Lord Monckton won the debate – 9% of respondents viewing the Reactor shifted their opinion towards the point of view Lord Monckton expressed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Before Debate</th>
<th>After Debate</th>
<th>Change</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Concerns are exaggerated</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>+9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If we don’t act now it will be too late</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>-6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It is already too late</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>-3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can’t say</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
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Michele Levine, Chief Executive Officer Roy Morgan Research says:

“The results of Roy Morgan’s Reactor on yesterday’s debate between Lord Christopher Monckton and Dr. Richard Denniss provides a valuable insight into how Australians are viewing the complex debate surrounding Global Warming, Climate Change, Carbon Dioxide and the Carbon Tax.

“Roy Morgan Research data has shown continually that Australians are concerned about Global Warming and Climate Change but do not want the proposed Carbon Tax; and that the issue is highly politically divided.

“This special research combines real-time response – ‘how much do you agree or disagree with what the speaker is saying’; with ‘pre- and post- measures of environmental attitudes.’ This shows clearly that the electorate is delicately poised on this issue – ‘concern about the environment; but much more worried about the economy, and the Carbon Tax.

“Each speaker clearly outlined their point of view – and for the most part the Reactor showed this appealed along party lines. However, a clear difference between the speakers was that Lord Monckton talked extensively about the climate science and quoted figures about changes in the climate over past time periods provided by scientists whilst Dr. Denniss concentrated more heavily on the economic and political implications in Australia from taking action on Global Warming.

“Listening to Lord Monckton – he says what many Australians want to hear – ‘Don’t worry about Climate Change! It will be alright!’”

This special Roy Morgan Reactor survey covered an Australia-wide cross-section of 218 respondents aged 14+.

For a closer look at the Reactor and how the different points expressed by Lord Monckton and Dr. Denniss were received by those reacting to the debate, please view the full Reactor highlights here: http://onlinereactor.com.au/PlayerCI.aspx?jid=92&h=crnbqkkkuq%0D%0D

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