

Summary

My main goal in this essay is to overlook at the elements of life starting with the creation of Earth and mirroring the achievements that Mankind, the most advanced species known in the known universe, has accomplished during the harshest conditions, and how changes could be made. From the start of civilization with agriculture to our overuse of modern technology, I will be focusing on our most powerful attribute: our Brain. We were born with the gift of thought and emotions and that is what drove me into helping find a solution to the Food and Energy Crisis.

"Faced with a food and energy crisis, how can society improve its well-being?"

Over 5 billion years ago, a lifeless terrestrial orb had formed in the harshest coldest environment known to modern science. The Universe, as we come to name it, nurtures it with movement, sunlight, minerals and perhaps many attributes that we may never know. But if we were to look with a much closer perspective, not only does this orb survive within this harsh environment, but it is also being inhabited by all sorts of life. Spanning with vast oceans, land, natural giants, climates, ice, and a sustainable living atmosphere for billions of species, this orb became the only known source of life.

As life forms slowly developed, it had created one of the greatest living beings to this day. With highly developed brains, use of tools, introspection, communication and above all competition, Mankind became the most advanced living species ever created on earth. Examples are: War, politics, transportation, science, mathematics, telecommunication, vaccination, school systems, society statuses, incomes, and most importantly agriculture.

Why have we been specifically chosen to obtain the strongest thought processes? It was as if life had chosen specific characteristics for certain beings so that they could watch over this precious orb that once couldn't even sustain life before. Nonetheless mankind may not be as perfect as life had wanted to picture it before. One of the strongest qualities that controls our actions is our emotions. It is what drives us to the "need".

Aside from Hunting, Agriculture would be an example. It is the key element that made us create civilization. With the development of stronger tools, water and learning climate pattern, human beings have been feeding off the earth to themselves for the last thousands of years.

Nature does not provide the same sources of food for all places unfortunately, but with trade and commerce, we can be provided with other sources from other places. This would be an example of communication and cooperation. If we were to understand each other and our environment we can easily survive.

There have been many disasters or events whether man made or not, that have challenged our survival. From the Little Ice Ages to Viral Epidemics, from Volcanic Eruptions to Hurricanes, from Earthquakes to World War I and II, from the Great Depression to Famine all over the world, etc... It is with our thoughts and actions that we have managed to survive through the harshest conditions just like our home planet had gone through.

According to the United States Food and Agriculture Department there have been high demands and lack of sources such as rice, wheat and corn, the cost of oil prices and other natural gases used for heat, transportation, electricity, etc.

In this situation it is understood that without oil there is slow transportation or movement in the economy. What we understand is that the global economy has to move fast in order to supply the most and earn the most. What we did not realize for the past decades, is the damage that had been done. One of the most important sources of energy that we all have been relying on, suddenly has

turned against us and caused many changes in our atmosphere. How is it that after all these years of evolutionary changes in the technology, we have failed to prevent it or change it. Are we starting to underestimate our thoughts? Do people even become aware of the outcomes in the future? We have relied so much on technology over the last centuries that we hardly can think for ourselves anymore. We are just making things seem easier for us and at the same time, we are making it turn against us. A couple of examples supporting this theory would be comparing the use of a stone to a modern handgun: The stone requires movements, force and accuracy. It can also be used as a scapegoat, to trick or set up a trap. It can also be sharpened or you can combine it with other tools. If you lose your stone, you could pick up another one or even better substitute it with something else at least. When it comes to the handgun, there is not much physical work needed but just a slight pull in your trigger finger, enough to cause blood to be shed or substantial damage.

Activists and scientists have proven logical that replacing petroleum with vegetable oil for some vehicles will cause less damage to the environment. Even major automobile companies such as Toyota have manufactured hybrid cars and have sold significant numbers of vehicles to owners who want to make a change. Not only do they make a change to the environment but also to themselves. But with the Food Crisis, there are many solutions that can be provided. First we must question ourselves, "Why do we Eat?" If you were to ask this question to a random person in public he would essentially reply to you "because we are hungry". But the actual answer a scientist would give is "to provide enough nutrients for your body". It is understandable that there are many foods out there that can be completely removed from shelves at your local supermarket. Simply, because although they look delicious they could cause damage to your body such as Diabetes, high blood pressure and Heart Disease.

The main goal of this essay was to find a solution to the food and energy crisis that has been happening within the last decade or so. My solution would be challenging ourselves to rely on substitution.

My goal, was to review previous experiences and problems that we had dealt with in order to improve living conditions in the future. I may not be providing the most intriguing, helpful or successful material, that could save the world. I am simply trying to make a change just like the many individuals who decided to take part in this Essay Competition.