



Is Greener Goods are More Humane? An Environmental Health Perspective

THIYAGARAJ.V.

Assistant Professor of Commerce, Chikkanna Govt. Arts College, Tirupppur

ABSTRACT

Since the first earth day in 1970s levels of lead have dropped by 98%, annual emissions of carbon di oxide by 24% and sulfur di oxide by 30% at the same time the use of coal, the main source of sulfur has almost doubled.Around the world, India has begun to recognize the dimensions of the challenge that confront us all as we endeavor to balance economic growth with maintaining a healthy environment.Eating seasonal, local, organic foods that fresher, tastier would improve personal health.Making clothing involves a large amount of materials, energy, and labor including the pesticides used to grow crops for textiles, the dyes and water used to color them, and conditions under which laborers work.

KEYWORDS

Climate change, world, gas emissions, shift cultivation and green food.

INTRODUCTION

"Nature is not a place to visit. It is home."

— Gary Snyder

The connection between peace and the environment has been cemented by Nobel Prize Laureate Al Gore, who has driven home the points that global climate change is an issue of science, technology, human behavior, ethics and peace, and that one person's actions can truly make a difference. Equating the two -- peace and the environment -- allows us to understand the big picture. Just as its required materials and energy, all "stuff" requires another common resource: the human kind. Buying goods made in the native, preferably purchased near-by where they were made, cuts down on transportation costs. The truth is that everything single thing we do every day has an impact on the planet -- good or bad.

SHRINKING WORLD

As globalization makes the world become smaller, it becomes increasingly easy to see how the lives of people (and plants and animals and ecosystems) everywhere are closely synced up with one another. So toys made in China can affect the quality of life in Europe, pesticides used in Argentina can affect the health of people in the U.S., and greenhouse gas emissions from Australia can affect a diminishing rainforest in Brazil. For example, it is astonishing to know that 25 percent of Western pharmaceuticals are derived from flora of Amazon rainforest. In addition to protecting biodiversity (and inspiring medicine), rainforests are also excellent carbon sinks.

CLEAN WATER

"Water and air, the two essential fluids on which all life depends, have become global garbage cans."
— Jacques Yves Cousteau

Clean water is perhaps the planet's most precious resource, and, with the increasing effects of global climate change, for many regions across the globe, our ability to have enough high-quality H₂O on hand could likely to change in the near future. By reducing use of bottled water, we can reduce global greenhouse gas emissions (from shipping), the energy required to produce (petroleum-derived) plastic, and the volume of waste trucked to our landfills (from empty bottles).

GREEN FOOD

Eating seasonal, local, organic foods that fresher, tastier would improve personal health.According to one study, organic milk has 68 percent more beneficial Omega-3 fatty acids than conventional milk. Making green food choices also has global

consequences.Buying local means supporting the local economy and reducing the greenhouse gas emissions required to get food from its origin to eating plate .Using organic foods renders help to promote organic agriculture and responsible land use.

ECO-FRIENDLY CLOTHING

Making clothing involves a large amount of materials, energy, and labor including the pesticides used to grow crops for textiles, the dyes and water used to color them, and conditions under which laborers work. By choosing and purchasing organic over conventional cotton, one of the world's most chemically dependent crops we choose a better product that is easier on the soil and groundwater.

NATURE RECYCLES EVERYTHING

Making proper use of the blue recycling bin has become an iconic action. Recycling materials also saves energy compared to using virgin materials to create new products. Some materials, like aluminum and glass, can even be recycled without being "down cycled," or turned into a product of lesser quality.

UPCYCLING: It is the use of waste materials to provide useful products. Ideally, it is a reinvestment in the environment and embodiment of the notion that while using resources one is also contributing to them and their value. For example,

- ❖ Plastic gift cards tastefully up cycled into some chic coasters and
- ❖ collection of rulers turned into a chair

DOWNCYCLING: It is the recycling of one material into a material of lesser quality. When different kinds of plastics are mixed together and melted, the mixture undergoes something called phase separation, roughly akin to the separation of oil and water, and it sets in those layers. The resulting plastic is structurally weaker than its original form, and can only be used in a limited number of ways.

SHIFTED CULTIVATORS

It is the term used for people who have moved into rainforest areas and established small-scale farming operations, following roads built by loggers or other resource-extractors into already damaged rainforest areas. The additional damage they are causing is extensive. Shifted cultivators are currently being blamed for 60 percent of tropical forest loss. The reason these people are referred to as "shifted" cultivators is that most of them people have been forced off their own land. For example, in Guatemala, rainforest land was cleared for coffee and sugar plantations. The indigenous people had their land stolen

by government and corporations. They became 'shifted cultivators', moving into rainforest areas of which they had no previous knowledge in order to sustain themselves and their families.

