



The environment

A young person's view

My name is April Hill.

From my earliest memory I've been irrevocably in love with the great outdoors. Completely perplexed by its beauty. How everything seemed to have its own pre-written path.

This newfound love made me realise that Mother Nature lives to provide. Rivers and oceans don't drink their own water. Trees don't eat their own fruit. The sun doesn't shine for itself. A flower's fragrance is not for itself.

Living for each other is the rule of nature and should be our rule too.

But like other youths today, I was blinded to the wrongdoings of humanity...

I think of 'our world' encompassing mankind, animals, plants, ecosystems and all our environment. Sadly for many their idea of 'our world' focuses only on human species.

Is this wrong?

This world we so passionately define as 'ours' is reliant on money, goods and land. We're becoming governed by greed and hunger for more...more; nothing is enough. This greed will soon run out.

Soon will we.

We seem dominated by conquering all forms of life. But have become oblivious to the damage we leave.

I worry minds have become governed by negative news, closed- minded journalists and news reporters showing no real light to these crises.

We must retain a polite passion for our environment.

This world is our home. It's home to many others too, that love and feel as we do. But if we carry on like we are, we will kill off ourselves and all other species on this planet.

I don't think anyone wants that on their conscience.

Whilst we think about solutions in my next piece, we first must understand some of the problems...

No. 1 - Plastic.

Every human is aware of this silent killer.

However its murders are revealing themselves increasingly to the younger generations. Our oceans cover 70% of our world, holding 97% of earth's water. But more than 80% of plastic kills 100,000 sea creatures each year.¹

Destroying the biodiversity of our entire planet's ecosystem, this chain reaction is more severe than you can imagine.

Only human influence has the power to maim this unique ecosystem, it's irreplaceable by man-made inventory.

Humans have produced 8.3 billion metric tonnes of plastic, our stunning oceans hold 51 trillion micro-plastic particles²: five hundred times more than the stars in our universe. Unexplainable. Disgusting.

Let's DO something!

Plastic doesn't biodegrade. It wasn't made to. It was made to withstand wear and tear. Plastic's EVERYWHERE. Supermarkets, the worst culprits of all driven by our desire for convenience. Our addiction to online shopping. Our consumption resulting in excess packaging with huge implications for our planet. But still we all continue to do it.

For a Turtle a plastic bag seems like a tasty jellyfish, but in reality it's indigestible poison. It's a real life threat to marine animals, not just us. We're treating these animals with near to no respect. It's wrong and we know it.

You cannot just sit there and let this happen.

We are the problem.

But we have the ONLY solutions...

<https://hillno13.wixsite.com/oursacredworld/post/our-world-should-be-loved-not-conquered>

¹ National Oceans service & National Geographic

² BBC - an investigation led by university of Manchester, found up to 1.9million plastic pieces per square meter.