

## **Montessori Adolescent Summit on Alternative Energy, Manifesto Huntsburg, OH, April 2017**

What we want can be said in three words: A Clean World. A world where we no longer rely on energy sources that hurt us and our environment, but energy that helps us thrive and improve. This is not a want, but a need. Millions of people fight every day for their rights, well, the world is fighting too, we just choose not to listen. It shows us the consequences of what will happen if we continue this path of destruction. The time is now, the choice is ours, if we only think about the present, there will be no future.

Since the beginning of the time, humans have recognized themselves as a part of their environment. We see the Earth as a mother, a sister and a home. We depend on it, but we also have the capacity to go beyond the laws of the nature. But this capacity puts us in front of a new conflict, the one that gives us legitimacy to our actions. We can find multiple points of view on this issue, and we know that this goes beyond sectarian or political views, this is a global crisis, an ethical problem.

Our society lives in constant conflict in which two contradictory facts dispute a future that is in constant change. If we change the way humans use energy, we can improve life on earth without more ecological damage, and this will lead to a better world.

We also have to recognize the cultural implications of climate change, which is not only destroying our environment, but is also causing the disappearance of a great part of our culture. This crisis also has a spiritual dimension. The earth not only suffers materially, but our identity, our connection to the earth, and everything that makes us human has been broken.

This brings us once again to the existing problem in relation to energy, our society is living in a metaphorical placebo effect where the drug is the misinformation people are receiving. The industrial and economical aspect of energy gives us a false idea that energy is a matter of capital and money and takes us away from the biological needs of life on earth. This leads humanity towards an uncertain future about its existence.

Our current notion of humanity would not be possible without energy. Electricity has become a vital factor in the way we live. All humans have rights, which includes education and health care. The access to electricity is also a right that should be affordable for everyone, to create equal opportunities to build a better world. We have the responsibility to provide this right to future generations.

We need change. Part of this change must come from the desire for change. We can't expect solutions if they do not first come from within ourselves. Let us not fall into the trap of ignoring our inner voice that is inherent in each one of us, which is the voice of humanity that is screaming to us, we must act accordingly. We must have global social awareness, because the problem is global and we must seek solutions from universal initiatives because we all have this characteristic that unites us - the giving and receiving of love. We are part of one great nation, the earth.

In our modern day, we are faced with problems that will affect our world's future. All issues stem and grow from the release of CO2 emissions. Our society and our generation do not realize that the misuse and overconsumption of resources is an issue. Not many people know what sustainable energy is or how to use it. People are being misinformed by incorrect reports and many in modern day society don't like

change or are hesitant about it. It is difficult to move away from technologies that we are comfortable and familiar with. Renewable energy can be intimidating at first, because it can be expensive and many companies are working against it in order to sustain their wealth. They try to influence politicians regarding policy proposals. Many lack education regarding climate change and don't realize how much of an issue it is. This is affecting our lives and our homes.

In order to reduce the impact of our ignorance, we as the Montessori Adolescents of the world are striving to change the views of others regarding climate change. We are going to achieve this...

- By implementing more gardens with native plants to reduce our carbon footprint
- By recycling and composting so there is less energy needed to produce new products
- By taking advantage of the public transportation system or deciding to walk or bike instead of using gas powered vehicles
- By holding government officials accountable for their decisions, regarding climate change, renewable energies and fossil fuels
- By educating our communities about climate change and how they can implement clean energy in their lives
- By supporting green business that care about the wellbeing of our earth
- By making conscious decisions about our purchases and how they impact our environment

Carbon emissions in the atmosphere are killing the planet. Gas guzzling cars and corrupt corporations focused on making money rather than thinking of future generations affect our future. Lazy people are willing to lay around and slowly allow the planet to wither away as long as it doesn't affect them in the here and now. The Montessori schools of the world are proud of a quickly growing group of concerned citizens willing to do something about climate change. Please, this is a plea, a proposition, and the idea for a brighter environmentally stable tomorrow. If we only think about the present, there will be no future.

- Sincerely,  
The Children of Planet Earth.