The Impacts on Reducing Plastic Use in the C.N.M.I

Dolores B. Sablan

Northern Marianas College

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Dr. Bunts-Anderson

Proposal Essay

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“We humans have become dependent on plastic for a range of uses, from packaging to products. Reducing our use of plastic bags is an easy place to start getting our addiction under control” (Suzuki, D.) The purpose of this proposed study is to examine the reduction of plastic bags in Joeten stores and to have a broad outlook on the impacts of no plastic use regarding the community, the people and the establishment itself. This research topic is important because this impact may help shape an essential part of developing a sustainable economy. Joeten Enterprises has been the first and only store to promote a cause that deals with no plastic bag use. This cause, known as “Taya Plastic Tuesdays”, is when the stores do not distribute plastics every Tuesday. Instead, free boxes are given, paper bags are sold for 10 cents, and reusable bags are sold for 99 cents. This persuasive essay presents a plan to distribute surveys, form observations, and conduct interviews in order to collect the essential data needed to support this research project that would be completed within approximately nine weeks.

The student researcher proposes a study looking at the impacts of Joeten’s “no plastic use” regarding the community, the people, and the Joeten enterprises. In order to collect the data needed, surveys will be distributed to customers in one of the Joeten stores on specific days and within a time frame. Then, the student researcher will form observations in the workplace and try to indicate certain reactions and behaviors of the customers during days when plastic bags are given out and days when they are not. A table will also be made to calculate the amount of people who choose boxes, paper bags or reusable bags. Later, the researcher will conduct a minimum of three interviews with managers or bosses regarding the reduction of plastic bags on Tuesdays, looking into the reason of the cause and any possible intentions to further it in the future. Lastly, all surveys and reports will be collected and compared to develop the data needed to support the research topic.

The writer plans to conduct research, collect and analyze data, write the report in approximately nine weeks and proposes the following tentative schedules:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Date: | Method: | Time: |
| October 1-14  Monday, Wednesday, Friday | Distribute survey to customers in the workplace | 4pm-10pm |
| October 2-20  Tuesdays and Thursdays only | Observations within the workplace | 5pm-10pm |
| October 26-27  Friday and Saturday | Interviews with managers or bosses | 1-2pm |
| October 29-31  Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday | Compare surveys and reports, data will be collected | 12-3pm, 5-10pm |

The student researcher has collected four academic and four non academic literature sources that provide background information to support this research. Majority of the literature sources were found on online databases, primarily articles and books that were published. The sources provide a wide range of information that focuses on specific topics. Precisely, Ebsco and Ebsco ebooks are the online databases that may be very helpful in ways to support this assignment with the information needed.

Aguado Alonso J, ., & Serrano, D.P. (1999). *Feedstock Recycling of Plastic Wastes.* Cambridge: Royal Society of Chemistry. Retrieved from http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=nlebk&AN=496058&site=ehost-live

Daniels, J. A. (2011). *Advances in Environmental Research*. New York: Nova Science Publishers, Inc. Retrieved from http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=nlebk&AN=541345&site=ehost-live

Green, D. S., Boots, B., Blockley, D. J., Rocha, C., & Thompson, R. (2015). Impacts of Discarded Plastic Bags on Marine Assemblages and Ecosystem Functioning. *Environmental Science & Technology*, *49*(9), 5380–5389. https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.est.5b00277

Muralisrinivasan Subramanian, N. (2016). *Plastics Waste Management : Processing and Disposal*. Shawbury, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, U.K.: Smithers Rapra. Retrieved from http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=nlebk&AN=1237412&site=ehost-live

Ford, D. (2017, September 21). Reducing plastic bag use can benefit the environment.

Retrieved from https://www.breezejmu.org/opinion/reducing-plastic-bag-use-can-benefit-the-environment/article\_5f5549ee-9e1d-11e7-b013-33463f206738.html

II, T. M. (2015, February 25). 'Choose to reuse' on Tuesdays with MINA, Joeten. Retrieved from https://www.saipantribune.com/index.php/choose-reuse-tuesdays-mina-joeten/

Are Plastic Bag Bans Actually Helping the Environment? (2018, January 11). Retrieved from https://www.kqed.org/news/11461251/are-plastic-bag-bans-good-for-the-environment

Reduce Our Plastic Usage. (n.d.). Retrieved from http://plasticwastesolutions.com/reduce-our-plastic-usage/

There is enough literature sources that could be obtained to help finish this project. In addition, the student researcher will be able to conduct various experiments such as surveys, observations, and interviews to report, collect and analyze data, and fit within the schedule. This topic should be approved because it is important to look more into the impacts that could help better the economy and environment. The student researcher has the essential data needed and will complete this research assignment on the time stated.

References

D. S. (n.d.). *David Suzuki Quote.*

Retrieved from https://www.azquotes.com/quote/287910