

Annotated Bibliography

#1

Carlini, Giulia, and Konstantin Kleine. "Advancing the International Regulation of Plastic Pollution beyond the United Nations Environment Assembly Resolution on Marine Litter and Microplastics." *Review of European Comparative & International Environmental Law*, vol. 27, no. 3, Nov. 2018, pp. 234–244. EBSCOhost, doi:10.1111/reel.12258. Accessed 16 Nov. 2019.

This article is mainly about how plastic pollution is growing and it is currently an issue of global concern. The main idea is how to regulate plastic pollution at an international level. The article describes the role of the United Nations Environment Assembly and the evolution of the results on marine plastic pollution. Giulia Carlini and Konstantin Kleine are the two authors of this article, they do not show specific biases towards the subject of plastic waste. All the information given has been backed up by a credible source.

This source is very relevant to what I am writing in my research because recently plastic waste has a huge impact on the world. Restaurants and other establishments took charge and started giving out paper straws instead of plastic straws. This source made me learn more about the environment that I never thought about. I found many quotes that are very useful to me, but the one that stood out to me most is how "Between approximately 5 and 13 million tonnes of plastic are estimated to contaminate the oceans each year, roughly the equivalent of a full garbage truck every minute." (Carlini, Kleine 2). I will interpret this quote into my research paper because it

simply explains the issue in this world. Approximately millions of tonnes of plastic go into the ocean each year, causing harm to fish and other wildlife. The next quote that caught my attention was on how "there is no international agreement that focuses primarily on combating plastic pollution." (Carlini, Kleine 3). This shocks me because of how big plastic pollution is, and how no one is internationally focusing on preventing plastic pollution. This quote helped me understand more of the aspects of my topic because no one is taking charge to end this.

#2

SANG, ANITA NG HEUNG. "Plastic Bags and Environmental Pollution." *Art Education*, vol. 63, no. 6, 2010, pp. 39–43. *JSTOR*, www.jstor.org/stable/20799853. Accessed 17 Nov. 2019.

The author, Anita NG Heung Sang, uses a source from the *Art Education*, Vol. 63, No. 6. to discuss plastic bags and environmental pollution. This journal article discusses environmental pollution in Hong Kong. I chose this article because I want to study the issue in different countries. The main focus of this article is about plastic bags, the author explains how pollution is a familiar topic for many school students. This article is created as an opportunity for students like me to learn more about this issue, and to express their feelings towards it. This article gives lessons on how to use plastic bags for many different things. It gives the idea to make artwork with plastic bags, instead of wasting it.

This source helps me understand different aspects of my topic because it gives me an example of how Hong Kong individuals help with the issue. "The artist cut the plastic bags into strips, and wove them into a plate, then swirled them into the shape of a horse". (Sang, 40). This quote made me realize many things that I have never even thought about. Using plastic bags as a work

of art is a very smart idea. “Hong Kong teachers design their own school-based art curriculum in accordance with guidelines provided by the Education” (Sang, 39). I can use this quote in my essay because it supports my point on options to help save the ocean. I believe that every country that has an art curriculum in school should do this. The idea of using recycled plastic bags to make art out of it is very useful for a time like this.

#3

Jambeck, Jenna R., et al. “Plastic Waste Inputs from Land into the Ocean.” *Science*, vol. 347, no. 6223, Feb. 2015, pp. 768–771. EBSCOhost, doi:10.1126/science.1260352.

The main topic of this article is on how plastic gets dumped into the ocean. The amount of plastic entering the ocean from waste produced on land is unknown. This article's main focus is calculating the amount of plastic waste that enters the ocean. The author links worldwide data on solid waste, population density, and economic status. Overall, Jambeck shows full concern on plastics in the marine environment, because of the effects on wildlife and potentially on humans. This source helps me understand the aspects of my topic because it mainly focuses on how plastic waste goes from land to ocean. The main focus of my essay is about plastic waste/pollution, every new fact or detail I learn is important. “ Unless waste management practices are improved, the flux of plastics to the oceans could increase by an order of magnitude within the next decade.” (Jambeck, 1). The reason this quote is useful for my paper is because if no one improves on helping with this problem, it can become way worse as time passes by. The abstract of this article is about the quantity of plastic waste. “Without waste management infrastructure improvements, the cumulative quantity of plastic waste available to enter the ocean from land is predicted to increase by an order of magnitude by 2025.” (Jambeck, 2). This quote is very similar

to the other, but it goes in more detail. Without these methods, the waste can go straight to the ocean without being stopped at any time. This causes harm to the ocean.

#4

Drzyzga, Oliver, and Auxiliadora Prieto. "Plastic Waste Management, a Matter for the 'Community.'" *Microbial Biotechnology*, vol. 12, no. 1, Jan. 2019, pp. 66–68. *EBSCOhost*, doi:10.1111/1751-7915.13328. Accessed 1 Dec. 2019.

