



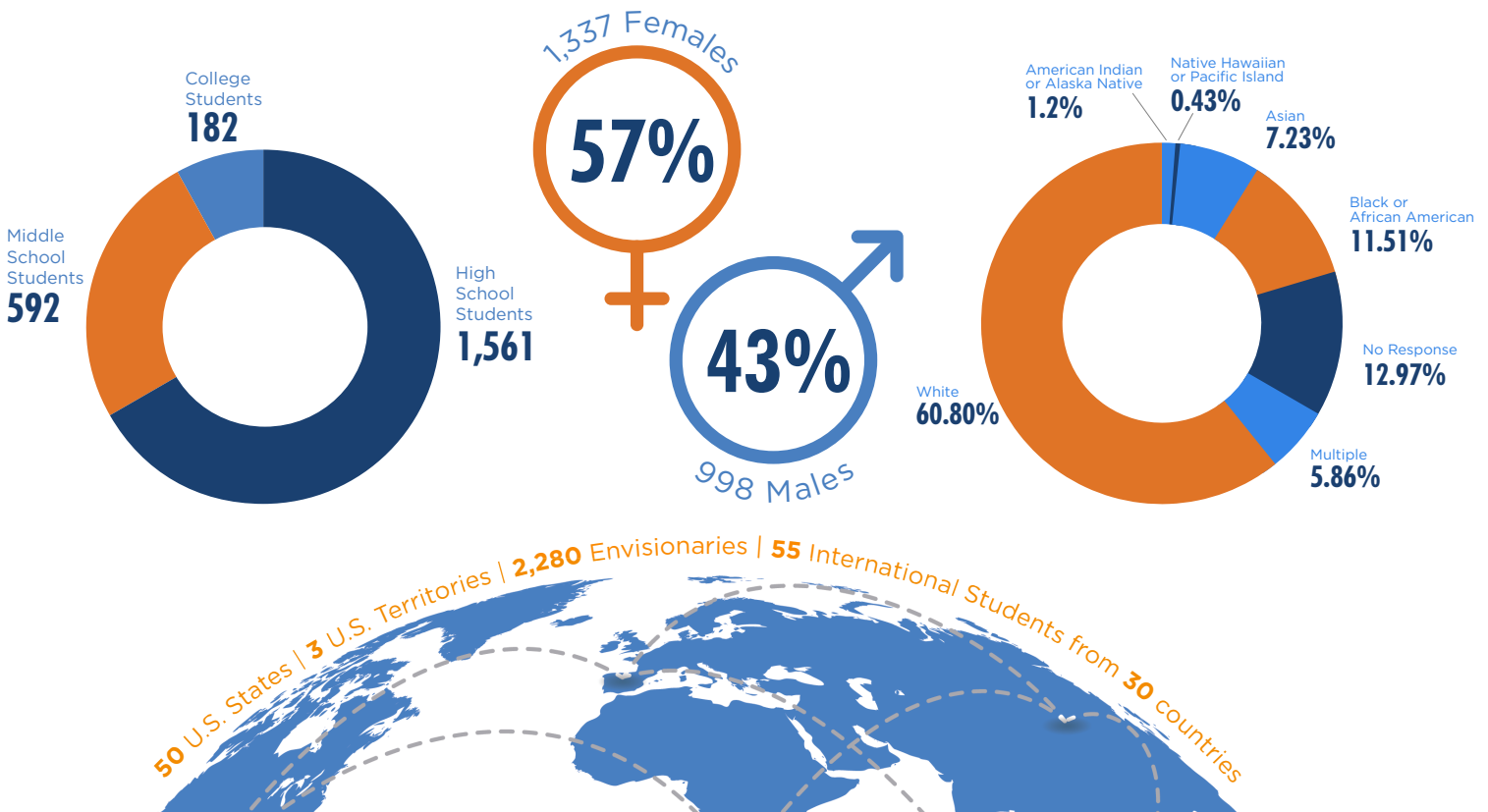
# GENERATION NOW

On the week of January 18<sup>th</sup> - January 22<sup>nd</sup>, young people from across the United States and around the world gathered in Washington, DC to attend the **Presidential Inauguration Leadership Summit** and make an impact on their future. Inspired by an opportunity to experience a moment in history at the 58<sup>th</sup> Inauguration, the scholars collaborated in *Delegations for Change* to create solutions to the issues that they deemed most important to their future while hearing from some of the world's most respected influencers.

This paper represents the non-partisan work of these students. It reflects their voice and hope for the future as they forge their path to become our next generation of leaders, thinkers, and change makers.

## ENVISIONARIES ATTENDING THE PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

*Demographics are similar to the United States*



**This young generation wants your investment — and your patience.** You can feel their optimism and concern as they ask for your help. **THEY WANT A PURPOSE.** And they will find it if you support their passions — as politicians, parents, or even investors.

A SMARTER PLANET

*This is not an immediate gratification program. We will not see the benefits of this for **AT LEAST A DECADE**. This is bad for politicians because they need to point to the **PROGRESS** they've made for reelection and as a result have not invested properly in the future of our nation.*

EXCERPT FROM: **A Smarter Planet: Education, Innovation, and Equity**  
By Alex Mekuria, Sophie Arnold, Syed Aamir Sohail, Ines Borromeo



# GENERATION NOW

## KNOWS NO BOUNDARIES

**Adrift in choice and change**, young Americans not only believe in the American dream, they want to play a role in expanding it.

This report is a call to action to engage a generation of Americans that still, despite what the press says, has hope as they ask for your partnership and collaboration in improving our collective future.

This cohort is coming of age at a time when science, technology, and robotics are changing the skills necessary for success, and yet the impediments are a loud and clear call to us - adults who came of age in a different time.

### THE STUDENTS:

- Believe in the American dream.
- Believe in their ability to impact the world.
- Believe in global communities.
- Believe technology and job displacement affect all races and genders.

### THE CHALLENGES:

- They are watching the complete disruption of institutions from educational to governmental.
- They see the cost of college as the #1 impediment to their success.
- They see terrorism as a top issue — and define the issue as a local — not foreign — threat.
- They see politics as an obstruction to long-term solutions, yet believe they can deliver results.

This generation will be able to reimagine institutions and businesses in a more wired world, with billions more people on the world wide web in the next 20 years.

With these tectonic shifts from an industrial to a digital age as a known landscape, Envision students arrived from all 50 states and 30 countries to partner with us in solving problems for the future. We surveyed the attendees to find out what they felt would most directly impact their future and allowed them to play a role in the *Delegation for Change* of their choice. We find the impact topics were fairly aligned with the issues of today, but the solutions and beliefs that surfaced were pretty awesome.

### THE IMPACT ISSUES:



Drones,  
Clones, &  
Genomes



Imagining  
Peace



Racing  
Extinction



Curing  
the  
Future



A Smarter  
Planet



Pathways  
to Power

# THE PROPOSALS:

**Where there is disruption, there is opportunity.** The students worked in *Delegations for Change* based on the impact topic they found most interesting, and the groups were tasked to agree on a problem they found most pressing and collaborate to discover solutions.

## FREE FROM INSTITUTIONAL CONSTRAINTS, THE STUDENTS PROPOSED SOME INNOVATIVE AND VERY CREATIVE SOLUTIONS:

- Advance students to the next grade based on competency, not age
- Provide government funded re-education of workers displaced by technology
- Train school personnel, including maintenance staff, on how to handle terrorist situations
- Reverse ocean pollution through new technologies, creating a cleaner planet and more jobs
- Match students with teachers based on engagement metrics, not test scores
- Introduce music education to increase cognitive skills
- Protect student privacy by mandating drone-free zones above schools
- Turn excess food into cleaner conditions in impoverished areas of the world
- Create self-cleaning concrete to reduce the amount of smog caused by vehicle emissions
- Bring the taboo topic of mental illness out into the open to educate and help
- Utilize drones to help in high risk rescue scenarios such as high rise fires
- Improve global relations through a moderated agreement between Russia and the U.S.
- Minimize civilian casualties in war zones through Russia and U.S. cooperation
- Create a Finnish-peace keeping force stationed in the Baltic States
- Bolster the U.N. to create international property
- Use social media technologies to bring Western education to the developing world
- Support women's rights in the developing world through new schools for girls
- Divert money from advanced domestic science trials to third world basic education
- Increase tree planting in major cities to improve air quality on a global scale
- Enlist companies to donate resources for global vaccinations

“**TELL ME** and I forget,  
**TEACH ME** and I may remember,  
**INVOLVE ME** and I learn.”

Benjamin Franklin

# DRONES, CLONES, & GENOMES

## Technology & the Future of Humanity

Technological change is ubiquitous – but not without concern. With innovation comes displacement and new moral dilemmas – something Generation Now is quick to point out. The student proposals underscore their concern to guard individual privacy and prevent a further separation of a wired world from those less fortunate. And in a note of their social awareness, the students consistently addressed the need to help people and sectors left behind by technological “advancement.”

### THE STUDENTS PROPOSE:

- Blocking off school zones from drones to ensure student privacy
- Keeping a pulse on how automation affects jobs across racial and territorial boundaries
- Using drones in high risk situations that have proven problematic for first responders

#### DRONES, CLONES, & GENOMES

*We suggest investing in new drone technology-one which will effectively be able to deliver essential supplies in times of crises. We suggest the usage of drones fitted with ventilation systems to be flown into problematic areas. They can be fitted with small-scale fans or other ventilating technologies.*

*This is by no means a replacement for firefighters, nor is it an effort to substitute technology for meaningful jobs. Drones will simply allow for easier implementation of the various tasks and protocols, making it safer for both affected civilians and firefighters themselves.*

EXCERPT FROM: *Fire Flighters*

By Annie Podedworny, Arlin Vieira, Kyra Smith, Travell White, Zachary Solomon, Jonathan Schoolcraft

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# Imagining Peace

## Conflict & Compromise in a Global Age

Not surprisingly, young people today continue to rank student debt as the number one issue that will impact them. According to a recent UCLA study, about 55 percent of incoming first-year college students express concern about their ability to afford tuition and other costs. A close second to student debt however, is national security – a topic that might, unfortunately, define this era. How do students who came of age during 9/11 and Newtown imagine a safer world?

### THE STUDENTS PROPOSE:

- Training all school personnel, even maintenance staff, on how to deal with terrorist situations
- Partnering with Latin America to help rehabilitate areas of high drug growth for economic gain of all
- Facilitating a moderated agreement between Russia and the U.S. to improve global relations

#### IMAGINING PEACE

*Create security officer positions for all K-12 schools, with a goal of educating children on how to handle terrorist situations as well as to ensure safety. Another solution to enhance the safety of the children and staff of K-12 schools is to require that all school employees, such as nurses, administration, teachers, custodial staff, etc., be educated about active resistance. School employees must attend professional development sessions semi-annually. With every adult in the building informed, students will be able to gain a proper knowledge-base of what to do when there is an extreme situation.*

EXCERPT FROM: *Security Preparedness in K-12 Schools*

By Tori Baker, Kyle Chittal, Delaney Johnson



# Racing Extinction

## Water, Wildlife, & Weather @ 2050

Generation Now is worried about our planet, the impact of humans, and although many thought they could make an impact at home, they felt like making an impact outside the US was imperative, though challenging. They agreed sound policy will be required to preserve the environment for future generations. In their essays, the students wrestled with the problems of education and hunger, often with the developing world in mind.

