



### UNITY FOR EQUALITY MAGAZINE

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# What does Elon Musk's takeover mean for Twitter?

After months of discussions, Elon Musk, the CEO of Tesla and SpaceX, bought Twitter for \$44 billion dollars on October 24th. An eccentric figure and the richest man in the world, Musk has big plans for the platform which he is re-branding "X".

This could have significant ramifications on the platform's 206 million daily users worldwide. Twitter is a social networking service that enables users to send and read short 140-character messages called 'tweets'. It was created in 2006 by Jack Dorsey, Evan Williams, Biz Stone, and Noah Glass and launched in March of that year. It is one of the most popular social media services in the world and can be accessed from anywhere in the world. Twitter is a global breaking news source and its status as an online public forum is known for being an easy way for people to keep up with what's happening now. It's also a great place to share updates with friends or get quick answers to questions. Originally an unprofitable venture, Twitter added the feature to promote tweets in 2010.

Since then, the majority of Twitter's profit comes from promoted tweets, however, Musk has plans to even further improve the social media's profitability. He's thinking of charging users \$8 a month to get the blue mark indicating they're a verified account. Musk says its necessary to prevent spam accounts. Twitter has been criticized for having a large number of bots and fake accounts, but this doesn't take away from its value as a news source. However, there has been a significant backlash in response to this decision thus leading to its temporary suspension

However, Musk has insisted that it isn't about the money but rather he wants "to help humanity". Musk has said in interviews that he wants to make sure that freedom of expression is not limited by any one country or government. He also wants to bring back what Twitter was before - a platform where people can have open discussions without worrying about censorship. It's his belief that censorship rather than abuse resides at the heart of the company's problems. After the company changed ownership, Musk fired the Chief Executive, Chief Financial Officer, and the legal affairs and policy chief.

This coincides with his discussions of slashing half of the 7500-person workforce currently at Twitter. In anticipation of his downsizing, when Musk offered the employees the chance to stay or leave, hundreds resigned. Twitter's now skeleton crew is also compounded by the fact that in line with his other companies, Musk is planning on de-prioritizing Twitter's communications department. He has since fired all but one of the communications team.

Elon Musk's purchase of Twitter will have significant implications for the future of social media and free speech online, as well as how we engage with one another online. It will be interesting to see where Musk takes Twitter and whether or not the public will warm up to his new visions for the app, but one thing is guaranteed. Twitter as we know it will never be the same again.



By Alexander Shatov



By Markus Spiske



# Who is Rishi Sunak: the PM of the UK?

Article by Dana Roller

The UK has experienced political turmoil over the past few months. On July 7th 2022 Boris Johnson resigned as Prime Minister of the UK after a string of scandals and an abysmal public approval rating. He was succeeded by Liz Truss on September 3rd whose economic policies resulted in her becoming the shortest-serving prime minister in British history. As of October 25th, the current Prime Minister is Rishi Sunak.

But who is this new Conservative Party leader?

When introducing Rishi Sunak, there are some instant and important BLANKS that come to mind. This 42-year-old is relatively new to the political world, having become a member of parliament holding the Yorkshire seat of Richmond since only 2015. Since then, however, he has quickly moved through the ranks. Rishi Sunak previously held two cabinet positions under Boris Johnson as Chief Secretary to the Treasury in 2019 and Chancellor of the Exchequer from 2020-22.

Rishi Sunak is also the first UK prime minister of color and the youngest in over 200 years. Sunak has southeast African-born Hindu parents of Indian Punjabi descent, a landmark in a multi-ethnic country that although has grown increasingly diverse over recent decades, still suffers from periodic bouts of anti-immigrant fury.

Rishi Sunak studied Philosophy, Politics and Economics at Lincoln College, Oxford and later pursued a Master of Business Administration postgrad degree from Stanford as a Fulbright Scholar. It was here that he met Akshata Murthy, his wife. Together the pair have a net worth of \$810 million. Sunak's status as the richest-ever PM has been a point of contention among voters. With the country in a cost-of-living crisis, people have called out Sunak and his wife for their substantial wealth, the majority of which comes from Akshata Murthy.

