

Environmental Paradox

With concerns about global environmental issues, it is without doubt that a part of us have put heads together trying hard to slow down and reduce the horrible harm mankind has done to our only Earth. However, it is a paradox that in such a soilsome and hard effort we have made there should still be so much frustrating deterioration as to the environmental conditions. Through daily activities, we could easily notice how irony it is to find out while a part of us are doing all we could to avoid environmental pollution, the others are actually causing even more problems to the environment and making it hard for the rest of us to clear up the mess.

Just simply recall how many plastic bags you've paid and used to carry your biweekly or monthly grocers last time when you go grocery shopping. Don't ignore those seeming trifling numbers of plastic bags you use every time you go on shopping. Then estimate how many people could be at the grocery store at the same time. Add it up then the "trifling" number of bags used soon becomes vital. Set aside the total number of plastic bags used at the end of the day, or even a whole year, in every grocery store in the whole world. Here's what I observed in Wal-mart last year: customers stand at the end of the counter, busy packing their grocers in many a few of plastic bags. Coveting convenience, they classify the grocers into not just frozen, cold and general, like normal people do. To make it easier for them to put the grocers back when they get home, they almost classify them in their "cabinet-order." How amazing it is if you have ten places to store your grocer? Ten plastic bags at one time for one person? It's really easy to take down some burdens for the environment simply by using environmental friendly bags or reuse those boxes the markets offer. It sounds very simple and easy to make it. It's not that we can't do it. It's just we often forget to bring reusable bags with us or we are just didn't care much enough about our environment.

Through the media, we know there have been a lot of advocations in appealing to people for riding bicycles if traveling in short distances. From the environmental point of view, it is such a good idea to reduce pollution. And, from the view point of our health, it also help us with our health. It sounds like a fair good bargain at such a double advantages method. However, where are the bicycle lanes? Shouldn't it be lanes and lanes an over the side of the road, so that people can travel on their bikes at ease? I don't see them, If I were a parent of some kids, I would never let my children ride their bikes on the dangerous roads with car drivers and motorcyclists roaming on the road. How is the whole bicycling policy going to work out with no

safe environment for people to actually conduct it by riding their bikes from one place to another? I wonder where does those budgets made on roads go. Another repairing of the cracks on blacktops?

Last May, I've actually joined in the recycling activity held by NTUT in the Hungry 30. We went to the recycling place and did the recycling work. It was really a hard but worthy effort I've ever made. If it couldn't reduce the amount of plastic bags people use at the grocery store, it could probably remind me of not using plastic bags every time I go on shopping. I think the moral of environmental protection is not just to prove how good and how many protection we can propose. It lies in what degree do we really realize how little time we've got to rescue our Mother Earth.