### THE STUDENTS PROPOSE:

- Reversing ocean pollution through new technologies
- Turning excess food into cleaner conditions in impoverished areas of the world
- Creating self-cleaning concrete to reduce smog from vehicle emissions
- Planting trees in urban areas to help with runoff and air quality

#### RACING EXTINCTION

*In 2012, the global population suffered an estimated 871,000 deaths due to water contamination, inadequate sanitation, and poor hygiene. Over one-third (34.1%) of these fatalities resulted from insufficient hand-washing alone. In 2014, it was estimated that 81% of the global population lacked proper hand hygiene resources, making them vulnerable to preventable infections and possible death. While this is a worldwide burden, low-income countries suffer from these easily preventable diseases most, specifically those in Africa.*

*In Sierra Leone, Guinea, and Liberia, largely poor countries whose economies are based on agriculture, lack of money and infrastructure prevents the adequate storage and transport of fruit crops including oranges and mangos. Often, these fruits become spoiled by heat before they can be sold, resulting in large losses for those in the farming industry who cannot profit off their harvest. Yet, these “wasted” fruits hold incredible power, which would be harnessed by the “Sustainable Hygiene Program.”*

EXCERPT FROM: *Sustainable Hygiene Program (SHYP)*

By Olivia Kelly, Alexander Grant, Markeya Hall

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# Curing the Future

## Healthcare, Disease, & the World of Tomorrow

Although we may not agree on solutions, we all know healthcare is a problem. When this group of young students took on “Curing the Future” they did it without the constraints of politics, money, or even existing conditions. Their solutions ranged from personalized medicine to limiting the spread of infectious disease. In all cases, they presented solutions with the gift of really thinking outside the box.

### THE STUDENTS PROPOSE:

- Ensuring that all Americans have access to affordable healthcare through taxes and public programs
- Breaking down barriers around the discussion of mental illness to facilitate diagnosis and treatment
- Providing time-release dosage mechanisms for prescription drugs to help curb drug abuse

#### CURING THE FUTURE

*In today’s America, 1 in every 5 people cannot afford healthcare; yet in The Declaration of Independence, it is stated that everyone has the right to “life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.” One is lead to wonder, then, how people can be expected to live and work, if they cannot even maintain their health.*

EXCERPT FROM: *Healthcare: Is it too Expensive?*

By Abigail Smith, Charles Roberson, Charlotte Jannach, Schuyler Saint-Phard, Tomas Rosales, Tori Ramirez

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# A Smarter Planet

## Education, Innovation, & Equity

Technology has transformed much of the next generation into results-driven problem solvers. They see – and in fact, hold in their hands – keys to innovating and connecting faster and farther than their parents ever imagined. With this in mind, the students of Generation Now demand innovation – and rapid response – in improving education and combating inequality.

### THE STUDENTS PROPOSE:

- Providing government funded re-education of workers displaced by technology
- Reworking or scrapping test-based classroom placement and focusing more on engagement
- Ensuring teachers are engaged by requiring a background in relevant subject matter
- Replacing textbooks with computers and tablets in all schools to create equality of education

#### A SMARTER PLANET

*Increases in accessibility to existing resources on a national level will influence real change. The Americans who are displaced by automation and redundancy are largely those who are in the lower-income demographic. These individuals likely do not possess skills that are able to transfer from their current line of work to more complex work... The training for their future is vital. The current educational institutions are centered on the way that our current world functions. The training for adults who are removed from their positions and those who are unable to join a depleting industry is also incredibly important.*

EXCERPT FROM: *Re-Education for Job Displacement*  
By Kelsey Carrick, Margaret Kelley, Grant Olson

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# Pathways to Power

## Women and Global Leadership

Women are seen as collaborative, consensus-building, compassionate, and self-aware; suggesting they are well-positioned to take on complex global leadership roles – but to date, there is still a glass ceiling. The students who took on women and leadership searched for paths to empowerment and amplification of the female voice here and around the world.

### THE STUDENTS PROPOSE:

- Supporting women's rights in the developing world through new schools for girls
- Using popular platforms, such as social media, to empower women and inform the world
- Ensuring equal pay for men and women by creating a government regulated task force to keep watch on corporations' pay practices

#### PATHWAYS TO POWER

*We need to educate women on the negative effects that their words have on one another. This issue is one of such importance that even Melania Trump has picked cyber bullying as her issue to work on as First Lady. We need to change the way women interact with one another. Now is the time!*

EXCERPT FROM: *Pathways to Power: Ekata*  
By Lexy Ashford, Nina Marganti, Alyza Barnhouse, Georgia Chapman, Alexis Ayres

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**GENERATION** **NOW**  
 COLLEGE



# Delegations for Change Winners

## College

### RACING EXTINCTION:



#### Self-Cleaning Concrete in the United States

*Alia Elkady (Presenter), Jasmine Devenny*

### CURING THE FUTURE:



#### Sustainable Hygiene Program (SHYP)

*Olivia Kelly (Presenter), Alexander Grant, Markeya Hall*

### A SMARTER PLANET:



#### Re-Education for Job Displacement

*Maggie Kelley (Presenter), Grant Olson, Kelsey Carrick*

“**LEARN** from yesterday, **LIVE** for today,  
**HOPE** for tomorrow.

The important thing is **NOT TO STOP**  
**QUESTIONING.**”

Albert Einstein



# Envision | Issue Statement Paper

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## Authors

1. Alia Elkady
2. Jasmine Davenny

## Issue and Topic

Self-Cleaning Concrete in the United States

## Problem Statement

Over the course of recent years, the quality of life has decreased due to many factors. One of the main contributors to this issue is vehicular emission, which leads to the formation of smog in the ozone. While the daily routine of Americans traveling to and from work requires the use of a vehicle, the overuse of such transportation leads to the omission of high amounts of Nitrate into the air. Having extraordinary amounts of such gas poses many health issues, ranging from respiratory conditions in the human body to disturbing the pH levels present in lakes and streams. Ecofriendly tactics have been utilized by many companies in an effort to depollute the environment on a global scale. From an architectural standpoint, using the architecture itself as an affordable self-cleaning device by means of oxidation and deactivation of contaminants can contribute to depolluting the air one concrete building at a time.

## Sustainable Solution

One solution to the evolving issue of poor air quality is mixing a photocatalyst, in this case Titanium Dioxide, with cement in order to create a product which would break down the chemicals that cause pollution and emit ecofriendly gases into the atmosphere - by the use of sunlight. The use of Titanium Dioxide as an air purifier came about in Japan in 1996. A wide range of products were sold for different purposes in order to provide the public with self-cleaning inventions that would facilitate housework and other tasks. Through the past few years, Europe and Japan have found ground-breaking ways to apply Titanium Dioxide. In 2013, an Italian Chemist by the name of Luigi Cassar invented self-cleaning concrete simply by combining Titanium Dioxide and cement, applying it to building facades, and observing the activation of the self-cleaning process as the building comes in contact with light. This technology has made its way through Europe via the PICADA project (Photocatalytic Innovative Covering Applications for Depollution Assessment); its initial goal was to maximize the efforts in which countries such as France, Switzerland, Italy, and Germany use photocatalysts. Since this technology has not made its way to the United States, it would be beneficial for our great urban cities to make use of the idea of self-cleaning and integrate it into our buildings as well.

The significance of Titanium Dioxide is rooted in what is often used to describe this chemical; a photocatalyst. A photocatalyst, by definition, is a substance that accelerates the rate of a chemical reaction when exposed to sun. Contaminants such as fungus and bacteria are trapped by the Titanium Dioxide, and through the process of photocatalysis, are released into the air in the form of processes such as deodorization, sterilization, and air purification. The Concrete Society released an article in which they described the process in which Titanium Dioxide cleanses the environment:

“The energy in light causes the TiO<sub>2</sub> to create a charge separation of electrons, which disperse on the surface of the TiO<sub>2</sub> and react with external substances, decomposing organic compounds.”

In order for the Titanium Dioxide to reach its full potential, it has to be exposed to sunlight, which assists in carrying out the means necessary in order to purify our environment. Such technology's presence in our country is of utmost importance for various reasons. Self-cleaning concrete is affordable, as it costs little to no money to maintain it, which can be seen at the Jubilee Church by Richard Meier; the only item used to maintain the building is rain. Another reason as to why this method of sustainability works is because it contributes to the reduction of the depletion of the ozone layer, which affects our planet on a long term basis.

Bringing self-cleaning concrete would have to deal greatly with the branch of commerce in Foreign Affairs. It is time as an architecture student in my last year to imagine a world where a building is respected and protected in the same way that a building protects people under its roof.

# Envision | Issue Statement Paper

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## Group Name

Sustainable Hygiene Program (SHYP)

## Authors

1. Olivia Kelly
2. Alexander Grant
3. Markeya Hall

## Issue and Topic

Improving Hygiene, Preventing the Spread of Infectious Diseases, and Stabilizing the Economies of Developing Nations in Sub-Saharan Africa

## Background and Proposal

In 2012, the global population suffered an estimated 871,000 deaths due to water contamination, inadequate sanitation, and poor hygiene (“Mortality Due to...”). Over one-third (34.1%) of these fatalities resulted from insufficient hand-washing alone. In 2014, it was estimated that 81% of the global population lacked proper hand hygiene resources, making them vulnerable to preventable infections and possible death (Prüss- Ustün). While this is a worldwide burden, low-income countries suffer from these easily preventable diseases most, specifically those in Africa (“Mortality Due to...”).

Of the nearly one million water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) related deaths in 2012, 45% of the fatalities occurred in Africa, where only 13% of the global population lives (“Mortality Due to...”). Each hour, 115 people in Africa die due to a lack of hand-washing materials – mere soap and water. In 2015, the Ebola Virus Prevention Department at the Mayo Clinic stated that, “As with other infectious diseases, one of the most important measures is frequent hand-washing. Use.....alcohol-based hand rubs containing at least 60% alcohol when soap and water are not available.” Additionally, with the outbreak of Ebola in 2014, which devastated West Africa and its surrounding regions, the World Health Organization (WHO) stated that, “Alcohol-based hand rubs should be made available at every point of care (at the entrance and within isolation rooms/areas) and are at the standard of care” (“Hygiene...”). Yet, WHO reports that even 35% of hospitals and health care clinics in 54 developing countries lacked the

basic resources needed for staff and patients to wash their hands (WHO, United Nations' Children's Fund).

