

Protect Hawaii's Coral Reefs

I strongly believe that the coral reefs dying on Oahu shorelines are a huge problem because coral reefs are the home to one-fourth of the indigenous species of fish. You would think that the coral reefs dying would just hurt the coral reefs. It doesn't! The truth is that the dying coral reefs can affect us all, both humans and marine life.

The goal for Oahu citizens is to make sure that the coral reefs thrive for generations to come. Coral reefs are the breeding ground and home to more than 800 species of coral and 4,000 species of fish. They provide food for humans by feeding the fish that we catch and eat. Fishermen make a living by catching and selling these fish. Coral reefs also provide protection to shorelines by providing barriers against hurricanes, typhoons, and tsunamis.

Another reason to protect the coral reefs is because they have many medical benefits. For example, some cancer treatments are being made from certain types of coral found in the coral reef, and research is being completed to treat arthritis, heart disease, and human bacterial infections. Therefore, the conservation of the coral reef is essential to help us in medical advancements through research.

There are a lot of ways we can protect coral reefs. We can cut down our use of fertilizers and pesticides by creating stricter laws against pollution of the ocean as well as enforcing these laws. Pollutants suffocate coral reefs and lower the water quality. The major type of pollution that affects coral is runoff, containing sediments, and pollutants. Instead of anchoring boats on coral reefs, we can use buoys. People who

touch or step on coral could hurt it. Top stop this, there should be a law that prevents people from touching and stepping on coral. We must get the legislature involved.

The coral reefs of Oahu are dying, which is a massive problem. Reefs dying affect the marine and humans. If the coral reefs become extinct, we will never know the true potential of the medical benefits from the coral reefs. If we don't stop the coral reefs from dying, it will cause an even bigger problem in the ecosystem. It will affect each and every one of us, including the marine life. We all need to do our best to save our beautiful coral reefs.

Clarence T.C. Ching loved Hawaii and Hawaii's people. He also was interested in medical care because he was a sickly person as a child. Coral reefs are connected to medical care, and medical care was Mr. Ching's interest. He gave lots of money to the St. Francis Hospital. If Mr. Ching was alive, I think he would support saving Hawaii's coral reefs.