

## **Hunger: The Predator of Humanity**

### **By Ryleigh DiCaprio**

Low blood sugar, fatigue, sickness, and even in some cases death: this is what millions of men, women, and children go through each day. The predator of humanity, world hunger, causes physical or mental collapse due to lack of dietary energy. It is known to many as the worldwide inevitability that cannot be stopped.

When we peer into the refrigerator we see piles of fruit, meat, and carbs. However those in developing countries are caught in the conflicts of war and famine. Unable to find a continuous food supply, they go hungry. Many contract diseases; thus, they eventually die an agonizing death. Finally, their aspirations are stripped away and their once bright future. Now it's ground to a pulp. Next time you are looking for something appetizing to eat, remember how truly fortunate you are.

Hunger strikes in places all across the globe whilst its prey ponders on where its next meal will come from. Every year, more than half of child deaths are related to malnutrition. Furthermore, an estimated 60% of the world's people live in conflict zones. The hunger crisis begins with these developing countries. These countries continue to lack basic necessities and safety for their citizens. Why aren't these places getting the support they need?

In the years to come it is vital to direct our focus to those most vulnerable.

Although these issues seem to be on such a large scale they are solvable; hence, you can help take action. You can start by simply supporting small farms and charities. A great organization to support is the FAO. They mainly focus on creating roads and highways in developing countries. This enables exporting and importing of goods, especially food.

Continuing, the UN has created a sustainable development goal to end world hunger. The UN has also established a section of their organization called the WFP which is directly dedicated to the hunger crisis. We need to take action as soon as possible; will you pitch in to save the lives of millions?

People all over the world are suffering. Their stomachs are empty, and their hopes are shattered. Nevertheless, you can end this suffering. If you open your

heart or submit a small donation it is extremely appreciated. Now let's be the difference together and end world hunger!

## **Poverty: A Global Crisis**

### **By Anna Chapman**

Fifteen year old Maya lives in a tiny one room shack like house where she takes care of her sick mother, three youngest siblings and two brothers who go to work every day for less money than is needed for the family to have dinner. The horrible truth is that there are families all across the globe trapped behind the bars of extreme poverty.

When you turn on the dishwasher automatically your dishes are cleaned , but all over there are millions of people lack access to clean water, nutritious food, basic health care, education, jobs, and more. When you find yourself complaining, remember all the people who can not imagine all of the things we take for granted. Global poverty is a combination of so many other issues that need to be addressed; however, if global poverty is put to an end more people can come together to make a better world.

How often does the average middle class American go to Starbucks or a grocery store to get your favorite snacks? An item from one of these places could quadruple what someone else lives for the day. Nobody thinks about those around the world struggling to live when going about their daily lives. Approximately 7.5 million people across the globe live off less than 1.90 dollars a day; this is considered below the poverty line or extreme poverty. When a person is not able to afford food, good water, and proper house they lack energy to work or get an education; this traps them in extreme poverty and pushes them to their mental and physical limits. As of 2011 nearly 700 children under the age of 5 died virtually every three minutes from horrible living conditions. This issue needs to be brought to everyone's attention, and it must be put to an end.

With your help we can work to obliterate poverty around the world. Volunteering some of your time or simply donating a small sum of money to charities like "World Vision" or "End Poverty Now" could really make a difference one family at a time by providing better food, water, and homes. To

Prevent more people from falling into poverty you can contribute to larger donations with charities like Kiva. Help end poverty and make lives better.

All of those people in the world who suffer from poverty could benefit from your actions and devoted time. Ending the lack of necessities so many people don't have access may seem impossible; it can be accomplished when everyone helps. Be the change you wish to see in the world and contribute to stopping poverty in its tracks.

## **Nightmarish Temperatures**

**By Samantha Shelkey**

When you fall asleep a nightmare awakes. Animals are dying from heat and hunger. Rising oceans are taking lives and homes, more natural disasters and countless deaths. This nightmare is global warming. Global warming is killing millions, and people aren't doing enough about it.

Global warming is affecting food, shelter, and water, the three key components to life. Global warming is when CO<sub>2</sub> collects in the atmosphere, takes sunlight and is heating up the earth. Cars and fossil fuels are making this situation even worse. It is everywhere, but it mostly affects the Arctic Circle and the places near the equator. Global warming is destroying glaciers; there are more droughts, and sea levels are rising. Because of global warming allergies, asthma, and infectious disease outbreaks will become more common. Cars and fossil fuels are making this situation even worse. Global warming is killing millions and destroying the earth.

Global warming is a snake; it sneaks up on you and bites. Science predicts it will heat up 2-6 degrees in the next decade when before it took 5000 years to warm up just five degrees. It is heating up now more than ever; therefore, the oceans are rising and animals are dying. Average wildlife population has dropped by 60 percent in just over 40 years. Many animals and humans are falling victim to the bite of global warming.