In these most vulnerable countries, economic and job instability further threaten lives. In Sierra Leone, Guinea, and Liberia, largely poor countries whose economies are based on agriculture, lack of money and infrastructure prevents the adequate storage and transport of fruit crops including oranges and mangos. Often, these fruits become spoiled by heat before they can be sold, resulting in large losses for those in the farming industry who cannot profit off their harvest ("Tropical Fruits"). Yet, these "wasted" fruits hold incredible power, which would be harnessed by the "Sustainable Hygiene Program."

The Sustainable Hygiene Program (SHYP) proposes a plan to convert these otherwise wasted fruits into ethanol to be used for sanitation in low-income regions of Africa. By fermenting and distilling these spoiled fruits into ethanol and bottling that sanitizing agent as 60% alcohol-based hand-rubs, nations can reduce the horrific rates of death due to infectious diseases and diarrhea, improve sanitation in medical and domestic environments, and stimulate economies of impoverished areas throughout the world. SHYP aims to build the necessary transport and manufacturing systems in these low-income communities to bring fruit from farm to factory, and sanitizers from factory to consumer. The process to efficiently convert fruits into ethanol was determined in 2009 by Dr. Wayne Fish and his team at the USDA. From a single acre of unsalable melons, Dr. Fish and his colleagues were able to produce 87 liters of ethanol (Fish). This process can easily be modified to use the mangoes, oranges, and other fruits spoiled in the African sun to create sanitation supplies for low-income communities. In fact, since these tropical fruits are higher in sugar content than the melons("Tropical Fruits") tested by Dr. Fish, the implementation of this distillation process would yield increased volumes of ethanol. No individual in this modern world should become ill or die from a preventable disease due to an inability to wash their hands; the Sustainable Hygiene Program would eliminate this global threat.

## Partners

For decades, there has been no shortage of organizations that want to help low-income, African communities. However, with still 70% of the continent suffering from lack of sanitation, clean water, and proper hygiene (Africare), it is evident that there is a desperate need for a sustainable and financially responsible project such as SHYP. By partnering with the current organizations working to ameliorate this suffering, the Sustainable Hygiene Program can be accomplished. Such organizations include Africare, a leader in improvement of African lives and responsible for educating nearly 66,000 people about sanitation and health practices through its Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) program (Africare). Likewise, the Water and Sanitation Trust Fund (WSTF) and the Human Values in Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Education Program (HVWSHE), are top nonprofits seeking innovative ideas to ameliorate the difficulties in lives of those suffering from sub-standard hygiene. By partnering with the WSTF, HVWSHE, and Africare, as well as with the governments of African countries, the

financial support, community intelligence, and legal permission needed to employ the Sustainable Hygiene Program in Africa would be acquired, saving the lives of millions for generations to come.

## **Challenges, Solutions, and Schedule for Implementation**

The biggest challenge to SHYP is the funding and construction of the factories needed to convert damaged fruits into ethanol, and to bottle and distribute the alcohol sanitizers to impoverished communities. In order to reduce these logistical burdens, the local citizens of these poor areas should be employed to construct, run, and maintain each of the factories, as well as distribute the 60% alcohol sanitizers to their local communities. Doing so will eliminate the need to import and house workers from other nations and will result in the self-sufficiency of the factories. By creating new manufacturing jobs and training locals to maintain the facility, these destitute poor will be able to earn a stable wage. In order to further make these factories self-sustaining, these factories will be powered by solar panels, which will efficiently create electricity under the strong, African sun. In order to supplement this solar energy, a portion of the fruit-based ethanol can be used as a biofuel, just as corn-based ethanol is the primary source of biofuel in America. Consequently, the factories will be sustainable, will preserve the environment, and will stabilize the economies of surrounding communities by providing jobs for local citizens.

By collaborating with the aforementioned governmental, international, and non-profit partners, it would be feasible to gather the funding and design the plans for the construction of this eco-friendly, life-saving project in sub-Saharan Africa by 2020. Thus, it is estimated that this Sustainable Hygiene Program (SHYP) would be able to be up and running in those most needy countries like Sierra Leone, Guinea, and Liberia by 2025.

## **Critical Impact**

As described above, the implementation of the Sustainable Hygiene Program throughout Africa would yield three major results: the prevention of nearly 300,000 deaths per year due to a lack of soap and water for hand-washing, the ability of farmers in these agriculture-based countries to profit from their abundant amounts of spoiled fruits, and the creation of thousands of jobs in low-income communities.

Please, help support this initiative to improve health, hygiene, and economics in developing nations. It is critical that these deprived men, women, and children be provided with the most basic tools to have a healthy and hygienic life. Please support and establish the Sustainable Hygiene Program and ask that your fellow world leaders do the same. Millions of the world's most vulnerable lives can easily be saved, one SHYP at a time. Thank you for your time and consideration.

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# Envision | Issue Statement Paper

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## Authors

1. Kelsey Carrick, University of Delaware
2. Margaret Kelley, Georgia Institute of Technology
3. Grant Olson, San Diego Mesa College

## Issue and Topic

Re-Education for Job Displacement

## Problem Statement

The growth of technology is creating a more efficient, more intelligent, and more widely connected world. Information is produced and exchanged in almost every area of the world through connected wires and waves. It can be argued that human induced improvement of technological function will never decrease. In fact, it is suspected that humans will improve upon technology to a point where the technology will have the ability to improve upon itself. Major industries will be run by technologies; millions of jobs will be mechanized and will no longer need human bodies to complete work. As of 2016, it is estimated that 7.1 million jobs in the world's richest countries could be lost through redundancy and automation (Kottasova, 2016). In October of this year, Anheuser Busch sent its first driverless delivery truck of beer on a 120-mile test with success. Full success in autonomous trucking would put around 3.5 million people from this industry out of jobs in the United States alone (Rueters, 2016). The world is moving to a time where people are not needed to be the means of physical production, but instead instructed to focus on knowledge creation. Today's leaders will need to not only develop the roles that individuals will fill in the future due to mechanization, but will also need to help develop those who are being continuously displaced by these developing technologies. This can be done by creating accessibility to re-education options for individuals who lose jobs due to this recurring automation and phase out of industry in order to not only ensure economic viability, but also to inform the initial education process.

## Sustainable Solution

The focus will need to be on mind not matter, brains not brawn, and ideas not things. Our education system will need to be able to develop individuals in society to become better thinkers and more adept problem solvers. We already have the most powerful tool readily available with typical development, the brain. This resource has capabilities



far beyond what is researchable. Increases in accessibility to existing resources on a national level will influence real change. The Americans who are displaced by automation and redundancy are largely those who are in the lower-income demographic. These individuals likely do not possess skills that are able to transfer from their current line of work to more complex work. It is predicted that 65% of children who started primary school in 2015 will end up working in jobs that do not exist today (Kottasova, 2016). The training for their future is vital. The current educational institutions are centered on the way that our current world functions. The training for adults who are removed from their positions and those who are unable to join a depleting industry is also incredibly important. There will have to be voices that will depend on a change in the way that all ages learn and develop their problem solving skills.

Introducing Associate Degrees at the high school level will put focus on the two-year colleges that provide for a diverse range of people. High school students face the daunting task of determining what the next step in their life is at 18 years old. To reduce the stress of an immediate income, students would be rewarded with an Associate Degree after completing the appropriate workload in their four years in high school. This adds a number of options in the lives of students as they will be able to stick with their trade or they could continue their education with affordability. This not only provides the student with multiple resources, but would help to in turn reduce student debt. Providing essential resources to a targeted, diverse population may provide that solution.

The progress already made in creating new and efficient technologies is astounding. Machines will inevitably dominate the production of goods in American society at some point in the very near future. They may even take over some services that are taken for granted due to commonality such as restaurant serving, customer service centers, retail shopping assistants, etc. The actions to cope with and adapt to these emerging shifts must begin soon in order to have ample time to design effective and meaningful opportunities for each and every person across the globe. The leaders of today can make this predestined transition as one that does not completely unhinge current societies. We can offer our adult population that is affected by this change by encouraging re-education. Two-year institutions have “42 percent of the nation's community college students that are the first in their families to attend college. Thirteen percent are single parents, 12 percent have disabilities, 6 percent are non-U.S. citizens and 3 percent are veterans. Most community college students receive financial aid, which usually requires them to carry a full course load and maintain a certain grade point average — stipulations that can add to the pressures” (Clay, 2012). To help alleviate that stress, we can provide funding to those that go as an incentive to the future of our country. A form of tax on automobile companies that outsource their

production could go towards this funding. We want to encourage spending in America and provide new job openings. We can do just that by re-educating adults who lose jobs due to automation and provide them with sponsorships from this tax fund.

Our goal is to transform education in tandem with the transformation and innovation in our evolving society. We will transform the focus so that we are concentrating on mind not matter, brain not brawn, and ideas not things. We all want a more equal and represented America and we have the solution, but results require action. We ask you to make that action today.

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# Delegations for Change Winners

## High School

### DRONES, CLONES, & GENOMES:



#### Fire Flighters

*Annie Podedworny, Arlin Vieira, Jonathan Schoolcraft, Kyra Smith, Travell White, Zachary Solomon*

#### Drones are Becoming More and More Commercialized Every Day

*Bryan Bennett, Jose Folgar, Jamieson Bell, Fiona Kincaid, Chinonso Morsindi, Jenelle Hanson*

### IMAGINING PEACE:



#### Conflict and Compromise in a Global Age

*Blake Barclay, Colton Anderson, Konnor Halteman, Hailee Andrews, Isabella Chavez, Reid Burton, George Kaplanidis*

#### Saving NATO

*Morrison Bisbee, Parker Johnson, Pierre-Richard Baddoo, Savannah Davis, Salvatore Cesario, Joseph Yourkoski, Justin Hamilton*

### RACING EXTINCTION:



#### Racing Extinction

*Annika Srivastava, Grayson Massenburg, Miles Moore, Valentina Irazabal, Savannah Nippa, Phoebe Lao*

#### Water Conservation in San Diego

*Cathryn Jones, Shay Neth, Samuel Escamilla, Nickhil Rawat, Madi Gawlinski, Sophie Lindley*

### CURING THE FUTURE:



#### Let's Talk... about Mental Disorders

*Ben Richards, Crystal Raines, Raven Washington, Victoria Wolan, Aman Srivastava, Andrea Venderby*

#### Healthcare: Is it too Expensive?

*Abigail Smith, Charles Roberson, Charlotte Jannach, Schuyler Saint-Phard, Tomas Rosales, Tori Ramirez*

### A SMARTER PLANET:



#### A Smarter Planet

*Hannah Mollin, Amber Allen, Lawrence Veyberman, Luis Andrade, Kaylee Kumbumbala, Analise Kruse*

#### The Standards of Teachers

*Simi Ilyumade, Stephanie Casting, Connor Voitius, Pablo Flower, Kaicey Pritts*

### PATHWAYS TO POWER:



#### Women in the Workplace

*Tianna Green, Amanda Coy, Faith Limantono, Patricia Ashford, Sadie Hopkins, Sadie Dominguez*

#### Pathways to Power: Ekata

*Lexy Ashford, Nina Marganti, Alyza Barnhouse, Georgia Chapman, Alexis Ayres*

# Envision | Issue Statement Paper

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## Group Name

Fire Fighters

## Authors

1. Annie Podedworny
2. Arlin Vieira
3. Kyra Smith
4. Travell White
5. Zachary Solomon
6. Jonathan Schoolcraft

## Issue and Topic

Drones

## Problem Statement

In an age where technology is advancing at a rapid pace, we are presented with new challenges in modern day architecture. We are expanding; infrastructure is becoming more advanced, buildings are taller than ever before, and urban centers are becoming rapidly populated. With expansion on such a scale as this, special attention must be paid to ensure fire safety protocols are being implemented quickly, safely, and effectively, particularly in high rise buildings. Fires in high rise buildings are now becoming commonplace, and it is an issue we must address.

