

Dark Times Ahead

As Kalei gazed out the window girl she saw a filthy, polluted city filled with fog and cars. No grass, trees, or flowers could be seen. Her mom came in and pulled the curtains closed and scolded her for opening them. When her mother left she sighed and opened her laptop. The image on her screen was something she could barely remember. She clicked on the image and a video began to play. There were two girls playing in an open field in Hawaii. The girls were her mother and her mother's best friend. They were both 10 and seemed to be having a great time. Near the top of the video, it said "2020". Suddenly the video began skipping and glitching, then the screen went blank. Kalei shook the laptop and tried everything possible to turn the laptop back on but it was no use. The girl sighs, 10 years old, locked in her house, and worse of all, no fun. It had been many years since Kalei had seen green grass, breathed fresh air, or even played with her friends without choking on the polluted air.

The year was 2070 which became known as the dark time. When she was born, in 2060, everything was fine. She was able to go outside without being arrested or having to pay a fine, or even go to school in person. It was in 2065 when everything started to change. People suddenly started to fall ill and couldn't breathe. Scientists thought it was a virus, but it would never affect anyone outside of the state, even if they had the so-called "virus". But what's even more mysterious was that people who traveled outside of Hawaii would become better as nothing happened! That's when scientists in Hawaii made a huge discovery, There was no germ! The air was becoming toxic from pollution. No one had done anything to use clean and renewable energy. It had gotten worse over the years. Signs of it appeared but no one cared enough. The

climate got warmer, no one cared. The air got thicker, no one cared. More smoke around, no one cared! What is this I'm talking about? Well, it's none other than the use of Fossil Fuels.

Fossil Fuels are unhealthy for our environment and air. Since they are not renewable they can only be used once. Hawaii has no place to collect oil or dig it up so Fossil Fuels is shipped from the mainland, Asia, (etc.) Hawaii also uses that fuel for multiple purposes, like electricity, surface, and air transportation. Like I said before once Fossil Fuels are used they can't be used again. A Better source of energy is to use Solar Power, Hydropower, Biopower, Geo Power, and Wind Power. These can be used over and over again. Even though the natural resources are eco-friendly they are still pricey and don't generate enough energy for long periods of time.

What if we can use the fossil fuels we have put into the air and use it to our advantage? That's where this genius idea that has been in the works comes in. A Carbon Capture! With a Carbon Capture, it can absorb Carbon Dioxide. But what if we can use that to trap fossil fuels too! Not only that but we can use it for energy and fuel! Once the fossil fuels are not being used it will be excreted and the cycle will start again! If it was to be put on a car, the car would be able to use fossil fuels still but not have to put more of it in the air!

Right now a Carbon Capture is big and bulky. But if we were able to make it smaller, then Carbon Capture Technology would be able to not only use less Fossil Fuel but it would also solve having more pollution put in the air than needed. This would be affordable to almost all people and would make a big difference in Hawaii.

Mr. T.C Ching made a big impact in Hawaii, he wanted a better future for Hawaii. This connects to my idea of making Hawaii a safer place to live. He cared for the environment. The money he made from helping the Kukui Garden, he gave to charity. This showed his love for the environment just like my problem! If we don't act fast and stop using Fossil Fuels we could ruin this community that Mr. Ching's foundation has helped to make a better place. I think Mr. T.C Ching would agree with what I'm working towards since he had a deep care for helping the environment and community. Using fewer or no Fossil fuel would help what he was working towards and what I am now too along with many others all over the world!

Whenever you have the chance, think about how just using renewable energy or even using less Fossil Fuel can save our environment. That gas your mom put in her car, and she put a lot of it? Hurts the environment. The air you breathe? Slowly becoming toxic. The park you see every day? Could be gone in the next 5 years if we don't act fast to save our state and its environment. What if you started to remind your mother to use just enough gas? Maybe reduce the number of trips you take to also reduce the amount of fossil fuel used! At the park you could even do something small! Like telling people about the effects of air pollution and spreading awareness of it. Let's reduce Hawaii's fossil fuel emissions and allow future generations to breathe fresh air.