This problem can't be solved with a flip of a switch. There are ways to assist and support the cause. The Nature Conservancy has protected 125 million

acres of land, 5000 million river miles and 100 marine conservation retreats all over the world. There are even ways to help from the comfort of your home. You can reduce water waste, eat the food you buy, compost what you can't eat, and change your light bulbs from fluorescent light bulbs to LED light bulbs. There are many ways to help global warming.

If global warming decreases, when you fall asleep, a dream awakens, with less animals dying from heat and hunger, less rising oceans, less taking lives, less dangerous natural disasters. This crisis can be solved. You can save the world. It doesn't matter how much you give because any little bit helps. These animals and people will thank you for saving their lives. You can be the change.

## **Slavery: It's Still Here** **By Sarah Wiederspahn**

“Freedom, with liberty and justice for all.” You've probably heard those words before, but have you ever stopped to wonder how true they really are? Freedom's most polar opposite would most likely be considered, by many, slavery. We may think slavery is a thing of the past, but it still affects our entire world today.

We greatly take our freedom for granted, but there are people who might give anything for what we consider “basic rights”. Some people are abused, forced into freedom-preventing situations, or forced to work for little or no pay; this, in some cases, is modern slavery. Modern slavery is most commonly found in Africa. It is also frequently found in Asia and the Pacific. It happens all over the world; some of the leading causes are poverty, cultural views, crisis, and lack of government protection. Don't take your opportunities for granted; however, consider everyone in these horrible situations.

Even though it manages to operate out of sight, modern slavery is a huge issue. You can count the number of villages without clean water or the people who die from malaria; however, due to its elusive nature, it is nearly impossible to assign a number to modern slavery. Despite this, it is estimated that in 2016 there were 40.3 million victims on a daily basis, and that number

has since risen to 50 million. One fourth of all modern slavery victims are children, and 71% of victims are women. Such large numbers equate to a large problem.

All this, however real, is solvable. Ten dollars may be enough to free a person. A few bucks could save somebody, and inspire others to donate. Organizations like Anti-Slavery and International justice mission are working to assist victims, but they need support. Every few

dollars could be essential to reshaping the world. Next time you have a few extra dollars, consider helping solve this issue.

Slavery is still a problem, all over the world. It is present in almost all cultures, and is a serious issue. Despite this, we can all make a difference. Maybe, someday, we can truthfully say that, in our world, there is freedom for all.

### **Hope Washin Away** **By Emmett Okerberg**

As she finishes her 9.7 mile trek to the creek, Saisha collapses from exhaustion. She and many others must walk this same distance just to drink water each day. While you might be playing video games in a comfortable home, billions of people suffer due to the lack of water.

When you pour yourself a glass of water, you would never imagine drinking a dirty glass of bacteria filled mud, yet that is a reality for many. The Global Water Crisis is a dilemma in which communities don't have clean water, sanitation, or any water at all. If you look to places like Africa, Southeast Asia, and the Middle East, you can find extreme water stress. The main cause is that we have the money to end the crisis; however, few are willing to take action. As a result, many countries lack resources to survive. So next time you take that sip of water, remember those who have none.

Millions of peasants still struggle from the Global Water Crisis; the truth is much deeper than you would know. Approximately 489 million humans have no choice but to drink disgusting, unsafe water that has a high chance of holding life-threatening diseases. This means that countless quantities of

individuals risk death after a drink of water. Furthermore, about 4.3 billion people lack safe sanitation. By 2050, this number could be up to 6 billion, more than half of the population. Even though these facts may be terrifying, there is still hope for those who are brutally dying.

Although this problem might seem endless, there are still multiple ways to support those in need. The obvious solution would be to donate to an organization, and I believe that donating is one of the best. Water.org, Save the Water, and Water: Aid are all ideal candidates for donating. Another way to help would be to keep our own water clean; likewise, if country leaders see the effect of clean water on us, they may be easily convinced and inspired to assist those in need. If people are willing to take action, we can stop the Global Water Crisis.

Whenever you comfortably take a drink of fresh water, think back to Saisha and everyone else that must suffer harshly through hardships to survive on a daily basis. Even one small act of compassion and empathy could save a life. You could be the change you want to see in the world.

Each year, seventh-grade students at Hampton Middle School are involved in an interdisciplinary unit called, “Be the Change.” This program teaches students about the importance of attention and empathy to global challenges.

Students in Mrs. Catherine Close and Mr. David Hartman’s 7th grade English classes composed editorials based on a global challenge of their choice, after understanding the background on the issues and researching them in history class.

[Click here to read this year’s featured editorials from Mrs. Close and Mr. Hartman’s class.](#)