The problem is simple. First and foremost, firefighters are having difficulty reaching the affected floors in high rise buildings during the event of a fire. Elevators are not a feasible option and oftentimes there are too many flights of stairs to tread through in order to reach victims in a timely manner. Complex architecture makes navigation through such buildings difficult and tight spaces restrict movement. As a result, supplies cannot be delivered in an effective and safe manner. Ground fire equipment has a maximum reach of approximately ten floors and fire hoses do not extend far enough to reach floors which are further up than their limited lengths. In a situation where every second is crucial to survival, supplies such as masks cannot be delivered in time which can be the difference between life and death. High rise fires are a particular case which require a specified solution. Anyone can be a victim, but the focus is particularly on people who reside in urban areas. Many reside in high rise buildings; others hold jobs there and are at risk due to their continuous presence. Multi-family housing, hotels, dormitories, facilities that care for the sick, and office buildings account for nearly three quarters of high rise fires. Largely permanent residence structures seem to be most

affected. This is not limited to the US. Many urban population centers are experiencing the same problems with combatting fires in high rise buildings. Skyscrapers and towering buildings are often found in urban areas and cities which are densely populated, only further emphasizing the threat of civilians in danger. For example, a week ago on January 12th in Tehran, 200 firefighters were sent into a high rise tower. Due to a lack of quick delivery, 20 firefighters died and 70 people were left severely injured. Between 2009 and 2013, the US Fire Department had 14,500 reported structural fires per year. As shown, this is a commonplace occurrence. High-rise building fires result in an average annual total of more than 40 civilian fire deaths, 520 civilian fire injuries, and over \$154 million in direct property damage. Such a situation requires a multifaceted solution, one with ingenuity, one which takes advantage of possibly already existing technologies.

## Solution

The solution? Drones. Drones are mobile, small, unmanned, and fast, all qualities which we can take full advantage of in such a scenario. We suggest investing in new drone technology-one which will effectively be able to deliver essential supplies in times of crises. We suggest the usage of drones fitted with ventilation systems to be flown into problematic areas. They can be fitted with small-scale fans or other ventilating technologies. Three times more deaths occur from smoke inhalation as opposed to burns. Furthermore, drones can deliver a limited supply of water quickly to areas which need immediate relief, possibly preventing the proliferation of the fire and minimizing its impacts. Even in large scale fire scenarios, multiple drones equipped with hoses or small water supply tanks can be deployed to begin relief. This is by no means a replacement for firefighters, nor is it an effort to substitute technology for meaningful jobs. Drones will simply allow for easier implementation of the various tasks and protocols, making it safer for both affected civilians and firefighters themselves. Furthermore, drones can deliver oxygen masks or other essential equipment which may even aid their evacuation. They can even be fitted with thermal-imaging technology which can allow for easier navigation once they enter the building. Drones are a solution which minimize injuries and casualties at all levels.

Possible challenges include the development of such technologies. We would need investors to take on a project to upgrade drone technologies and integrate new systems. The cost of such a project may be extensive considering the different parts. The use of fire-resistant materials, which are lightweight and effective, may prove problematic. We may have to compromise the small, agile size of drones to adapt to the needed technologies. We would need to collaborate with the American Association of Engineering Societies to compile and apply research for these new types of drones. A reasonable time frame to develop new drone technology such as this would be a few months to a year. Furthermore, we would require mass production on a fairly large scale. Next, in order to make the technology effective on a large scale basis, we would require mass distribution which may take another few months. We request that companies willing to take on such a massive project be subsidized in an attempt to make production and distribution rapidly implemented. If not a feasible option, we would

like to urge companies to work in junction with each other and possibly make use of NGO's or other governmental organizations. Furthermore, we would like to see outreach to local, state, and even regional fire departments to encourage implementation of the solution.

# Envision | Issue Statement Paper

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## Group Name

Area Fifty-Drone

## Authors

1. Bryan Bennett
2. Jose Folgar,
3. Jamieson Bell
4. Fiona Kincaid
5. Chinonso Morsindi
6. Jenelle Hanson

## Issue and Topic

Drones are becoming more and more commercialized every day. This is clearly bound to cause some issues. We will be focusing on the security and privacy aspects of the problem.

## Background on the Issue

The drone issue includes everything from commercial to civilian drones. Amazon has taken interest in drones, with the concept of their new Prime Air coming to reality. Prime Air primarily serves to use drones to cut shipping times down to as fast as 30 minutes. The customer chooses a location that the drone is to deliver the shipment, and then the drone leaves. However, this method of shipment has alarmed many, mainly due to the rate of which the drones are emerging and put into use. The PRPL Foundation's President, Art Swift, is now saying that Amazon's drone testing is a hazard to the public's safety because of the chance that the drones could be remotely hacked (rethinkresearch.biz). This is merely one of many examples that bring the problem to light.

## Problem Statement

This brings us to the main situation: privacy and security. Specifically, we are going to focus on home privacy and security. In the summer of 2014, a Seattle woman noticed a drone hovering outside her apartment window after getting out of the shower. She quickly notified the concierge, who went outside and found 2 men controlling the drone, along with a tripod and video camera (BusinessInsider.org). This was in 2014 and with major advances in the range that drones can reach before losing connection, these two men could be a block away, instead of right outside the building. Of course, thousands of cases very similar to this have occurred all over the country since then, mainly in large cities like Dallas, which have parks specifically for flying drones. This has led to the banning of drones all across the country, which we don't believe is the answer.



## **Solution**

We believe that the simplest, most effective answer is in the WiFi that you and I use every day. Drones work at 2.4 MHz and 5.8 MHz. We believe that if we install a frequency into the WiFi, we will be able to program it to disrupt radio waves on those frequencies, causing the drone to shut down when it comes within range of the router. Of course, we could not make the drone shut down completely, as when it falls, it could hit any bystander unlucky enough to be underneath it, severely injuring their head. That is why we will make it so that the drone's propeller's power will be lowered softly for a safe landing, not just for the Drone, but for the homeowners. To make this a reality, we would need to partner up with an internet supplier/carrier. As any project, we would have some challenges to overcome, including finding a programmer to help us perfect this design, and any possible legal issues that may occur with disruptors. With any luck, we would hope to have this project complete within 3-5 years from the time we get the resources needed to begin. We hope that this will have a major positive impact on the privacy and security of homeowners everywhere, all we ask from you is your support.

## **Research Sources**

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<http://rethinkresearch.biz/articles/drones-making-progress-doubts-remain/>

# Envision | Issue Statement Paper

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## Group Name

Citizens of Peace

## Authors

1. Blake Barclay (Junior, Pensacola, Florida)
2. Colton Anderson (Junior, Boone, Iowa)
3. Konnor Halteman (Senior, Carrollton, Texas)
4. Hailee Andrews (Junior, Union, Kentucky)
5. Isabella Chavez (Freshman, Temple City, California)
6. Reid Burton (Sophomore, Rochester, New York)

## Issue and Topic

Imagining Peace: Conflict and Compromise in a Global Age

## Thesis

The drug trade in Latin America is preventing peace from taking root in the region and in peripheral areas and, in order to stop this crisis and promote long lasting peace, the United States must better enforce border security measures, promote cooperation among Latin American governments and United States' organizations, and work to decrease economic dependency on the drug trade.

## Background on the Issue

This is a not only a pressing issue that we have all seen across the news and seen hurt our communities, but also a student in our group has felt this personally: Reid Burton's brother, pictured in the final slide of our PowerPoint presentation, passed away a year ago as a result of a drug overdose. The issue not only causes violence and economic harm, but severe family impacts and harm that is destroying lives and hurting families - American families.

## Problem Statement

The Latin American drug trade and its impact on the United States is undeniable. According to the Heritage Foundation, over 2,000 illegal guns cross the US border every day in addition to thousands of kilograms of illicit contraband and drug related paraphernalia. Human life is also being compromised, as over 1,000 US enforcement agents were killed last year as a direct result of the drug trade and people up to age 50

living in the affected nations in Latin America are significantly less likely to live than those in nations not affected, according to the UN. All involved nations, including the US, receive middle to low scores from the Global Peace Index, or GPI, (2016) when ranking peace and stability. This is an extremely pressing matter and is not only harming stability in our region and threatening the safety of US citizens, but it is economically detrimental. The GPI also believes that because of international violence, like that caused by the massive drug superhighway throughout the Americas, results in a GDP globally that is almost 13% lower than it could potentially be in a more peaceful environment. By investing in peace, we can achieve a greater level of safety, stability, and financial growth.

## **Sustainable Solution**

By working with the Latin American nations and our allies, possibly including the UN, we believe that forming an aid package to build infrastructure in the region and fund education and drug rehabilitation, we can decrease economic and social dependency on the drug trade. In addition to this, by working with other organizations, we believe that we can work to inflate the value of cash crops to allow farmers to grow legal and beneficial crops like cocoa, coffee, and maize, so that local farmers do not have to resort to growing drugs to make a living.

By securing the US border by physical and technological means, we believe that we can eliminate the entry point for the majority of illegal contraband and violence being transported from Latin America to the US, thus decreasing the threat to Americans and helping Latin American nations affected by the issue by eliminating a market for the drug traders and cartels. By eliminating their chief market, we can cripple the cartels and reduce their power to make it easier to eliminate their influence and power by force or by continued economic isolation and irrelevancy.

