

The Toxins We Use Everyday

Our world has become a place where we use plastic for a lot of things from a small water bottle to cars. Using plastic is okay but not recycling it is the problem. Plastic that is not recycled causes a lot of chaos. For so many years people have been debating about whether plastic is good or not and should be banned or not. Scientists have made claims that plastic should be used, and other scientists have made claims that plastic is harmful to the environment and should be banned. Plastic should be banned because it harms animals, creates lots of pollution and it is a non-renewable source.

Plastic harms our environment in many ways. One way is that it harms sea animals. Research from "Our World in Data", shows that sea animals can get killed by plastic in three ways. They get tangled in the plastic, they eat the plastic thinking its food and eating other fish/animals who ate plastic. This means plastic is harming our animals so much and we must fix this. Here is another example.

According to scientists, plastic has harmed and mixed up their digestive system for over 267 species. We use a lot of plastic and only 20% of the amount we use gets recycled. The plastic that does not get recycled ends up in the trash which ends up in big trash dumps. As our world is getting bigger, we are generating a lot of waste, the dumps will not be enough to hold all of this trash/waste, so people are dumping the trash into oceans (Hannah Ritchie and Max Roser). Plastic can be a harm to the life of all creatures.

Another reason plastic should be banned is it creates a lot of pollution. It is made out of petroleum and natural gasses. These gases are not renewable. These gases during plastic production cause greenhouse gases which are the main leading cause to global warming/climate change (greenacton.org). According to "Plastic. Education," it states that plastic can create disasters. In the years 1989 and 1998, Bangladesh suffered up the water and sewage system. This was not a natural disaster. The floods were caused by plastic bags clogging up the water and sewage system. The third reason is that it is hard to decompose plastic. This ties in with the first reason that plastic kills animals and this is how. According to (Columbia University), plastic is hard to decompose as there are different types of plastic. This is exactly what happens to the plastic that's in the oceans, they don't decompose, in fact they were out in the ocean by rocks, water and or sea animals. Due to the wearing out of plastic it turns into small pieces which fish think its food and eat it.

We should ban plastic because it is made from non-renewable sources. As I said earlier plastic is made from natural gases which are non-renewable. This is important to note because we are already having trouble finding these gases as they are natural and non-renewable. To make plastic, it requires a lot of these gases (Columbia University). According to "Greenacton.org", plastic uses more petroleum and gases than car fuel. Can you believe that!

Plastic is used for so many things. If we do ban it, then it would be hard to use an alternative or find an alternative. Plastic is most commonly used for storage. Instead of plastic we should use more steel or glass to store food or items. There are many alternatives or a less chemical type of plastic. The reason all these new discoveries that could help the world are not aware is because no one knows about the problem itself.

Plastic should be banned because it harms the environment, creates lots of pollution and because it is made from natural and non-renewable gases. We are wasting our natural resources for plastic production and that is ruining our world when we are supposed to make our world a better place without the worry of animals dying, chemicals getting into the water or global warming. Remember, plastic is the cause of all of this, so do your job and try using less plastic. If you do use it, then try recycling at least 90% of the plastic you use.

Works Cited

Future Agenda. www.futureagenda.org/foresights/plastic-oceans/.

Our World in Data. ourworldindata.org/plastic-pollution#where-does-our-plastic-accumulate-in-the-ocean-and-what-does-that-mean-for-the-future.

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