

ARE HUMANS DESTROYING THE EARTH?

The state of earth has declined over the last 100 years. As the earth cries for help with forest fires, global warming, flooding and droughts, the human world is evolving into a world blooming with technology and possibility. But for what cost?

Despite the doors that have been opened up to us due to technology, the price of such has damaged the earth. Fossil fuels massively contribute to global warming and with the demand for them clashing with the actual supplies, we are racing towards finding alternative solutions, some of which could be even more catastrophic. With the rapid increase of the population, it has caused a strain on resources such as: paper (resulting in deforestation), electricity (contributing to global warming), food (resulting in pressure on the food industry) and water (causing a water shortage).

We cannot deny the benefits that nature gives us. Trees give us oxygen, the sun gives us vitamin D, crops and animals supply us with food, reservoirs provide us with water, various different ecosystems are designed to help upkeep our environment and not to mention the mental benefits of taking a stroll outside. It is clear we as humans need nature, but does nature need us?

Earth has been around for billions of years and with that, nature and then eventually us. This is an indication that if nature was once surviving without us; we aren't necessarily needed now. However, perhaps due to evolution we have almost tamed nature to be respondent to us. An example being how we have domesticated many different species of animals (e.g., common pets such as cats, dogs and fish) to be dependent on us to feed them, walk them and maintain their health whereas previously they would've survived in the wild. Another example could be that with certain flowers, we need to plant them in soil; water them and even give them food in order for them to survive.

Some credit can be given to us humans, though. Technology has been put to the test by developing machines through projects to tackle different environmental issues. One example would be the ocean clean ups latest project being 'Dubbed the Interceptor' which is a boat designed collect plastic as it flows from rivers into the ocean. Social media platforms are being used to spread awareness of the state of our earth, influencing us to make small changes in our lives, such as switching off unused power sockets, chargers, lights and reducing the amount of water we use. In addition, products are continually being developed to contain less pollutants and be more eco-friendly and alternate lifestyles have been introduced to drive us towards a more sustainable future.

Overall, just like humans, nature has evolved and adapted to the everchanging environment that surrounds us. Whilst technology has introduced some positive aspects into our lives and has begun to tackle environmental problems, our overuse of natural resources is not only adding to the pollution and waste but is ruining our chances towards a sustainable earth. Although, perhaps it is not too late, evidenced by in an interview Sir David Attenborough stating that the earth "is not beyond redemption".