# Envision | Issue Statement Paper

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## Group Name

Saving NATO

## Authors

1. Morrison Bisbee
2. Parker Johnson
3. Pierre-Richard Baddoo
4. Savannah Davis
5. Salvatore Cesario
6. Joseph Yourkoski
7. Justin Hamilton

## Issue and Topic

Our topic concerns the survival of NATO: a pressing issue of the United States (U.S.), Canada, and many European countries. Besides the U.S. and a small pick of mostly Eastern European nations, the overwhelming majority of member states in NATO are not paying their fair share, specifically of the 2% of their Gross Domestic Product (GDP). In fact, only five countries including the United States, Estonia, Greece, Poland, and the United Kingdom are paying unlike the other 23 other countries which are not paying the full amount as agreed. These nations are: France, Turkey, Norway, Croatia, Portugal, Romania, Albania, Bulgaria, Denmark, Germany, Netherlands, Lithuania, Czech Republic, Italy, Latvia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Canada, Belgium, Hungary, Spain, and Luxemburg. We cannot continue to allow any country to join the organization with these results. NATO needs to be a more equitable alliance that will pay their contribution and will not make other countries take on a greater burden.

## Background on the Issue

NATO stands for the North Atlantic Treaty Organizations. NATO was the first U.S. peace treaty outside the Western Hemisphere and was founded in 1949 during the Cold War. It was originally created to defend Western Europe and the rest of the free world from the spread of communism from the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR). However, as years go on, the U.S. continues to pay the largest portion of its GDP towards NATO while other countries, usually with much smaller economies, don't contribute nearly enough and instead appropriate their fair share of defense spending towards domestic programs and investments at the expense of the alliance.

## **Problem Statement**

### **Description of the Problem**

Countries that are part of the NATO alliance are not paying their fair share which consists of 2% of each countries' GDP. The U.S. pays around 646.2 billion a year for NATO unlike other countries that neglect their commitments for domestic investments. We need NATO to become a more selective group of which requires strict qualifications for countries that consistently fail to meet their membership requirements.

### **Major Area(s) and Population(s) Affected**

One major aspect of affected areas are countries that pay the minimum or above the GDP for NATO membership. Including the following countries: United States, Greece, Poland, United Kingdom, and Estonia. However, not only does the United States suffer from the incompetent countries, but also the people's taxes and our country's debt. Lastly, the organization as a whole is affected due to the fact that it suffers from a large majority of unbefitting countries.

### **Description of Needs to Fulfill**

What must change in NATO is the act of tighter restrictions on countries that are in NATO. We need to form a more selective organization in which we allow countries that will pay, remain reliable, and have its allies' best interests in mind. By making this happen, we need to observe and analyze the countries that wish to join by making a longer waiting time of three years and a down-payment.

### **Sustainable Solution**

A sustainable solution is to make NATO more selective and disciplined. We need it to be a strong alliance between numerous countries in which each contribute. If we recruit more reliable and participating countries, our expenses will average out making NATO a stronger organization.

### **Description of Solution**

First, to make a stronger NATO, we must make a down payment and longer waiting period. Once the counties have proven they are responsible and reliable, they are welcome to participate in NATO.

### **Key Partners and Resources Needed**

NATO's key partners would be the countries currently participating and reaching their GDP goal. Together, we can agree what is going to be done with joining countries and the act of assessing them. However, the resources needed would be minimal aside from the new restrictions put into place.

### **Potential Challenges and Workaround**

Some potential challenges and barriers could include the issue of making the rules for the selection of the countries. However, with great leaders from each country put into place we believe an agreement or compromise could be achieved. Nonetheless, if the issue precedes, then a standard document for the down payment and time period can be written expressing the rules and requirements.

## Timeline

Although the results for this solution may not make a quick impact, eventually, it would strengthen NATO and its future empowered.

## Expected Impact

We expect this to make a big impact. Once more valuable and reliable countries join, we can continue to strengthen NATO and have every participating country solve world-wide problems. This will create peace in NATO with no hovering struggle of debt.

## Action Requested

We request that NATO make itself more selective, create a down payment, and observation period in which NATO can conclude if a country is a reliable and trustworthy ally through observation and analysis.

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# Envision | Issue Statement Paper

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## Group Name

Aguafy

## Authors

1. Annika Srivastava
2. Grayson Massenburg
3. Miles Moore
4. Valentina Irazabal
5. Savannah Nippa
6. Phoebe Lao

## Issue and Topic

Racing Extinction

## Problem Statement

Throughout the world, there are many challenges that humanity and our planet face. These challenges include unclean water for residents in South America. Our group, Annika Srivastava, Grayson Massenburg, Miles Moore, Valentina Irazabal, and Savannah Nippa are attempting to find a solution for this problem. The issue with drinking water in Latin American countries is that even though there is a clean source, the water is infected with an unknown type of bacteria and is causing a really big threat to everyone who is drinking the water. These diseases in water have killed up to 2 million people in South American countries each year, a large majority being younger kids. Focusing on South American countries, including Peru, Venezuela, Argentina, and Brazil, Aguafy strives to provide clean water to the Latin American Society.

This major problem has become a big issue in Latin America. All throughout Latin America, there are numerous supplies of freshwater sources, including the Amazon, Orinoco, and Rio de la Plata. Approximately 28% of the world's fresh water is available in South America but there is an unknown bacteria infecting the water supply. This is an issue and it needs to be stopped, which is what we plan to do. There are several areas that our group, Aguafy, would like to specifically help as stated before. Starting with Peru, which has a population of approximately 31,152,000 people and one of their major water sources is the Montaro River. The second country is Venezuela, with a population 31,416,000 and one major water source is Orinoco. The third country is Argentina, with a population of 43,417,000 and a major water source is Rio de Plata Basin. The last country is Brazil, with a population of 206,441,000 and a major water source is the Amazon Basin.

## **Sustainable Solution**

Aguafy has come up with several solutions, including a temporary one of educating the residents of these four countries on how to properly boil water to eliminate the bacteria. Another temporary solution is delivering water tablets to purify the water to those South American countries. Our final solution is to create a purifier and clean water facilities with those countries. Key partners that we would consider investing in would be the Charity Water Organization and Global Water Partnerships. Potential challenges would be the cost of ensuring education of the unclean water, tablets, and building water facilities. Our goal is to find a solution for the unclean water, we are Aguafy.

## **Research Sources**

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# Envision | Issue Statement Paper

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## Group Name

House20

## Authors

1. Cathryn Jones
2. Shay Neth
3. Samuel Escamilla
4. Nickhil Rawat
5. Madi Gawlinski
6. Sophie Lindley

## Issue and Topic

Water conservation in San Diego

## Background on the Issue

Water Conservation is a world-wide issue. Many specific areas of the world are in a near constant drought. In the U.S., most of the South West suffers from a long term drought. San Diego is one of the many cities suffering from droughts.

## Problem Statement

Many San Diego residents are struggling to maintain a steady supply of clean, usable water for use in their homes on a day-to-day basis.

## Description of the Problem

San Diego is the driest it's been in 500 years. Californians use 181 gallons of water, per person, per day. The problem is that people haven't been presented with an easier way to conserve water in their busy lives.

## Major Area(s) and Population(s) Affected

A large part of the world is affected directly by water shortages. In third-world countries, people sometimes have to walk three miles for their daily water. In the U.S., people have to pay outrageous sums of money just for clean water. Either way, where there is a shortage of water, the effects will be almost immediately felt by all.

### **Description of Needs to Fulfill**

The public needs to be presented with an easier, stress-free alternative to what they are currently using. House2O would do all the work for you, saving water by circulating it to different utilities after certain stages have passed.

### **Sustainable Solution**

House2O; the water smart conservation house, would allow people to save water with minimal effort.

### **Description of Solution**

Water would be re-circulated through the house system after it runs through a filter system. For example, you would first use the water for the sink, then it would go through a filter system and make its way to the shower, and from the shower to the dishwasher, then from there to the toilet, and finally out to the lawn and/or garden. This is also an automatic or manual system, meaning that this is the standard water cycle, but you can easily change this cycle.

As well, if this project were to supersede the San Diego area and go into different regions, there are different methods of alternative water collecting such as cisterns, personal desalinations systems, tapping rivers or lakes personally, that could make the process less expensive.

### **Key Partners and Resources Needed**

A water conservation company such as Cal-Water, a prominent San Diego Authority Figure, and a housing manufacturing corporation willing to collaborate with the water conservation company would be a good basis for partners.

If the project expands we could collaborate with Southern Nevada Water Authority.

### **Potential Challenges and Workaround**

Cost, time, and the fact that it has to be a newly manufactured home are some of the many small challenges we may face in this project.

### **Timeline**

Three years of collaboration to plan and finalize, and minimal time will be needed for construction.

### **Expected Impact**

A noticeable decline in the use of water and a relief on families that struggle to pay for all their expenses when they don't have to pay for so much water, as well as a significant rise in the standard of living for San Diego.

## **Action Requested**

Funds and the means to contact and collaborate with the needed companies, as well as delegations and ambassadors for the same purpose.

## **Research Sources**

Forbes.com

Cal-water.com

Sandiegogov.com

Snwa.com

# Envision | Issue Statement Paper

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## Group Name

#imanut

## Authors

1. Andrea Venderby
2. Victoria Wolan
3. Crystal Raines
4. Raven Washington
5. Aman Srivastava
6. Ben Richards

## Issue and Topic

Let's Talk... about Mental Disorders

## Background on the Issue

It may be shocking to hear but 1 in 5 people in the United States of America struggle with a mental disorder each year. Every day, you constantly encounter people who have these mental illnesses, but you would never know because they look like normal people on the outside. Mental illness is defined as a wide range of conditions that affect mood, thinking, and behavior, and it usually does not include any physical symptoms. In today's society it is considered taboo to talk about mental illnesses, but it is a topic that must be talked about with full attention. We must talk about the different mental diseases because most of the segment of the population with a condition stay silent in fear of judgement by their peers. Many people feel shy when speaking about mental illness because of the lack of dialogue and public information. The stigma behind the disease must end, and we believe that we have a solution.

## Solution

Our goal is to spread awareness and allow people to talk about mental illness, hopefully until it becomes a regular topic of conversation. Social media is a powerful resource that can be harnessed to spread the information about mental illnesses. By taking this topic to social media, people would be able to see our social media page and logo that would help to educate the general public. We have also created a hashtag called "#imanut" to go along with our acorn logo. Each nut represents a different illness such as a peanut represents bipolar disorder, acorns are depression and walnuts are ADHD. We plan to create the trend of making a video of balancing a cup of nuts on your head or any part

of your body on social media to make people interested in what our message is and soon it will become a trending video.

As a result, the topic of mental illness will become more well-known to people and the money raised on our website from this “challenge” will go towards more research on these disorders and advanced medication. The donations would also go towards better one on one education to help students’ specific needs. We will also raise money for this project by selling merchandise, such as t-shirts, hats, bracelets, etc. This foundation will work similarly to foundations like the Breast Cancer Awareness and Foundation for Autism, which have become very successful. Most schools do not know how to handle students with mental illnesses correctly because every person has their own specific needs. By not having more specialized care, these students are losing out on proper care that they should receive. While these donations would be hugely important, our primary goal is simply to educate the population on the different types of mental illnesses, as well as the steps we can take to help those that suffer from them. We want to make a difference in this society, so join us in our mission to make a positive impact today.