Most of Murthy's wealth comes from the fact that she is the daughter of Infosys billionaire, Narayana Murty, and holds a 0.93% stake in his company. The pair have been accused of being out of touch with the general public, but Sunak's time in office is still fresh. Sunak's policies thus far reveal a prime minister dedicated to protecting the environment and disadvantaged individuals. He has not only re-instated the ban on fracking but also aims to increase benefits amidst the cost of living crisis.

It's difficult to say how Rishi Sunak will do as the new PM, but public opinions are favorable. Almost half of the voters claim to like the prime minister; a better approval rating than Boris Johnson received in his early years. Hopefully, Rishi Sunak will bring with him a change of pace to establish some stability in the role and combat the turmoil the UK continues to experience.

### Sustainable Fashion

Article by Viscette Villalobos

Sustainability is an all-encompassing characteristic that more companies should strive for. The process of producing, designing, distributing, and shipping clothes should be done with the lightest amount of impact on the environment to be considered sustainably sound. Not only should the environment be protected, but the workers



should feel safe and secure within their jobs through livable working wages as well as comfortable working conditions regardless of the level of production they are contributing to. Many companies, particularly fast fashion brands, tend to put a barrier between the consumer and production to ensure that their methods are protected from view. Honesty and transparency is a telltale sign that a brand is doing something right.

Pact is an affordable and certified sustainable clothing brand based in Boulder Colorado. Pact produces primarily leisure wear as well as affordable basics. Pact is partnered with Fair Trade USA Global Organic Textile Standard making their cotton the most environmentally friendly way to source. The company's organic farming methods use 81% less water and 62% less energy than conventional farming methods. Pact trusts their production methods and standards to be sustainable yet goes a step further to measure the impact of each product they produce to then offset it through reforestation and community projects.

Reformation is a higher end sustainable clothing brand based out of Los Angeles California. One glance at the company's website shows truly how dedicated the brand is to not only the environment but the community as well. Reformation prioritizes safe labor and have even received a Sustainability Quality Award in 2020 with is an award which promotes local businesses who have exhibited exemplary work in sustainable economic development, social responsibility, and stewardship of the environment. Reformation updates their website every quarter with new goals, accomplishments, and data to be as transparent as possible with consumers. In their most recent report they mention the adoption of deadstock into their warehouses, which is using old materials from other designers and transforming those materials and diverting them from landfills. They have also opened up about how terrible they feel about their own use



of cashmere fabric stating that, "Although cashmere represents less than 1% of the material we purchase, it accounts for almost half of our footprint due to its high carbon intensity. That's not cozy, and we're doing something about it." Taking accountability for environmental impact is the first step in becoming more well-rounded and sustainable.

Everlane is another higher end brand specializing in business casual wear as well as basics. Everlane prioritizes their production and supply chain by seeking out and visiting factories around the world and creating a strong relationship with the owners. The factory they choose will then be given an audit to evaluate wages, hours, and the work environment. A score of above 90 is what the brand lists as



their goal for each factory within their line of production. Cost and transparency is another unique aspect of Everlane. The company lists the costs of everything from the materials to the labor as well as including the cost of transportation to exhibit their clothes in the fairest way possible. Everlane utilizes 97% recycled materials such as polyesters and nylons as well as 66% of their cotton being certified organic. Organic cotton is important to many brands because not only is it keyword: organic, but it also means less water is used, lower pesticide use, healthier soil, and an overall safer working environment for cotton farmers. Textile recycling and creating less material waste is important to many sustainable brands, however, reducing water usage is another way companies can save the environment as well. Everlane also claims to use innovative water saving techniques by capturing, purifying, and reusing water from dye and wash processes. At the end of the company's main page they state their goal of 100% sustainability by the year 2025.

