

For my Major project I have decided to look at four major issues with our world.

Overfishing



Unsustainable Agriculture



Overconsumption of Food



Farm Animal Mistreatment



The reason I have chosen all four of these topics instead of just one to focus on, is because not only are all of them linked when it comes to the negative effects they have on our world and the beings within it, but I feel that these are things that get less exposure than a lot more charitable cases. While a lot of people are aware of things like world hunger, wasting water, melting ice caps and global warming, I feel these issues are often skirted around by none other than ourselves and the government.

What is the main cause of **global warming**? Contrary to what society will have you believe, the industry of animal products is mainly to blame.

But what about **world hunger**? Yup, you guessed it. The animal products industry are to blame. Did you know there is enough food on this earth to sustain all life? Then where is it all going? I'll get to that later.

Before we delve into the reasoning behind some of the common downfalls of our planet today, let's first explore the issues themselves.

Overfishing

What is overfishing?

Overfishing is when a body of water is fished in to such an extent where the population of marine life within said water dwindles to a dangerously low amount.

This not only threatens the species who are being fished, but also the **whole ecosystem** of the water, we cannot keep consuming at the rate we do or soon there will be nothing left for us or for other species.

Even if just one species of marine life is overfished to extinction, this means many other species would die out, their food source being taken away.

Within the past 50 years alone we have lost **80%** of our ocean life due to us overfishing.

Not to mention the **pollution** given off by the boats who catch these creatures.



Bycatch

With excessive fishing comes excessive bycatch.

No matter how hard fishermen try, there is always bycatch in their nets, meaning other species of marine life are caught in their nets and cages, resulting in injury or loss of life. So next time your eating your fish and chips, you may spare a thought to the seal who died in the same net that caught your Codfish.

There is no limit to what classes as bycatch, it could be a shark, whale, turtle, seagull, seal, penguin, dolphin or anything else.



Unsustainable Agriculture

The act of farming in such a way that eventually render the source useless.

Sustainable agriculture is where a **balance** is present, an understanding between organisms and the environment, such that yields enough for consumption without harming the land itself. When too much is yielded, eventually overexploitation of the land will render it useless. Contributing factors to this could be prices of produce and the use of pesticides etc.

Habitat destruction is also a key factor in this equation, forcing wildlife out of their homes just so we can expand our agriculture, leaving barren, overused land behind to begin the vicious cycle.



Overconsumption of Food

There seems to be a pattern emerging in the world, wherein the **richer parts of the world overeat**, resulting in mass production of waste and health issues like obesity and heart attacks. This much is obvious, but if one half of the world is overeating, surely they can't be consuming everything can they? After all, there is enough food on this planet to feed us all, but world hunger still exists.

Q: So where is all of the food going?