# Envision | Issue Statement Paper

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## Authors

1. Abigail Smith
2. Charles Roberson
3. Charlotte Jannach
4. Schuyler Saint-Phard
5. Tomas Rosales
6. Tori Ramirez

## Issue and Topic

Healthcare: Is it too expensive?

## Problem Statement

Health care is a crucial, basic right which should be open to everyone, regardless of their socio-economic standing. In today's America, 1 in every 5 people cannot afford healthcare; yet in the Declaration of Independence, it is stated that everyone has the right to "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." One is lead to wonder then, how people can be expected to live and work, if they cannot even maintain their health? This ultimately leads one to believe that healthcare is too expensive.

Affordable healthcare is an issue which should be addressed on a national level; the unemployment rate is at 4.9% (as of August 2016), and it can only be assumed that health plays a critical part in this. One might question the idea of being unemployed but also having concerns about affordable health insurance. However, unlikely as it may seem, these two are undoubtedly connected. People sacrifice both their jobs and education in order to take care of loved ones; it is only realistic that we address the idea that if healthcare were more affordable, careers and education need not be sacrificed; and those in need of healthcare would be taken care of in a more timely manner, their sickness not having progressed as much as it has.

## Sustainable Solution

In order to fix this pressing issue, we propose removing tax breaks from the upper class; the money would be utilized to cover the medical fees of all American citizens. This would effectively rid the country of Reaganomics- the form of economics introduced by former president Ronald Reagan. It would initiate the metaphorical turning of the stone in healthcare. Under this new and improved legislation, we would buy out the existing, private-owned companies, which drive healthcare today. These companies will be replaced by a single, government-owned and run company. This would also prevent monopolies from entering the business, simultaneously preventing them from

unnecessary raising the price of medications and vaccinations. Under this new policy, healthcare would ultimately become affordable for all American citizens. This process would take about 2-4 years to be put in place and organized, as it would face opposition. The biggest challenge to overcome, however, is the upper class population would have an aversion to giving up more of their wealth than they currently have to. The government would then counter this with the idea that tax breaks would allow the middle and lower class the funds to both work for and purchase more from the upper class.

In conclusion, we must acknowledge the idea that the affordability of healthcare is a national issue, which is a direct factor of unemployment. By eliminating monopolies in the health industry, we can improve unemployment rates and make healthcare affordable for those who truly need it. For, as a country, we are nothing if we can not provide our citizens with the tools they need to fulfill the promise of the constitution: to pursue life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

# Envision | Issue Statement Paper

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## Group Name

Limitless Minds

## Authors

1. Hannah Mollin
2. Amber Allen
3. Lawrence Veyberman
4. Luis Andrade
5. Kaylee Kembumbala

## Issue and Topic

A smarter planet

## Problem Statement

Currently, there are many problems facing the world. Education is a pressing subject that needs to be taken seriously and needs to be discussed and modified based on the needs of current students. Standardized testing is and always has been a major component of the United States education system. However, even though students are exposed to this form of testing, some students have not found their rhythm when it comes to standardized tests. Sometimes, standardized testing can even cause students to develop testing anxiety and an excessive need to achieve perfection. We, as students, want to change this and develop a testing system that provides everyone with the opportunity to be their best, not the best.

Every student and every person has a unique mind. This includes the way someone learns and retains information. There are many different styles of learning; however, they can be placed into basic categories. These categories include, but are not limited to, audible, visual, and hands on.<sup>i</sup> The majority of standardized tests are written questions with written multiple choice answers. However, this is not always the case. Standardized testing has been modified to include written components, technology enhanced components, and many other unique features. Unfortunately, some students are not able to perform to the best of their abilities because the tests are not compatible with their learning style. Further moderation to the testing styles could help students perform to the best of their abilities.

When a student receives a low numerical grade, it can cause the student to become upset, stressed, or even overwhelmed. By using numerical and letter grades, it is easier for students to compare their grades with other students. This increases the



likelihood that the student with the lowest score in the group of students sharing their grades will have a lower self image and may possibly even think of themselves as unintelligent or lacking in skill. This is not the case. In school, as well as in life, people have strengths and weaknesses. By applying a numerical and letter grade to a student's performance, students could feel that their weaknesses outweigh their strengths. On the other side of the spectrum, high numerical grades can lead to an increase in the student's cockiness. When these two sides of the spectrum come together and share their grades, the student with the higher grade could cause the student with the lower grade to feel incompetent or inferior. In France, there is a system that is used to keep these attitudes under control. The French grading system is based on a 20 point system. However, it is rare for students to achieve the "perfect" 20.<sup>ii</sup> This humbles students because they realize that perfection is hard to achieve and not necessary. Unfortunately, with the current United States education system it is easier for students to gain a 100 that implies perfection.

## Solution

To accommodate for these issues in our education system, many things can be changed. Students could complete a learning style survey at the beginning of the year. Standardized tests could be created in the different learning styles while still containing the same content. The results of the learning style survey would then be used to identify which test each student should take. After the student completes the test, they would submit it for grading. However, the test would not be graded in the traditional way. Instead, the only people who would know what the student received as a numerical or letter grade would be the school officials that would be using this data to improve their schools for the benefit of the students. The student would simply receive a report that identifies the student's strengths and weaknesses of the content on the test.

With these proposed modifications to the standardized testing process, the students would have an opportunity to grow their self confidence when it comes to their academic abilities. On the other hand, it will humble students because of the inability to achieve perfection. We, as students, stand by this proposition and believe that it would greatly benefit the youth of America

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i "Overview of learning styles - Learning ...." <http://www.learning-styles-online.com/overview/>. Accessed 20 Jan. 2017.

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# Envision | Issue Statement Paper

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## Authors

1. Simi Iluyomade
2. Stephanie Casting
3. Connor Voitus
4. Pablo Flower
5. Kaicey Pritts

## Issue and Topic

The Standards of Teachers

## Background and Problem

Every year, over 1.2 million students drop out of high school in the United States. 25% of high school freshmen fail to graduate. Some may ask, why is this the case? Many may blame a lack of determination and motivation in students, but the answer is more complex than that simple cause. Today, teachers are not motivated nor are they equipped to give students the proper foundation to build a better future for society. When teachers lack motivation, their students lack motivation as well. Additionally, students can tell when a teacher does not know the information they are teaching. Many students claim that they dropped out due to disengagement, something the teachers should be responsible for preventing. There is an entire generation of people that do not value learning nor the education that they have received. However, in order to fix this, it will take time and money.

- Population Affected: This problem affects all students and all educators across the country.
- Needs to Fulfill: These students need better teachers, and better education for teachers is the primary way this can happen.

## Solution

In order to solve this problem, we must start with education. In recent years, the requirements that employers have for teachers have lowered. In order to become a history teacher, for example, a teacher may not even have to major in history and a Master's degree within their area of expertise is rarely necessary. One solution to this problem is enforcing certain requirements, such as a minimum of a bachelor's degree and an adequate background in the subject, prior to employment. On top of that, the formulation of programs to ensure that teachers have enough experience before teaching full-time.

### **Key Partners and Resources Needed**

Educators must be involved for this solution to work. Educators are the ones that form the generations of tomorrow. In terms of resources, teachers will be required to hold a certification, stating that they went through our program, their state certifications, and district certifications based on the majority of students they'll be serving. They also need to spend nine months in a low-income school to gain experience serving with other students as they begin their careers.

### **Timeline**

We predict that it will take around 6-12 months to obtain funding (\$2-\$5 billion), perform research, and find locations to set up our programs as well as creating an online domain. In 2-3 years, most of our locations will be up and running. By the five-year mark, we hope to have locations nationwide.

### **Challenges and Workaround**

Lack of funding, the daunting task of convincing the Congress to help us financially, and the occasional ill-incented teacher may cause challenges for us as we progress. However, we can work around these challenges by allocating more funds, turning education into a non-partisan issue, and giving teachers more incentive to work productively.

### **Expected Impact**

By enabling students to receive a better education and reviving the motivation, students can have more access to well-paying jobs, more people can escape the cycle of poverty, and it could also benefit the economy.

### **Action Requested**

We request that the government allocates more funds to benefit the education system in the United States and form a stronger basis for education in our society.

### **Research Sources**

EduGuide.org

National Dropout Prevention Center/Network at Clemson University

DoSomething.org

# Envision | Issue Statement Paper

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## Group Name

Making \$ense (Gore Group 11)

## Authors

1. Tianna Green
2. Amanda Coy
3. Faith Limantono
4. Patricia Ashford
5. Sadie Hopkins
6. Sadie Dominguez

## Issue and Topic

Women in the Workplace

## Background on the Issue

Despite rapid progressive change to combat gender inequality, a wage gap between the mean earnings of men and women remains prevalent in the 21st century. This gap differs from country to country, yet on average, women in the United States typically earn 82.9c to each dollar a man earns. This issue is worst among women of color; with Latino women at 54% of a dollar, African American at 63%, Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander at 60%, American Indian and Alaskan Native at 58%, Asian at 85% and White (non-Hispanic) at 75%. As well as these differences between women of various ethnicities, the wage gap between men and women widen with age. Young graduates entering the workforce experience a wage gap of 90c to a dollar; however, as both sexes reach 35 years, this gap widens to 75%.

## Problem Statement

As evident, women are faced with the conflict between personal fulfillment and their own career aspirations, directly affecting their earnings.

## Description of the Problem

Due to unaffordable childcare, women (who are typically viewed as the primary child carriers and homemakers) are inevitably forced to take part-time and casual work, thus resulting in lower salaries. On the other hand, men are able to continue full-time work, ultimately bringing home a higher salary at the expense of the women's ability to pursue their career endeavors. This problem is exacerbated with single mothers and women of color, as their typically lower-socioeconomic status forces them into a cycle of relative poverty.

Whilst the wage gap exists between middle and lower classes, this same problem is evident among high paying positions. In the corporate world, female CEOs interestingly earn more than their male counterparts, due to the rarity of women in higher paying positions. This itself highlights how women are at a disadvantage in the working world, unfairly being paid less than males, as well as also being forced into circumstances that cause this and also struggling to fill higher paying positions. As we enter a progressive era, remaining gender inequality including the wage gap, must be addressed. In practical terms, as the economy weakens and inflation and interest rates begin to rise due to increasing amount of tariffs in other countries, a higher working population will be required to maintain the economy and by encouraging women with equal pay and opportunities in the workplace, we ultimately do.

Conclusively, women simply earn on average 82.9c to a dollar of a man's earnings, despite having the same potential as men to earn the same. It is our moral obligation as human beings to ensure equality exists between genders, races, and religions.

