

Equity is an ideology that explains obtainable opportunities for everyone by giving them what they need to be successful on an unstable playing field. This is important because having advantages isn't something that should be given to a certain group, it should be given to all. Fairness is about the same stand points and the ability to do the same things as other communities and have the same rights and privileges. Human rights is about the fairness and privileges that individuals have when it comes to basic needs for environmental security; it ensures the safety of human integrity.

In the state of Michigan in the city of Detroit, people's Environmental security and Human Rights are at risk. At one point in time Detroit was one of the most populated cities in America and is still home to the highest demographic of African Americans. Detroit during the 1900s had great revenue, many people were moving into the city, lots of job opportunities and an auto industry that was one of the biggest in the Nation at that time. But as the city quickly grew the city unfortunately started to fall. Detroit's pollution crisis has been going on for over several decades.

The air quality in Detroit has only gotten worse as the city is declining. In a short film directed by Lauren Santucci called ‘Mother’ we get introduced to Thomasenia Westons and her family on just how bad the quality of Detroit has gotten since her arrival 10 years prior. As the video plays we get to see the area where she lives and just how bad the city is. She tells us that when she first moved there the grass was green and she was able to open up her windows to get fresh air and how she can't do that anymore because of the air pollution from the industries in the area. She told us that she used to take her grandchildren to the pool and to the park and how she can't do that anymore because the air quality has affected the water and has ruined the ground. She states ‘ the grass won't grow the same because it's contaminated’ because of the nearby factories. All three generations

AT LEAST 6 CONTEXTUAL COMMENTS

(3 Comments per page)

Offer at least six contextual comments throughout your peer’s draft. Use the describe-evaluate-and suggest approach for each comment. Try to distribute the comments throughout the draft; try to avoid placing several comments in one area of the draft.

As you comment, consider the following questions:

- How well do you, as a reader, gain an understanding of the equity event? What could be improved to help you better understand the equity event?
- How clearly can you see that the essay draft followed the information cycle closely?
- Which pieces of information seemed most meaningful or most significant to you, as a reader? How would suggest that the writer focus on the issues of fairness and justice revealed by these pieces of information in later drafts?

Minimum: 6 Contextual Comments Total

Add a Comment

Final Comments

1 FINAL COMMENT:

Craft a DESCRIBE-EVALUATE-SUGGEST final comment that answers the following questions:

- How, as the reader, would you like to see this piece re-organized, so that it breaks away from the information cycle model?
- Setting the chronology of information cycle aside, what is the path through this information that you, as reader, would like to follow?
- What does the writer need to do to this draft to re-organize the essay in the way that you suggest?

Minimum: 1 Final Comment

Compose your final comment here ...



of her family have Asthma all from the causes of air pollution from the area she is currently living in, which is Southern Detroit.

Detroit is home to over 600,000 people and all those people are affected by the Environment. Since Detroit was a very big industrial city a lot of those facilities are still standing and still in operation adding more pollution and more toxics to the water and air. Exposures to gases like PM 2.5, O3, and No2 have been putting adults and children in the hospital for respiratory issues (caphe detroit) similar to The Weston family. Not only is the air being contaminated by industrial pollution, so is the water and for a while, Detroit Sewage Water Association, was providing water to other cities like Flint Michigan which has been in a water crisis for over a decade. Flint Michigan has been dealing with unsafe drinking water and the results are devastating; people are suffering from all types of health issues. Lead exposure in children results in: damage of the brain cells and nervous system, impaired growth and development, speech problems, and learning and behavior development. Adults have reported skin rashes, bad odor to the water, bad color and taste. Though there is reassurance and a commitment to have lead free water by 2022 stated the Flint and Sustainability Team, they stated “ start pipe replacement program is renovating the cities aging water system with federal and state funding by removing and replacing LSL (Lead service line) in an estimated 30,000 homes, and Habitat for Humanity is replacing corroded lead-based fixtures in eligible owner-occupied properties...” (The Flint water crisis a coordinated public.14). While the water crisis is slowly lightening up for people in Flint, people are still afraid to drink the water because the efforts to get to where they are right now took a long time and the people are still scared. Over 96,000 people live in the city of Flint which means that 66,000 people are still without clean water, and although Flint's water epidemic is getting better in some areas people are still resorting to plastic water bottles because they know it's a lot safer, and Detroit is experiencing similar things.

Detroit Michigan went bankrupt in 2013 and was 18 billion dollars in debt which was the biggest bankruptcy in American history. The city was going under, less jobs were being filled, the population was decreasing and the revenue of property was/is still going down in certain areas. Over 40% of Detroit's population live below the poverty line and when it's time to pay city bills, they can't pay it in full because the expenses are too high. In 2014 over 20,000 homes were without water all the way up to today which was another historical event in US history and the number has gone up to 140,000 (Brain Allnut) and (ACLU Michigan). DSWA is funded by the city of Detroit and when bankruptcy hit, they weren't able to pay the public service companies for their work and in return weren't asking the Detroit citizens to pay for certain expenses for several years and when the city was ready to collect the people couldn't pay it and in result, The Water Shut Off. To make the problem worse, the communities were not aware the water was being shut off, especially for so long. Of the same matter, this act violates The Human Right Acts, Equal Protection, The Fair Housing Act and State Law according to the ACLU Michigan article updated in 2021. This water shut off was putting infants, children and adults lives at risk. Illnesses were spreading through the residents, baby formula couldn't be made, urinary problems, respiratory issues, infected eczema and skin diseases were all horrible phenomena resulting in the water shut off. The efforts of getting clean water in neighborhoods were pretty low so people resorted to collecting rainwater which made people's health worse. In certain areas It was hard for people to get transportation to get freshwater and volunteers are only out a certain amount of time and you can only carry so much water per trip. In certain areas of Detroit, people aren't getting the same equity and privileges. Detroit has a high dense population of African Americans and that partly played a role in the unfair treatment of the water shutoff and Environmental pollution.

To reduce the further point, Water and Clean air are all human rights

To reduce the further point, Water and Clean air are all human rights that are being violated because officials don't have the funding and won't take the right actions to do what's right for the safety of their citizens. Shutting off water isn't something that is normal especially for long periods of time this violates people's rights and no one it's stepping forward to support the Detroit communities. Water is a necessity and a right that keeps humans alive and should be looked at as nothing less but a right for survival. After writing this paper and finding research on this topic it really is a privilege to have safe drinking water. When I was younger I didn't really know how good I had it, drinking water was something I was able to get from my refrigerator clear, cold, and tasteless. And the times when I would waste water, I sure felt guilty about it but, I never really thought how much I was wasting or how much of an impact wasted water has. I do try my best to not buy cases of water from the grocery store and that's another privilege that I am able to opt out of buying because there are different alternatives for me.

Just being able to make those types of suggestions and actions subconsciously really shows how good your life is and how much you take it for granted. I am really thankful for the things that I have in my life and the opportunities that I am given and I try my hardest to give back and make smart choices that don't have a negative impact on our environment.

By a way of closing, what is happening in the city of Detroit is heartbreaking and things are not lightening up any time soon. The water is contaminated and pipes need to be replaced and the city is still looking for money from low paid citizens in the City of Detroit to pay to fix all these problems. Sure, there is hope that the shutoff will be terminated by 2022 but even when the water is turned back on, the water will still be contaminated which means that the city will be looking for more money to fix the pipes later on. Of course there are policies to