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## What To Do About The Ocean

I will skip the formalities and get on with the topic. I want to talk about Earth's pollution and how severe it is. My audience goes out to anyone of all ages. If you ever noticed that the floors you walk, the areas you go swim or ride a boat in; you'll notice the crazy amount of litter there is. Things like plastic bags, cans, empty bottles, possibly glass shards, old furniture, pretty much anything you would find on the street and not being in the garbage/recycle bins.. This goes the same with the ocean, any lakes or rivers too. There are millions, possibly billions of trash laying around all over the planet, and it's difficult to even dispose of them because of the amount of litter there is. Some of that trash can last up to a millennium such as plastic. From what I noticed, plastic does not just go away even if thrown away. It will always be there, anywhere you go, there is going to be at least one or more plastic bags. It's almost impossible to get rid of trash, mainly due to the amount of it produced everyday and there's not enough space for it to be put away. That's why landfills existed, a place made for dumping trash, but even then some of that still enters the ocean.

If you ever went to a beach, could be any beach, you will notice that there is junk lying on the ground and by the shore. When trash is thrown into the waters, they either wind up on the land or by the shore or stay somewhere in the ocean. It keeps piling up and creates this huge mess of trash just waiting for it to be removed. There is this trash island called the 'Great Pacific

Garbage Patch' and it's twice the size of Texas and three times the size of France. Billions of tons are just waiting on this planet. Even if they are picked up and disposed of in landfills, you cannot burn em or try to attempt to. Burning trash can violate the environment, the air you breathe in along with your health and the amount of toxic chemicals fuming. The toxic chemicals released during burning include nitrogen oxides, sulfur dioxide, volatile organic chemicals (VOCs) and polycyclic organic matter (POMs). People exposed to air pollutants can experience eye and nose irritation. The difficulty to breathe, coughing and headaches. People with heart disease, asthma, emphysema or other respiratory diseases are especially sensitive to air pollutants. There are other health problems aggravated by burning include lung infections, pneumonia, bronchiolitis and allergies. Also it's illegal if you alone were to do that.

It's not impossible but it's nearly impossible for the garbage to be recycled and reused. There is just too much trash produced in the past century. Plastic was first introduced in the early 1900s (1907), and it's been about 114 years since and it's only been getting worse. Some states banned the use of plastic bags, but even then again, it would not make too much of a difference since paper bags are just as worse as plastic since it takes too much energy to produce than plastic. It takes seventy percent more air than its counterpart. I don't believe anyone is too fond of using paper straws rather than plastic. Since paper dissolves easily than plastic, it generates fifty times more water pollutants than plastic.

Luckily there are programs willing to help with this pollution. A program such as #TeamSeas, a fundraising campaign. The campaign's goal is to raise thirty million USD to remove thirty million pounds of trash polluting coastal regions, rivers, and ultimately oceans. For every one one dollar donated, one pound of trash will be collected. This program was initiated by

Mark Rober and Jimmy Donaldson. The funds raised will go to two organizations, split equally: The Ocean Cleanup and Ocean Conservancy.