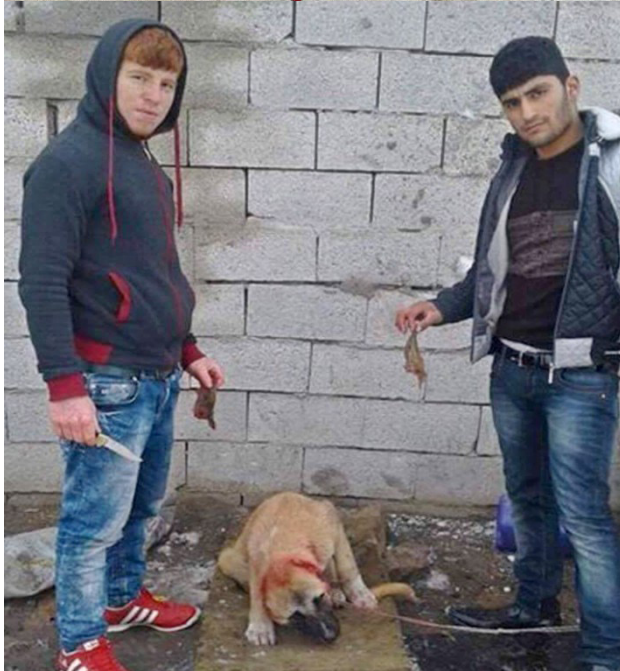
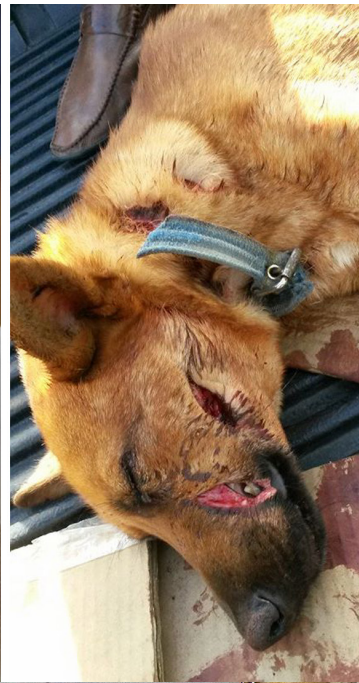
A: Into the mouths of livestock over the years of their life so that we can farm their breast milk, eggs, and eventually meat.

If we didn't over consume meat, dairy and eggs, then all of the food we feed animals over their lifetimes could be **fed to starving humans instead, thus ending world hunger.**

Not to mention the dwindling population of bees, who we still farm for their honey and TLDR – honey is bee vomit and the human race would go extinct if the bees died out.

Factory farming is massively inefficient. Much of the energy and protein from the feed is wasted by animals. A recent UNEP report calculated that 100 calories of animal feed produces as few as 17 calories of meat and dairy products.





Farm Animal Abuse

The demand for more food (aka more animal products such as meat), ultimately results in crowded conditions for the animals, including more land and food use to keep the animals on – food that could have been used to feed a starving child – after all one in 5 children are living in poverty.

We as a society are conditioned to think of farm animals as either worthless cattle – walking meat, or to just see what is presented to us in the pristinely designed packages in the supermarkets. Clean cut meat, we don't see the pain the animal went through or the rest of its carcass that was thrown away as if it were nothing.

No matter the arguments of 97% of our population, who say the animal has 'had a good life', 'we are at the top of the food chain' or 'it was humane' doesn't cover the fact that these animals endure hell – in fact if their circumstances were to be described in terms of 'human rights' – they would be forcefully confined, raped, force-fed, mutilated, murdered, tortured and have their children stolen from them, all so we can drink their breast milk.

None of these excuses change the fact that, even if our bodies can consume meat and dairy etc, we are consuming far too much of it – and as a consequence, the other, less fortunate side of the human population are suffering in poverty and our earth without its land.





My Solution:

The issue of confronting individuals about something they don't want to change as it doesn't affect them is hard – in other words, we need a common 'enemy' to not only solve an issue that the consumer has, and one of the most popular I can think of is:

- Weight Loss.
- Almost everybody wants to feel their best.
- Subtly make the consumer aware of the issues described while helping them feel and look better.
- Via a 'conscious eating' guide/book.

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1.



Clean Green Eats:...

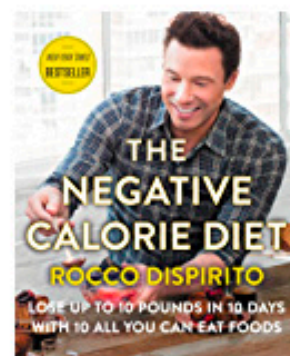
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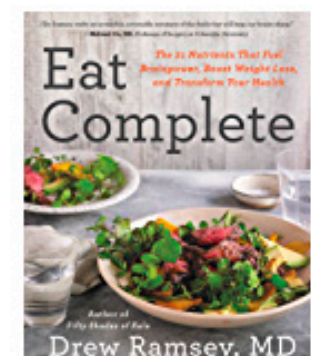
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