

All For The Well-Being Of The Future

We all have seen pictures of the iceberg in the North Pole melting and the lives of polar bears being threatened. But does that really awaken our conscience of being environmentally friendly? Perhaps not yet. Then let's take a look at the disasters occurred all over the world. First, in summer of 2009 there was a serious flood in Taiwan as it didn't stop raining. Then early on this year the earthquake in Haiti and the flood in Afghan. All those disasters have caused many lots of lives and damaged houses. Can we really ignore this matter? Who knows when one day the environment takes again revenge on us?

As the issue of environmental protection has long been my interest, I've read some articles and some news on this topic. First of all, we are all familiar with the production of electricity of solar power and wind power. Leading countries of environmental awareness like Germany and France have lots of wind farm and solar panel everywhere. In Germany the government even subsidizes its citizens the cost of solar panels. Along the highway and countryside of West Europe, one can see lots of wind turbines standing. Even in Taiwan we have been trying to make good use of these energy producing devices, which I believe is a definite trend of future.

Another interesting and useful way of energy saving would be: making a better use of the sunlight. For instance in Europe and some other countries in the north. They have less sunlight in the winter. Thus they set the time one hour back. Every year since about thirty years ago, the time would be set back on October 25th for the winter. According to the statistics, it has been proved it has really helped with energy saving. Moreover there are other strategies carried out from the German government, like the launch of energy saving light bulbs and meanwhile the ban of the traditional ones. From this September on, the old "energy wasting" light bulbs are no where to buy. Therefore I strongly believe that green policies should be enforced by a country. Apart from that with the technology the power can be saved much more effectively than usual.

Some other cases we're familiar with are: Riding a bike or using public transportation, recycling and the use of environmentally friendly materials. Examples for the first idea can be seen all over the world. In Kaohsiung there are bikes at certain places, where the visitors can borrow and ride around. All they need to do is to find some bike shelf and park it back. Nowadays it's considered a relaxed lifestyle to ride to work. To the second idea, it occurred to me, some countries do put a charge on a bottle, so that only when the people bring it back to a store, the money

will then be returned. In my opinion, although that is inconvenient for the most people, but for the environment and the reuse of materials is the best solution. Recently there are also more papers being used than plastics. For example, at restaurants or beverage shops.

It's very likely that we human beings will develop more green methods and technology. It's not a matter to some countries, but all of the countries in the world. Some forget it's of importance to find a balance between the economy development and the maintain of our earth. Truly speaking we should, look up to countries which are intensively dealing with the reduction of ecological footprint. In addition to that, there should also be more universities offering studies in this field. Otherwise, sooner or later, the earth will take its toll on us and our descendants.