## Sustainable Solution

### Description of Solution

- Making \$ense will support the paycheck Fairness Act to not only encourage women to speak openly about their wages, but to also prevent employers from retaliating against their employees for sharing wage information ("Senate GOP blocks paycheck bill").
- Create a Commissioner for Equal Pay, where regular checks are conducted in workplaces to ensure employers are paying their employees fairly. Any workplaces not abiding by these regulations will be forced to do so within 6 months.
- Lead a national call to action for corporations, organizations and individuals. This will be done through an annual march supporting the rights of women in the workplace during Equal Pay Day at a different major city each year.
- Volunteer Day Care Centers specifically aimed to support women of low socioeconomic status.

## Key Partners and Resources Needed

- The Government.
- Key female and male figures including Hillary Clinton, Michelle Obama, Angela Merkel, Duchess Kate, Miss America, Natalie Portman (wage gap in Hollywood), Justin Trudeau, Malala.
- Volunteers for the child care centers.

## Potential Challenges and Workaround

- Challenge: Negative public opinion.

Solution: Encourage open-mindedness, provide persuasive argument.

- Challenge: "Equal pay bills" being passed in Congress.

Solution: Lobbying.

## Timeline

### Next 6 months:

- Raise awareness of the Paycheck Fairness Act.

### Next year:

- Establish at least two volunteer childcare centers.
- Hold the first annual women march in Washington DC.

### Next two years:

- Establish Commissioner for Equal Pay

## Research Sources

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"The Gender Wage Gap Is A Chasm For Women Of Color, In One Chart". ThinkProgress. N.p., 2017. Web. 20 Jan. 2017.

# Envision | Issue Statement Paper

## Group Name

Ekata

## Authors

1. Lexy Ashford
2. Nina Marganti
3. Alyza Barnhouse
4. Georgia Chapman
5. Alexis Ayres

## Issue and Topic

Pathways to Power / Woman and Leadership

## Background on the Issue

Today's world is demeaning and disrespectful towards women. This is true in every nation, though some nations face more extreme and radical gender issues. Women are often treated as "objects" or "prizes", when in reality women are living, breathing, intelligent human beings. It is stated in the second paragraph of the Declaration of Independence, "All men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness". In these famous words written by Thomas Jefferson, all people were pronounced equal in the eyes of God and the great nation he oversees.

On August 18th, in the year 1920, women gained the same rights as men in the eyes of the law, this being the right to vote. After that year, women were able to hold jobs and make wages; however, they were never able to hold sophisticated jobs to the extent that men do. Women were nurses not doctors, court-reporters not lawyers, secretaries not engineers. Then, when World War II took its toll on our great nation and men were sent overseas, women were left to maintain the "manly" jobs of the households. Women were no longer seen just as "sex objects", bearers of children, or the maids of the house. However, it is the year 2016 and women still do not receive fair pay or fair treatment in several professional environments. Our group pondered many ideas of why this might be, we turned over theory after theory, until it hit us: women are greatly contributing to this harsh reality among themselves. Women often blame men for most misogynistic tendencies in society, when in reality, women are just as responsible for the lack of unity among themselves. Young girls have been taught to blame each other for their insecurities, making female relationships somewhat of a competition. The reality of the situation is this, women gossip about one another and bring each other down to make themselves seem better. They show no respect for each other, thus, some men and a large portion of society think it's alright to tear us women down, as

well. Here at Ekata, we want to unite women. We want to defy the status quo, we want to stand up and take charge. Our goal is to spread positivity throughout the world, we want to teach young girls and women of all ages to love themselves and love their neighbors. We want to empower women and make being a woman something to be proud of, not ashamed of.

## Problem Statement

### Description of the Problem

Women face stereotyping from men and women alike and by encouraging women to build each other up, women will be more confident and hold more professional and political positions.

Here at Ekata, we believe that the problem is the boundless amounts of negativity that women have created amongst one another. It has caused women to think less of themselves, thus they don't have any confidence to stand for what they believe in and make a difference. The name Ekata stands for unity in Hindu, we believe if women can start lifting one another up, we can unite as one and make a difference. It's time that us women start to rebuild our name in society, and listen to the wise words of Malala Yousafzai, "Life becomes much more beautiful when you are positive."

### Major Area(s) and Population(s) Affected

Women all around the world are being affected by this problem, but mostly young teenage girls today. Being a teenage girl in today's society is not easy, society beats up girls, and makes them believe that unless they look like a Victoria's Secret model they're not beautiful. On January 19th, our summit group heard from Carly Fiorina. During her speech, she talked about her experiences as a teenage girl. She struggled with many self-confidence issues, and she stated that she knows what it feels like to believe you're not good enough. However, she encouraged all 2,500 students, males and females alike, to follow her advice, "Know your worth, know your value, don't let others define you." Here at Ekata, we live and breathe by these simple words of wisdom. We want to help guarantee young girls and women all around the world their voice in society, to find their self worth, and to remember they will amount to something amazing in this world. We will reach out to young girls and women of every shape, size, belief system, religion, and ethnicity.

### Description of Needs to Fulfill

We researched countless times, through countless websites, the growing issue at hand. A study shown on [verywell.com](http://www.verywell.com), professed that name-calling throughout the US has caused many issues like: lack of self esteem, eating disorders, peer pressure, sleeping insomnia, mental health problems, and PTSD. We can stop this! All of these issues chip away at girls' self-confidence and make them believe they are not worthy of amounting to anything. Young girls believe they need to have perfect bodies, perfect features, and perfect hair to be "beautiful." We can show



them that beauty comes from beneath. Your appearance and your body does not define you, your personality and character do. We need to start complimenting one another, and judging one another on our character not our looks. Nobullying.com says, "That 3.2 million students are victims of bullying each year." By teaching women to exchange more positive words, we can change this 3.2 million to 0.

Did you know that a study on stopbullying.gov showed that "Bullying is linked to many negative outcomes, including impacts on mental health, substance use, and suicide." We need to educate women on the negative effects that their words have on one another. This issue is one of such importance that even Melania Trump has picked cyber bullying as her issue to work on as First Lady. We need to change the way women interact with one another. Now is the time!

## Sustainable Solution

### Description of Solution

While brainstorming ideas on how to get Ekata's mission heard around the world, we thought about the biggest influence among Americans today. The answer was so simple: Social Media. Thus, we decided to set out to start a worldwide Social Media campaign. We decided we would make Twitter, Snapchat, Instagram, Facebook, and Youtube accounts. The main idea we had to boost our campaign would be to create an app. Most people do not have time to scroll through all their social medias daily, so by making an app we could send out daily updates to ensure that our supporters can know what we are doing and planning on doing. Our app would have a homepage where we would post a daily quote to spread positivity. Our app would include a blogger page where our writers here at Ekata would post an article everyday explaining current issues that are being caused by bullying and

snoegciaetiyv.i tFyi nina tlloyd, oauy'rs a pp would include "a game", the game would work like this: people with our app would set weekly goals to help them gossip less, stop being jealous, and keep their hurtful comments to themselves. If they fulfill their goals for the day, they will receive points. When the points and the difficulty levels they exceed begin to build up, our supporters will receive gifts in the mail. The gifts they receive will be t-shirts, scarves, notebooks, pencils, and lanyards with the words "Ekata: Build up instead of Breakdown ". This idea will keep our supporters interested and help promote our campaign. The app would be free, but we would have a page with all our social medias where you can donate to us. All the donations would go towards our campaign to keep us running. The page would also include a 24 hour hotline number, so women can call and ask advice on how to deal with situations in more positive and healthy ways.

### Key Partners and Resources Needed

For our campaign we considered how we could make known to others about our social media campaign. We came to the conclusion that we would need celebrity influencers to be the "face" of Ekata. In today's modern society, some young girls tend to look up to Kylie Jenner, Nicki Minaj, and Lindsey Lohan. We decided that for the face of our company we would want role models who were more relatable and had made a difference in our modern

world. We wanted role models that young girls could relate to on a personal level. Some potential celebrities we would like to have be involved in our campaign would be: Angelina Jolie, 2013 winner of the Jean Hersholt Humanitarian award, Michelle Obama, first lady from 2008 to 2016, Ellen Degeneres, talk show host, major influence in LGBT community, and known for “being herself,” Beyoncé Giselle Knowles-Carter, for actively standing up for the black community and building up women in her songs. These are some of the key people we would like to include in our campaign. Of course, we would like the help of the government to ignite our campaign into a flame that can not be stopped. We have also considered possibly having support from the government to help us with funding since our app is free.

### Potential Challenges and Workaround

In every non-profit campaign there are many challenges we can face, due to the lack of funds to support us. We will have to really spark people’s interest and show them that this indeed is a problem, otherwise they will not want to give their donations to a campaign with a future of inevitable failure. Our main workarounds to this problem are having popular celebrities endorse our campaign, the government promote us, and advertisements on websites and eventually TV. We have thoroughly researched how this problem has affected society, thus we are able to answer questions that anyone may have on the situations.

### Timeline

The first step of action we would need to take is to ask the government to guarantee their support of our issues. If we were guaranteed the help of the government, we could create all our social media sites. We hope to accomplish this in the next 6 to 8 months. After starting our social medias, we would get in contact with certain celebrities and ask them to be the “faces” of our campaign. We hope to accomplish this in the next 8-12 months. After this, we would hope to get enough donations to create our app. By the year 2018, we hope to have all of our ideas in action and we hope to start making a difference in the world.

### Expected Impact

Our main mission is to give a voice to the voiceless. To help women to unite all their talents and skills as one. If we can stop tearing each other down, and tearing away each other's self confidence, maybe in 2020 we will have a female president. We want to stop the amount of suicide in teen girls, show the empowerment of women, and prove that women are just as amazing as any man in this world. We hope in four years to have more women in office, more women CEOs, and most importantly more young girls aspiring to go use their voice.

### Action Requested

We want YOU, the Congress of this great nation we call the United States of America, to help us make our campaign international. We want you to help us make a day in March dedicated to Women Unity. This day would help educate women on how to be more positive towards one another and teach young girls their self worth. We need you, our government, to support us in this fight against women’s imperiousness against each other. With the help of our amazing

government, we can make a nation equal among all genders. We can teach women to build each other up, NOT break each other down. If we unite as one, we will have a flourishing future for our moms, ourselves, and our future generations of children.