GREEN POWER ("Green Tags")

Humans use electricity to power lights, computers, and televisions, but what happens before flip the switch? The electricity has to come from somewhere; more than half of electricity comes from coal-burning power plants, which also happen to be the country's largest source of air pollution. By generating own power, or purchasing renewable energy credits (also known as "green tags"), contribute generating more clean power from wind, solar, and other sources and helps reduce demand for energy from more polluting sources.

FOOTPRINT OF MATERIAL LIFE

"Destroying rainforest for economic gain is like burning a Renaissance painting to cook a meal."
Edward O. Wilson

To help mitigate the footprint of material life, goods made from green (or greener) materials, such as sustainably harvested wood, organic cotton, or repurposed and recycled materials may be chosen. Good choices will help protect forests, habitat, clean water and biodiversity; ensure sustainable land-use practices; and reduce the amount of waste clogging up our landfills. Buying less stuff and second-hand stuff helps achieve this goal, too.

GREEN COSMETICS

"Peace on earth depends on our ability to secure our living environment."

-Dr. Wangari Maathai (won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2004)

Founder of the Green Belt Movement

Cosmetic packaging is one of the biggest hazards for our landfills and oceans, with tons of recycled plastic material buried or burnt every year. Skin is the largest organ of body. It absorbs up to 60 percent of the products put on it every day, from soaps to shampoos to sunscreens. Using green personal care products often means using plant-based ingredients in place of petrochemicals, preventing these chemicals from being absorbed into skin.

IS OUR GLASS & PAPER ARE ECO- FRIENDLY

Glass is made from sand - sustainable & non-toxic resource. Although not biodegradable, it is at least non-toxic while deterioration and production. It can deteriorate over time – it then blends with sand or can be found as sea glass. Being heavier than water, glass sinks and doesn't kill sea animals unlike floating plastic. Many of our glass containers already have 40% recycled content and are handmade. We love glass for its sustainability and safety, its non-toxic and can be reused infinitely! That alone saves the trouble of recycling, although it can be infinitely and easily recycled.). Paper that used is easily recyclable, non-toxic, and bio-degradable and can decompose in a few years. No trees and forests were harmed for the sake of our packaging.

TANGIBLE & INTANGIBLE EFFECTS

- 1 pound per hour: the amount of carbon dioxide that is saved from entering the atmosphere for every kilowatt-hour of renewable energy produced.
- 60 percent: the reduction in developmental problems in children in China who were born after a coal-burning power plant closed in 2006.

- 35 percent: the amount of coal's energy that is actually converted to electricity in a coal-burning power plant. The other two-thirds are lost to heat.
- 5 percent: the percentage of the world's carbon dioxide emissions produced by air travel.
- 1.5 acres: the amount of rainforest lost every second to land development and deforestation, with tremendous losses to habitat and biodiversity.
- 137: the number of plant, animal and insect species lost every day to rainforest deforestation, equating to roughly 50,000 species per year.
- 4 pounds, 6 ounces: the amount of cosmetics that can be absorbed through the skin of a woman who wears makeup every day, over the period of one year.
- 61 percent: the percentage of women's lipstick, out of the 33 popular brands tested, found to contain lead in a test by the Campaign for Safe Cosmetics in 2007.
- 86.6 million tons: the amount of material prevented from going to landfill or incineration thanks to recycling and composting in 2012.
- 95 percent: the amount of energy saved by recycling aluminum cans versus creating the can from virgin aluminum. That means you can make 20 cans out of recycled material with the same amount of energy it takes to make one can out of new material. Energy savings in one year alone are enough to light a city the size of Pittsburgh for six years.
- 40 percent: the percentage of energy saved by recycling newsprint over producing it from virgin materials.

TRANSITION TO GREEN IN INDIA

Over the years the understanding of the universe has changed. So far mankind thought that on the face of the earth other things have been created for the good of mankind, i. e., mankind can work for his /her progress at the expense of other organisms but today we are coming to the consensus that we should have respect and appreciation for the rest of created beings.

Around the world, India has begun to recognize the dimensions of the challenge that confront us all as we endeavor to balance economic growth with maintaining a healthy environment. The quantifiable casts of growing pollution become apparent when be here incident like

- Smog and lead pollution from automobile emissions chokes cities ; year round
- Small rivers in major metropolitan becomes so polluted that it catches fire and burn for days
- Most of Major rivers are highly polluted by industrial and toxic waste that they cease to support life
- Nations waterways and air are horribly polluted; it can be rectified through a combination of public awareness, development of new technologies and enforcement of laws against polluters.

CONCLUSION

India has done lot over the past 20 or so years, but there is no doubt that we need to do more. In today's, India face many of challenges, like Air-pollution threatening mega-cities, the contamination of water ,and mounting solid wastes in and around urban areas. An alarming number of articles featuring in Newspapers headlines about India's environmental Health. The Success of the efforts will send a clear message to rest of the world; developed and developing that one cannot forsake the health of their children for the sake of brighter economic future.

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