Sustainable fashion does not always have to come at a large cost. There are many affordable sustainable brands to choose from and with a little research it is possible to find a brand that produces the same pieces from your favorite fast fashion brand at a fraction of the environmental impact. At the end of the day, the most sustainable way to shop is secondhand. Shopping at vintage shops, thrift stores, and consignment stores produces absolutely zero emissions and saves you a ton of money as well. When shopping sustainably it is incredibly important to do your research and not trust that a brand slapping the words "organic cotton" on a T-shirt automatically means they are saving the environment. That cotton could potentially be organic but how was it sourced? Where was it produced? Becoming more involved in the purchases you make through the clothes you wear not only makes you more involved, but you are also saving the world.





## **Substance Abuse**

Article by Dana Roller

Dependency. Addiction. Substance use disorder. Substance abuse. There are several words thrown about when having a conversation about the improper use of substances, but what do they all mean? Although these terms are often used interchangeably, they convey slightly different meanings and it's important to understand the differences.

Dependency is when the drug user needs the drug daily in order to function. Addiction is characterized by the use of drugs that affect the brain's reward center and impact its functionality, therefore rendering it a disease. Substance use disorders are defined as "chronic diseases characterized by a problematic pattern of use of a substance or substances leading to impairments in health, social function, and control over substance use".

Substance abuse on the other hand is the use of illicit drugs or the misuse of prescription medication. Together, these four terms make up the majority of conversations surrounding this major challenge in today's society. According to the National Survey on Drug Use and Health 2020, 15.4% of Americans had a substance use disorder (SUD). The actual number of people could in all likelihood be higher due to the fact that this survey doesn't include results from

institutionalized populations (incarcerated, hospitalized, or nursing homes) or the homeless population not in shelters.

Although these statistics have declined in the past five years, the problem has not disappeared. It is important to know what substance abuse looks like, how it manifests itself, why people should care and what the consequences are. It is important to know how to identify substance abuse in yourself and others so that you can get help when needed. Although everyone reacts differently, there are some common signs and behaviors to be on the lookout for.

### Signs:

- Difficulties at school or work
- Craving the drug
- Experience withdrawal when the individual stop using the drug
- Consume higher quantities to feel the same effects
- Give up activities to use and recover from substance

### **Behaviors:**

- Aggressiveness
- Loss of self-control
- Paranoia
- Impulsiveness
- Impaired judgement



People often think of alcohol or drugs as the only types of substances that they should be concerned with when it comes to substance abuse but there are many more types of substances that can cause someone to have a dependency. Doctors prescribe medications for various reasons, but these medications can be addictive if taken improperly or if the person taking them develops a dependency on them.

Sharing medication is another serious topic. In order to save a trip to the doctor's office or save some money, people will often share their leftover prescriptions with friends and family. This can be incredibly dangerous. It's important to keep in mind that when medications are prescribed, the prescribing practitioner knows the medical history of the individual. This mean they know about any allergies, previous drug reactions, family history, etc.



Any combination of these factors can and will change the effects of the medication and there may be a dangerous or life-threatening outcome.

When it comes to the outcomes of substance abuse itself, there could be several physical, psychological, and emotional consequences. These consequences of this addiction vary from person to person but they include death, loss of family and friends, loss of job, and financial difficulties among other things.

Substance abuse, however, is treatable. There is no shame in seeking help and the first step starts with reaching out to the people around us. Over the years the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) has conducted research into treatment options for persons suffering from substance abuse. Depending on what drug the individual uses, the treatment options vary but websites such as FindTreatment.gov are dedicated to finding nearby providers to help in all cases.

In the end substance abuse isn't something to be ashamed of. There are treatment options and support groups across the world dedicated to helping people struggling with substance abuse get back on their feet. Regardless of how long it takes to recover, or if someone falls off the wagon, its important to remember that substance use disorders and addiction are diseases and just as debilitating as any other disease.



