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

Literature Essay

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A general browser search with google on October 13, 2018 on the topic of, “Reducing Plastic Use in the CNMI”, resulted in 42,100 hits with the majority of publications being news reports providing outcomes in the community regarding the reduction of plastic bags in the CNMI. The relevance of the topic is obvious as a majority of the articles are local news reports in 2010 and increasing significantly. It has been updated as of 2018, highlighting the impacts that the local community has done in regards to reducing plastic uses. There are numerous articles that include information in regards to banning plastic bags, which is an important idea relating to the economy, environment, and global warming. Much of the literature is non-academic and highlights public motives and impacts regarding the issue. However, an Ebsco search found a few sources published by academic researchers such as the *Plastic Waste Management: Processing and Disposal* that waspublished by Subramanian Muralisrinivasan. The review of literature will discuss the various perspectives presented by secondary sources and focus specifically on the move to banning plastic use, reducing plastic as a benefit to the environment, and a specific establishment’s promotion of reducing plastic use.

The reduction of plastic use is believed to benefit the environment in regards to countless acts the community take part in.The desire to improve our planet’s environment often leads people to take part in large, environmentally focused movements (Ford, 2017). An essential matter would be decreasing the heavy consumption of plastic bags that are used all over the

world. The use of plastic bags are evidently dangerous to the environment and increases towards global warming. Plastic waste takes decades to biodegrade and is the leading cause of the death of various species. This is one of the leading cause towards the motive to reduce plastic use all over the world. Because of this, studies have been conducted to determine ways of handling these causes.

Numerous studies have been conducted regarding the impact of reducing plastic use. According to *Advances in Environmental Research,* local citizens conducted a study known as Plastic Bag Recycling Trial Scheme. The article also includes information on how this study may evaluate ways of reducing plastic and essential impacts. A table shown in the article indicated various countries that practice the reduction and recycling of plastic bags. In the data collected, countries such as South Africa, Taiwan, India, and Italy have imposed plastic bag charges and have banned thin plastic bags (Daniel, 2011). A law also specifies that plastic bags can not be distributed free of charge. Many other countries began to ban and take control of the plastic usage, making it essential for the promotion of recycling plastic waste. Therefore, taking this cause into consideration.

A local news article provides information about a specific establishment that continues to practice plastic reduction. Joeten Enterprises has started a promotion of no plastic bags on Tuesdays in regards to the reduction of plastic use. This cause imposes that customers are not given plastic for their grocery shopping. Instead, other alternatives have been provided in the circumstance. During Tuesday’s event, volunteer celebrities bagged groceries and handed out free reusable eco bags for an hour, in an effort to encourage the community to reduce the use of plastic bags (Manglona, 2015). The establishment continues to preach and practice towards the reduction of plastic bags. This cause is one of many that are essential to the issue.

This essay summarizes the literature review for the student researcher’s investigation on the impacts of reducing plastic use. Environmental, economic, and cultural perspectives regarding the proposed impacts, current agreements, and studies have been highlighted.

References

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