This article, written by Oliver Drzyzga and Auxiliadora Prieto, mainly focuses on how worldwide plastic production has developed over the past fifty years. Unfortunately, the authors stated that a very large amount of plastic waste drops into the environment causing vital economic and ecological damage. There is no specific bias detected towards the subject.

Although, the authors essentially concentrate on car industries by lessening the weight of the packaging. This can reduce the fuel used in the transport of goods. This is very important, but even if these plastics are re-used, they necessarily become waste at some point.

This source is relevant and useful to what I am writing in my research paper because it goes into more detail about my topic. One of the quotes that stood out the most to me was how out "Of the 25.8 million tonnes of plastic waste generated in Europe every year, under 30% is collected for recycling; 31% ends up in landfills and 39% is incinerated." (Drzyzga & Prieto, 3). This quote is useful for me since it has the calculated data on how much and where the plastic waste ends up.

It also makes me question why only 30% of plastic waste ends up being collected for recycling.

Another quote I found very interesting and useful is, " For instance, hybrid bio-based high oxygen/water barriers and active coatings are being developed for use in monolayer bio-based food packaging (films and trays) in a joint industrial and academic initiative." (Drzyzga & Prieto,

5). This could give an alternative to modern metalized packaging. It specializes in avoiding the use of non-renewable materials in multilayer structures that currently require difficult and expensive recycling steps.

#5

Song, J. H. "Biodegradable and Compostable Alternatives to Conventional Plastics."

Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences, vol. 364, no.

1526, July 2009, pp. 2127–2139. *EBSCOhost*, doi:10.1098/rstb.2008.0289. Accessed 1

Dec. 2019.

This article discusses the biodegradable alternatives to plastic. The author, Song, J.H. specifically talks about how a wide range of oil-based polymers is currently used in packaging applications.

Among other materials, the ones written in this article are essentially all non-biodegradable, and a few of them are difficult to recycle or reuse due to being complex composites having different levels of contamination. These bio-based materials benefit greenhouse gas balances, as well as other environmental impacts. This article brings up sustainability and how the use of biodegradable materials will contribute to it. It also discusses the potential impacts of biodegradable packaging materials and their waste management.

This source can help me shape my argument because it is showing that there are different alternatives to plastic. This can help me with my paper because biodegradable materials will contribute to sustainability. We have discussed sustainability many times in class and we also went to a sustainability event. The quote that interested me in this article, "The diversity of biodegradable materials and their varying properties makes it difficult to make simple, generic assessments such as biodegradable products are all 'good' or petrochemical-based products are

all 'bad'." (Song, 1). This quote shows the important issues that inform judgments of the advantages these materials have concerning conventional, petrochemical-based counterparts. I believe that this can help with my essay because it shows the importance of specific products. The next quote that caught my attention was that "Among other materials, a wide range of oil-based polymers is currently used in packaging applications. These are virtually all non-biodegradable, and some are difficult to recycle or reuse due to being complex composites having varying levels of contamination." (Song, 1). I will interpret this quote into my paper because it explains how a wide range of oil-based polymers are currently being used and they aren't recyclable.

#6

SCHULZ, Yvan. "Plastic China: Beyond Waste Imports." *Dog Days: Made in China Yearbook 2018*, edited by Ivan Franceschini et al., ANU Press, Acton ACT, Australia, 2019, pp. 274–280. *JSTOR*, www.jstor.org/stable/j.ctvfrxqcz.55. Accessed 2 Dec. 2019.

This online book is specifically about plastic waste in China. It explains that the issue of waste exported to China and has attracted media and public attention. The information given has been backed up by a credible source. Knowledge of the social and environmental results of the global trade in recyclables has grown substantially, not only on the outside but also on the inside of China. This book chapter is based off of a film called "Plastic China", the film depicts the life of two families who were former peasants that make a living by recycling plastic waste now. After the film was produced, the director raised awareness of his homeland's position in the global waste trade and exposed its negative results to the Chinese environment.

This source helps me understand the aspects of my topic because it mainly focuses on the issue of waste in China and how someone made a film to raise awareness. I think this is interesting for my research because I have been mainly researching plastic waste in California. I wanted to broaden my horizons and learn more about pollution in different countries and I thought it would be interesting for my paper. The quote that caught my attention mentioned: "As a result, awareness of the social and environmental impact of the global trade in recyclables has increased substantially, both within and outside of China." (Schulz, 275). This quote is relevant to my research because it is informing us that the impact of global trade in recyclables has grown in both China and around the world. I know gained more knowledge on this issue in a different country. "The film has become indissociable from the issue of waste exports, and it gained even more prominence after July 2017, when the Chinese government announced a wide-ranging ban on 'foreign waste'" (Schulz, 275). I can use this quote in my essay because it supports my point on options to help reduce waste. After the film came out, the Chinese government banned foreign waste.