### Roe v. Wade Overturned: The Effects Beyond The Declaration

**Article By Eponine Seccafico** 

On the twenty-fourth of June in 2022, the United States Supreme Court announced a ruling that would alter the country as Americans had known it. The ruling had been an overturning of the right established in the outcome of the Supreme Court case Roe v. Wade in 1973.

From Roe v. Wade, the Supreme Court had lawfully decided that states could not illegalize abortion. To do this, would go against the principles and standards set forth by the Constitution (a document designed to state the undeniable rights of citizens, penned by the county's founders). And so, it had been carried out without fault. Until the day when the change had been made.

Although the effects of the change appeared suddenly for the county's citizens, the motivations behind it have been anything but. The factors that led to the overturn and the ongoing effects that plague the nation will be further explained down below.

### A Right Not So Set In Stone

Before we can decipher the effects of the decision, we must first understand why it had been made.

The right to abortion and the intricacies that it entails have not been set in stone as the ruling in 1973 would have most believe. This right has been challenged and brought before the country's highest jurors numerous times. These instances arise in the form of the standards that abortion clinics must meet (such as in the 2016 case Whole Woman's Health v. Hellerstedt) to how these

procedures must be perfumed (such as in the 2007 case Gonzales v. Carhart). Each time a decision had been reached, the right overall had been preserved nationwide.

However, this would give way to a shift in perception when fairly new appointed jurors created a



conservative majority in the court. This majority would seek to revisit some of the rulings mentioned, which would then lead to the current outcome.

In addition to the subject being proposed to the Supreme Court throughout the years and the political shift in its makeup, are the perceptions of average citizens.

Despite the evidence that a majority of Americans support abortion overall (if there should be a termination in how many

months a person with an unborn child can have access to the procedure is where opinions vary), a fundamentalist minority does not.

This fundamentalist minority is made up of those who hold extreme religious or conservative beliefs. And though they may be small, their voices are rather loud in contrast.

Since most jurors share this less than a common mindset, the change was made possible.

### The Aftermath Beyond Absolutes

Now that we have a better understanding of how the decision has been decided, we can delve into its effects. Effects. that is ongoing and relentless for another reversion of the verdict to be done, then acknowledged throughout the nation.

The overturning of Roe v. Wade resulted in abortion being made illegal in the following states:

- Tennessee
- Arkansas
- Oklahoma
- Alabama
- Kentucky
- Idaho
- Louisiana
- Texas
- South Dakota
- Mississippi
- Missouri



It is from this, that people in need of abortions inside of these states must travel beyond borders to have one performed. And though, states are willing to accommodate these people in need, not every person can be taken care of. Abortion clinics are overwhelmed with the influxes of treating people not only who reside in their state but many who do not.

Although this ordeal, although it can be found in many places, one that should be named is Oregon. Oregon abortions have risen 18% as a result of the verdict and the number will only increase if things remain as they are.

Those who do not have the means to travel out of the confines of their state are left stricken with an abundance of fears. They could order medications from out of state but that comes with a series of risks, due to the laws of each state being deceptively vague. This vagueness contributes to the fears since it cannot be decided if ordering abortive medications from one state to one where such a procedure is prohibited.

These anxieties and bewilderments will not be soothed and will only worsen if there is not a strong push for them to be addressed.

### **Conclusion**

The United States Supreme Court's overturning of Roe v. Wade has thrust many effects on the American people. Increases in anxiety, inability to have access to medications, and without any promises for betterment by their authorities. The overturning of this ruling has been greatly impactful in just a few months and does not show signs of relenting.

# A CHAT WITH DJ MAGIC MIKE - AN INTERNATIONAL CAREER AND A CAPTIVATED AUDIENCE

### By Jason Lee

Unity for Equality has had the incredible opportunity to interview DJ Magic Mike, a stellar DJ who has been in the music scene performing at countless weddings, corporate events, and clubs. Putting the client's satisfaction first, DJ Magic Mike has created a well-established career out of his DJing company in the New York/New Jersey area. Though, he also has global traction as he has performed in countries all over the world. Below is the conversation we had with him as he shared about his experience as an international DJ.

