

PERSUASIVE SPEECH

ELIMINATING FOOD WASTE

Specific Goal: To persuade the audience into eliminating food waste.

Preposition: Food is wasted in many places which is a problem that can be solved by helping to eliminate it which can change the impact on the environment.

Introduction

- I. Visiting a friend at his job I encountered a situation that shocked me quite a bit (*visual aid – pretzels in trash bin*). But later when thinking about it I concluded that most of us are part of the food waste problem.
 - a. Food is wasted in workplaces. Like, for example, my friend's.
 - b. And it is also constantly wasted in our homes.
- II. Together we can help eliminate food waste in our homes and community.
- III. People begging for food is a common scene in my country while growing up I was constantly reminded about the privilege of enjoying a meal followed by punishment if I wasted it.
- IV. Food is wasted in many ways and places and helping eliminate it can boost our economy and help our environment.

Transition: So let's first talk about some food waste facts.

Body

<<<<< Introduce visual aid >>>>>

Need =>

- I. An abundant amount of food in perfectly edible condition is wasted every day.
 - a. We Americans are great at this.
 1. Laura Wright tells us in her February 2010 article titled "*How to Wage the War on Food Waste*" found in the On Earth website that the United States Department of Agriculture estimated that Americans waste 30% of food produced, bought and sold in the country.

2. She also tells us that some 13 percent of all municipal solid waste consists of food scraps and edible cast-offs from residences and food-service establishments. That's about 30 million tons a year, or enough food to feed all of Canada during that same period. (IBID)
- b. In some situations the reasons for waste are ridiculous.
1. In a New York Times article by Asit K. Biswas and Leon Ching titled "*That Crooked Carrot is Also Food*" and published on October 2011 we learn that photographic scanners used on farms reject carrots that are crooked, dull, blemished, too thin or too fat and this causes 25% to 30% of them to end as animal feed even though they don't pose any risk to humans.
 2. In an article by Marisa McNatt titled "*Help Your Supermarket Cut Food Waste*" and published in the Earth911 website on October 2011 we read that in supermarkets, damaged egg cartons, bruised apples, out-of-season labels and others are set aside because they are considered imperfect goods.

Transition: So what can we do to solve the food waste problem in our community?

Satisfaction =>

- II. Many ways of helping to eliminate it are available.
 - a. There are ways in which we can help at home.
 1. The environmental protection agency, in their article titled "Household Food Waste", shows us that we can apply the Reduce, Reuse, And Recycle plan in order to eliminate waste.
 2. We can reduce by planning, reuse leftovers and donate food and recycle it by composting. (IBID)
 - b. Several programs have helped businesses throughout the nation.
 1. The "Shopping for a Change" program has helped supermarkets in Massachusetts anywhere from 3,000 to 20,000 dollars per year by recovering and recycling food residuals.
 2. The "Rock and Wrap it Up!" program takes advantage of leftover food from concerts, races and other events and venues and has managed to help feed over 200 million people.

Transition: Lowering food waste will certainly bring us many benefits.

Visualization =>

- III. All of can work together to change the impact on the environment.
 - a. Wasting food is damaging to several aspects of our daily life.
 - 1. Jonathan Bloom's November 2010 article in the Los Angeles Times titled "Help the Planet: Stop Wasting Food" mentions that wasting food also squanders the resources used to produce and handle food and in a cruel twist the waste of resources continues when food is taken to landfills.
 - 2. A CNN.com article by Rachel Oliver, published in September 2007 with the title "All About: Food Waste" mentions that the methane gas produced by food discarded in landfills is 23 times more damaging to our atmosphere than carbon dioxide.
 - b. Eliminating it can paint a brighter future for our world.
 - 1. The same article by Rachel Oliver tells us that the University of Arizona believes that just by cutting food waste in half, Americans could reduce the country's environmental impact by 25%.
 - 2. In a September 2009 article for the Guardian, Adam Vaughn tells us that experts concluded that the elimination of food waste in the USA and UK could lift more than a billion people out of hunger worldwide.

Conclusion

Call to action =>

- I. So Today I showed you why we need to stop food waste, what we can do to stop it and how taking part in it can benefit us all.
- II. Eliminating food waste can benefit our community, economy and environment.
- III. I invite you to take action in reducing food waste so you can reap the rewards.
 - a. Next time you go grocery shopping take your time to make a list of what you really need.
 - b. Organize your pantry and fridge regularly so that you can take advantage of all your food before it spoils.
 - c. Urge your local supermarket to donate food that would otherwise go to waste.
- IV. Hopefully by doing this you can avoid encountering, or even causing, a scene like this (*visual aid – pretzels in trash bin.*) Whether it be at home or, if applicable, your workplace.

References

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