Poor Weihock "Willie" Soon! Across the Atlantic, the press is making a big deal of the turpitude of the American astrophysicist, and the titles are not exactly flattering. The unfortunate researcher of the Harvard Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics is for some days in the middle of a nasty story whose main ingredients are climate, disgruntled interests of industrial fossil fuel and corruption of science. A story that, in this year of decisive climate negotiations, could only inflame passions. The object of the crime is recorded in the confidential documents of the Harvard Smithsonian.

**CLIMATE AND THE JUICY TRADE OF DOUBT**

by Stéphane Foucart

The fact that questions. Harvard University and the Smithsonian Institution, which partially changed their role in these operations. In this case, the most disturbing is not the behavior of an isolated researcher. It is the system set up by his institution, which partially changed into a communication laboratory, minting the prestige of its name with some interests that are eager to discredit science.

Interviewed by the Chronicle of Higher Education, Andrew Hoffman, a professor at the University of Michigan, clearly formulated: "Why has Mr Soon been listened? Because there is "Harvard" after his name. Once you've removed it, who is Mr Soon? He is nobody." Without having received any training in climate sciences (he has a doctorate in Space Engineering), Mr Soon published on a dizzying variety of topics: the rise of the sea in Bangladesh, polar bear populations in Hudson Bay, the mysterious (and largely phantasmagoric) correlations between solar activity and recent climate warming, the poisonous nature of the very idea of consensus science, etc. All this was not bound by any scientific program, but by the only desire to attack, often wrongly, the findings of climate scientists. The fact that Harvard University and the Smithsonian Institution have tolerated this situation for more than a decade raises questions. The fact that they have financially benefited of it is incredible.