# What do you do in the music scene, and how did you get started with your career?

So I'm a DJ. I do a lot of private weddings, corporate events, and nightclubs. I've been DJing for 40 years, and it's my only job. Because of my career, I've been able to travel to so many different countries through countless gigs at destination weddings. I'm fairly well known in South





South Asian communities, and I have a specialty in performing for mixed cultural events. As for how I got started, it was in high school. My brother was DJing as a hobby, and I became interested. When he left for college, I decided to actually make DJing a business. At a young age, I was working for one of the top mobile DJ entertainment companies in New York. Over the years, I've played a lot of events like parties for politicians like Hillary Clinton. Just this past month, I performed at a party at Gracie Mansion.

### How did you develop the style of music you play?

I wouldn't say I have a specific style. It's more like I play all of them, and I specialize in all kinds of genres. In general, I cater my performances towards what my clients want. If they want reggae or Bollywood, '70s or classic rock, I can play anything and go all night. It's my job to ensure my audience has a great time. Something cool is that a lot of events I do often have a mix of cultures that can be catered to. So, I've played for Italian-Latian weddings as well as any and all combinations of Jewish, Indian, Arabic, etc. communities. On the more personal side, I love making remixes of songs and posting them on my YouTube channel.

### Your stage name, DJ Magic Mike, is amazing by the way! How did you decide on it?

It was back in the early '80s, and I was trying to come up with a DJ name. I'm Indian, and my real name is Mihir, which can be hard for people to pronounce. In school, the translated the name to

Miguel, and it got shortened to Mike. I decided to add something cool in front of it and I settled on Magic Mike.

Funnily enough, I actually owned magicmike.com for a few decades before I sold the domain name to the movie company! And there's actually another DJ who goes by the same name as I do, though I started before him. I should've copyrighted the name, haha. But, that's okay because we each have our own separate followings, and my community knows me for me.

## What does life look like as an international DJ? What are some of the best events you've performed?

There's too many events I could choose from. Being an international DJ means I get to travel all over the world and play for different people. This Sunday, I'm actually going to play at Oheka Castle, which is one of the top wedding venues in the country. I've probably done about 15–20 weddings just at that venue alone. Let's see, one Indian wedding I played at actually brought in a live elephant! As for other weddings, I've traveled to Turks and Caicos, Chile, Spain, Hong Kong, Belize, India, Nairobi, etc. I've been pretty much everywhere. Even in the US, I've performed in Arizona, Colorado, California, and more. I should mention New Jersey as well, as I play the most here.

## What is one of the most difficult challenges you've faced as a DJ? On the other hand, what has been the most rewarding part?

The biggest challenge was probably getting through the pandemic. My company definitely

definitely lost a large sum of money just based on money spent and money not earned because of the lockdown. It was almost two years of not having events to perform at, which was tough.

In terms of the rewarding parts, it is definitely all about the satisfaction of the client. As I mentioned before, I play a lot of weddings, or just about any event too, and it is such a great feeling to perform for an audience. I'm taking one important day in people's lives and contributing to their success. My company has probably done more than ten thousand events in the past 30-40 years. One of my DJs has helped open for Bruno Mars which was a great feeling to help open for huge artists and create a good time for the audience. Though we have had our hiccups over the years, our track record has been fairly solid in ensuring everyone enjoys the performances. At the end of the day, it's all about providing a good time for everyone!

### Is there anything you want to have accomplished or are excited about for the future?

Yeah, I just want to keep growing and keep putting out more remixes. I've hooked up with a company in India to release a few mixes which is exciting. And in general, I want to grow my presence on social media platforms like YouTube and Instagram.

### To everyone out there who might want to pursue music as a career, what advice would you offer them?

I would say that this is an amazing time because you can get so much exposure through social media like Instagram and YouTube. If you do the right things to get people to see your talent, you can turn yourself into a star. It's amazing. These opportunities weren't present when I was younger, but it's a different world now. You don't have to depend on record companies anymore. The entertainment scene is a shifting business, so put yourself out there and do whatever you can to make yourself go viral. Don't go too crazy, haha. But anyone can do it as long as they jump at the chance to!



# MENTAL HEALTH AND GETTING THE HELP YOU NEED Article By Ruht Lovos



Mental health has been a rising topic in conversation the last few decades. As more young people are being affected on an unprecedented scale (The Guardian, 2022). As a correlation, antidepressants are being prescribed to children at rates higher than ever before (The Guardian, 2022). Parents are seeking behavioral treatment of different kinds but have found there are waitlists for most specialists. In fact, as a result of these shortcomings apps have been developed to aid cognitive behavioral therapy. Suggesting further the lack of Adequate help is available.

Andrew Gregory attests to this but claims that these technologies "can be used with support from a mental health professional" to ensure the benefits offered (healthier mentality) is truly being realized (2022). Although the evidence suggests these technologies may help some there is a need for more evidence to be collected. The Health Foundation has estimated that 1 in 6 children are probably suffering from some type of mental condition in 2021. This estimate used to be 1 in 9 back in 2017 (Gregory 2022), so what has happened?

It can be difficult to say as mental health problems can be caused by many different factors. Some leading causes may be being subjected to childhood abuse, social isolation or loneliness, poverty, stress, and many other factors. Oftentimes it is more than one factor which may be causing depression, anxiety, phobias, or other disorders (Mind 2017). There are some conditions which may even be linked to your family or brain chemistry. In order to identify and diagnose any mental health problem doctors examine personal experiences through talk therapy, symptoms they may display, and their impact (Mind 2017). These are only some examples as mental health can be quite complex and go beyond just these conditions.



There are some conditions which may even be linked to your family or brain chemistry. In order to identify and diagnose any mental health problem doctors examine personal experiences through talk therapy, symptoms they may display, and their impact (Mind 2017). These are only some examples as mental health can be quite complex and go beyond just these conditions.

There are stigmas around getting help or even being medicated in today's society. Many individuals who suffer from mental health issues do not seek the help they may need, which many times can lead to worse symptoms displaying. Individuals who suffer from mental health can seek talk therapy to try and diagnose what they're suffering from (The Guardian, 2022). Although this doesn't always occur due to factors such as money, availability, and even something as simple as resources.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services
Administration (SAMHSA) is an organization which
hopes to further increase awareness of the
importance of mental health and why people should
seek help. In order to make resources more readily
available to those who might need someone to talk
to they help found the National Suicide Prevention
Line. Their goal is to continue and raise awareness
for the importance of talking about these feelings
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988 SUICIDE & CRISIS

### How Food Waste & Deforestation Amid a Growing Population Will Increase Climate Change

The fear of increased climate change is on many experts and individuals' minds as the human population reached 8 billion earlier this month, leading to the rise of lifelong factors food waste and deforestation.

Food waste is one incessant aspect which does and will still account for climate change. How many times per week do you throw away any vegetables or fruit that no longer look as appetizing as when you first bought them? Or bread that's grown moldy, or milk that's been forgotten in the fridge and became lumpy and soured? These small common habits hinder the environment by tossing food waste in landfills than compost bins. According to a Washington Post article on how food waste is a carbon footprint, journalist author Sarah Kaplan noted that an immense volume of methane - "a greenhouse gas," which are "28 times as potent as carbon dioxide." The psychological challenge of maintaining fresh food while minimizing waste takes its toll in a period where heavy regard for urbanization and a balanced living for a steadfast growing population swell, possibly for years to come.

Households are one of the main settings where food waste occurs because of conscious evaluation of how much of one food item a consumer tends to buy such as: a consumer living alone who purchased a full bag of potatoes instead of settling with two or three; overstocking on food items that are close to expiration date: and buying ingredients a consumer wouldn't normally use or know how to use. Despite there being multiple website tutorials and apps attempting to rescue food from being tossed like Karma, Olio, and Kitche, they are limited to households, excluding major industries such as chain restaurants, buffets, school cafeterias, etc. Thus, food waste in such places where food is prepared, served, and disposed will resume as the rate of human population soars.

In his recent book, "Food Waste: Home Consumption, Material Culture and Everyday Life," David Evans shared a current global estimate uncovered by the Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, stating how "one third of the food produced for consumption is wasted -or otherwise lost -each year" globally, (Evans, pg.7.) This is followed by a review of where food waste occurs: in agricultural manufacturing, sorting, supplying, retail, and lastly consumption. This counts for every division of the food making process including the eating and disposing process of food in every single household, especially the ones located in the global North such as the U.S., England, Canada, etc.

As human population continues to enlarge, so too does the economical demand to boost agricultural production. This calls for the reduction of farmable land as natural resources are overused. Regions in South Asia for instance, produce one major crop consumed globally: rice. As stressed in Mohammad Alauddin's analysis, ecological intensity negatively affects biological ecosystems because it involves the reinforcement of natural systems related to ground or surface water, soil development, and oxygen production. South Asian countries where the percentage of land used to produce rice will continue to increase overtime are India and China. According to current research on rice production developed by the USDA, the annual average of rice production from 2017-2018 to 2021-2022 for China is (148.277 tons), whereas India is (120.544 tons.) Additional data determined that the largest importers of rice are the U.S. and the European Union. These results conclude that soon, as human population escalates, the rate of crop production must exceed to feed a larger population.

Deforestation is the price to pay for the upscale of agricultural manufacturing, and urbanization to house the growing population. Because of this, an alarming number of the Earth's species have ceased to exist. Earth.org classified this year's top ten endangered species: the Rhino, Orangutan, Gorilla, Saola, Vaquita, Sunda Tiger, Yangtze Finless Porpoise, Turtle, and the Elephant. Surely other human-based factors are behind this

Paul Schellekens

staggering projection such as poaching, yet deforestation has deprived these species' ecosystems making them defenseless to the detrimental threat of poachers, warming atmosphere, food, and plant deficiency.

A New York Times report described efforts for reforestation. Although this is essential for combating climate change and the widening of the human populace, they are not enough to reinvigorate the earth's biodiversity, mainly because of the competing interests of alternative companies and countries. For instance, NYT outlined a state of disagreement between those who support tree planting for "carbon storage and timber," those who support tree planting to compensate farmers, and those who strive to rejuvenate the existence of vulnerable species.

Another issue that arises is the constant need for wood to secure the economy. Mangroves, for example, is one type of tree typically found in tropical environments and consists of rich wood. Though latest satellite results presenting land cover changes to the mangrove forest in the Gulf of Khambhat, Gujarat exhibited a decline of mangrove trees "from 2016 to 2018." Many of these have been demolished due to human causes, deforestation being one of them because they are highly coveted in the market economy.

Both food waste and deforestation are carbon footprints which strongly need to be reduced to fight climate change amid the surge of the human population. Besides that, secondary aspects should be taken into consideration such as human migration and urbanization. This indicates that not every section of the world is experiencing such impediments to environmental progress. It strongly depends upon our individual actions and way of thinking. For instance, some households have more than one mouth to feed which provide reason for acquiring more food than a household with three or less people. Furthermore, living in a labor-intensive environment sets some people apart from those with less intense jobs who have the time to rummage through their fridge every night and salvage foods that are close to expiring. And deforestation can be prevented by analyzing exactly which areas desperately need trees, rather than planting trees at random without considering repercussions such as, space limitation which will drive out native plants and species, and an increase in forest fires due to the atmospheric change a grove of trees may cause.



Camilo Contreras



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