## Research Sources

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Francis • Nala Franklin • Emma Franzen • Turner Frasier • Sergei Frazier • Luke Freed • Spencer Fuhr • Boris Gallo • Jaisa Gamble • Julisa Garcia • Jeremia Gardiner • Anthony Gazer • Theodore George • Viktoriya Georgieva • Daniel Geystrin • Rylee Gfeller • Savannah Ghermay • Zofia Gibas • Lucja Gibas • Kaitlyn Gibson • Gurneet Gill • Sofia Giraldo • Grace Gleason • Holly Godfrey • Lisette Gonzalez • Max Gotlin • Gregory Green • Allison Griffin • Matthew Griffith • Morgan Grimm • Natalie Grotenhuis • Ethan Grunewald • Andrew Gryskewicz • Arionya Gude • Maria Jose Guerrero • Alex Guillen • Shan Gupta • Nathan Halliday • Lindsey Halliday • Grey Hamilton • Harrison Hamilton • Ashley Hamilton • Ariana Hampton • Nicholas Hardeman • Nathan Harding • Asmaa Harfoush • Stephen Haring • Kamryn Harty • Frederick Hayes • Jason He • Ty Healey • Gracie Healey • Ella Heath • Emily Helms • Anneka Heras • Thania Hernandez • Rodrigo Herrero • Alana Hill • Kennedy Hill • Deanna Hoffman • Lauren Hood • Madhav Hota • Ella Hourigan • Jaece Houston • Alana Howard • Maeve Hunt • Colby Hurst • Lauren Inkrott • Alessandro Inverardi • Eghosa Isibor • Sallaimatu Jalloh • Jazmine James • Kady Javier • Autumn Jeffrey • Jennifer Jeffries • Dylon Jeffries • Paul Jensen • Madison Joe • John Johann • Griffin Johnson • Mallory Johnson • Sumner Johnson • James Jones • Talise Jones • Carter Jules • Emma Kacprowicz • Beni Katumbay • Gavan Keen • Andrew Keenan • James Kelleher • Kate Keller • Emily Kelliher • Katelyn Kelly • Jackson Kempesta • Justin Kerr • Jack Kilbourne • Anna Kim • Kyle Kingston • Sam Klopp • Ben Knoblock • Conner Knudson • Anna Kochi • Lingquan Kong • Mackenzie Kormann • Kalo Koroiyale • Asiah Kossow • Ethan Kozden • Zachary Kremzar • Dominic Krusniak • Taylor Ladwig • Kathryn Lamb • Zachary Lambert • Cathryn Lampus • Kai Langley • Wyatt Lanphear • Jeremy Lavarello • Alyssa Lawson • Karen Lee • Anastasia Lerma • Samuel Lewczyk • Yrenia Leyson • Caroline Light • Jingying Lin • Jacob 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Victoria Musselman • Brooke Myer • Elise Nackle • Queenswil Ndamo • Brock Neese • Yazan Nogura • Christopher Norris • Alexander North • Gabriella Nowak • Brooke O'Quinn • Kathryn Ogbata • Kemal Ozdemirli • Gabrielle Pace • Jonathan Países • Grace Paliseno • Giovanni Palmieri • Riya Pandya • Emily Payamps • Jocelyn Paz-Ortiz • Molly Penn • Alyson Penn • Dylan Perez • Gerardo Perez • Brooke Peterson • Priestler-Veasley • Lorenzo Quirante • Jada Radtke • Arya Raheja • Liam Raino • Lianna Ramirez • Angelina Reeves • Tyler Reeves-Woods • Aidan Rehfeldt • Kaef Rehman • Riley Reid • Siobhan Reidy • Serena Remmes • Andrew Ricci • Sofia Rinaldi • Ariana Rivera • Aiyanna Rivera • Grace Roberts • Ava Roberts • Dallas Robertson • Ayden Michael Rossen • Hailey Russell • Logan russell • Sy'Rai Ryan • Jenica Saint Fort • Angel Salinas • Grace Sanborn • Aldo Sbaraglia • Douglas Sealf • Ella Schmitt • Nazir Scott • Reyleen Segura • Armanpreet Sekhon • Lucienne Selanoff • Cristian Simms • Darick Simms • 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# GENERATION NOW

MIDDLE SCHOOL

# Delegations for Change Winners

## Middle School

### DRONES, CLONES, & GENOMES:



#### Drone Safety / Drone Production

*Victor Moreno, Anastasia Lerma, Andrew Keenan, Alyssa Lawson, Tristan Murray, Maria Jose Guerrero*

### IMAGINING PEACE:



#### How can the United States and Russia Work Together for Global Peace?

*Michael Evrard-Vescio, Sergei Frazier, Sofia Posadas, Noah Wagner, Jeremia Gardiner, Jordyn Youngelson*

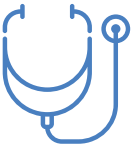
### RACING EXTINCTION:



#### The Ocean is Humans Most important Resource.

*Jolie Brochu, Kiana Ejercito, Brittney Clemons, Paul Fiorenzo, Francesco Contreras*

### CURING THE FUTURE:



#### Prescription Drug Abuse

*Daniela Oquendo, Alexis Tamon, Lea Thomas, Adam Oliveri, Grace Roberts, Ayusha Thapa*

### A SMARTER PLANET:



#### Education in the World is Very Limited and Needs to be Improved, Especially in the U.S.

*Avery Winslow, Kimberly Ramos, Lexx Atwood, Ashley Hamilton, Gregory Green, Douglas Scealf*

### PATHWAYS TO POWER:



#### Women's Equality

*Maddy Vonins, Gabby Burgess, Julia Yohe, Elena Mitchell, Logan Russell, Alexis Vivanco, Ryleigh Resendiz*

# Envision | Issue Statement Paper

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## Group Name

Zeus

## Authors

1. Victor Moreno
2. Anastasia Lerma
3. Andrew Keenan
4. Alyssa Lawson
5. Tristan Murray
6. Maria Jose Guerrero

## Issue and Topic

Drone Safety / Drone Production

## Background on the Issue

In Britain, there were 15 reports of near misses between drones and airplanes throughout 2016. Recently, pilots have been calling altitudes that drones fly at as “unacceptably high” and risky. In 2016, TV presenter Richard Madley called the police reporting a drone hovering outside of his home, monitoring him. More seriously, “suicide drones” have been used in the battles between Azerbaijan and Armenia; drones have been equipped with explosives set to explode at a specific time. All of these instances are security threats and need to be addressed.

## Problem Statement

What can be done in order to govern drones in order to ensure that they play a safe and healthy role in society?

## Description of the Problem

These laws ensure that the people who are piloting drones are healthy and qualified to do so, which would also ensure the public’s safety. Perhaps these laws have never been set in place since drones are relatively new and we are still learning new uses for them.

## Major Area(s) and Population(s)

Affected Azerbaijan and Armenia, America and Great Britain.

## Description of Needs to Fulfill

Put laws in action to make drones safer and more helpful in today's society. We also need to make sure to do background checks before selling drones, just in case the buyer wants to use it to spy on someone or as a suicide bomb.

## Sustainable Solution: Laws and background checks.

1. Before purchasing a drone, one must have completed a background check with Zeus©.
2. In order to fly a drone, one must have a pilot's license. If one does not have a valid pilot's license, they will not be allowed to fly a drone.
3. One may not pilot a drone anywhere above people.
4. A drone's speed may not exceed 100 mph.
5. A drone must be flown in line of sight and no further.
6. One must give notice to an airport if one intends to fly their drone within 2 miles of the airport.
7. One must obey their community's guidelines concerning drones.
8. During disasters or states of emergency, there will be temporary restrictions on flying drones.
9. Pilots must only fly their drones in designated fly zones. If pilots fly their drone on a private property or no fly zone, they can be fined up to \$10,000.

## Description of Solution

The U.S. government can put laws in place to make them safer. They could also make drone companies do background checks before allowing a consumer access to a drone.

## Key Partners and Resources Needed

The U.S. government, GoPro, Alphabet and Parrot. All of these companies are major producers of drones, and we would need their support. We will also need sponsors.

## Potential Challenges and Workaround

No sponsorships from drone companies to do background checks. We would also need the government to approve of our laws that govern fly zones and no fly zones.

## Timeline

In the span of 5 years, we could make drones safe and helpful in society.

## Expected Impact

We want to decrease near misses and increase public safety.

## **Action Requested**

The government and ALL drone companies must help us put these laws in place to make drones safe and helpful in society.

## **Research Sources**

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[www.informit.com](http://www.informit.com)



# Envision | Issue Statement Paper

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## Authors

1. Michael Evrard-Vescio
2. Sergei Frazier
3. Sofia Posadas
4. Noah Wagner
5. Jeremia Gardiner
6. Jordyn Youngelson

## Issue and Topic

How can the United States and Russia work together for global peace?

## Problem Statement

In a changing world where threats are always increasing, countries need something to rely on for security. For the past several decades that “safety net” has been the United States. But we can’t be the world’s policemen by ourselves. It is essential that in a time of conflict we can find a compromise. Government officials have to deal with a broad range of threats. From cyber attacks all the way to economic sanctions. However, there is a way to decrease these threats towards the United States and find peace with the rest of the world. But we can’t do this on our own. While the country of Russia may not be our first choice to have as an ally, it is one of our only options to create peace worldwide in this day and age.

Before we continue on the issue itself, we must understand why Russia and the United States have not been able to work together for the past several decades. Ever since the beginning of the 20th century, the United States and Russia have had a small flame of conflict going on between them. Gradually, as Russia transitioned to the Soviet Union, that small flame started to grow. To this day, that flame is still going strong. Some people argue that the reason for this conflict has to do with the fact that the U.S has always had an economic advantage over Russia, causing Russia to be “jealous” in some way. Others argue that the U.S. wanted to focus on a more sanction approach, whereas Russia wanted an aggressive approach to conflicts. While all of these are correct, the main reason for all this tension has to do with their different views on the world. Because of this, the U.S. and Russia can never actually reach a common ground. Because of this, peace is hard to achieve.

## Sustainable Solution

As seen by many reports from the United States Intelligence Community, Russia can not be trusted and has even gone as far as hacking the United States. However, to achieve global peace we need to recognize the problems we currently have across the world. Let's start off in the Middle East where ISIS continues to be a growing threat and the crisis in Syria has not been resolved. Russia has a lot of influence on the countries of Iran and Syria, as well as a strong military presence in the Middle East. If the United States and Russia could work together, we could potentially help bring peace to the Middle East while limiting casualties. That is just one example of how Russia can help us create a better world for peace.

While you might think that this alliance would only affect the people living in countries directly affected by this, in reality, it has an impact on a much more diverse group of individuals. First, like we talked about earlier, this will affect people living in the Middle East, as Russia and the United States can work together to end the conflict in that area. Secondly, it will affect residents in the country of Ukraine, as the United States has said time and time again, "If Russia leaves Crimea, we will lift sanctions on them." Lastly, it affects the citizens of Russia and America, as both countries economies can be improved by working with each other. When talking global peace, you have a very diverse group of people affected, and we can see that when Russia and America work together that many people are affected.

It would be great if an alliance were possible with Russia; but before we begin working together, we need to make sure that Russia stops harassing smaller countries. As we saw in 2014, Russia feels that they have the right to invade smaller countries and take land from them. It's just their view on the world. That view is something the United States can't stand for. For this alliance to work, Russia needs to leave Crimea and end their funding for "anti-Ukraine" groups. If they can accomplish this, not only will it be the beginning of a great alliance, but also the end of sanctions on Russia. However, if this does not happen, an alliance is not possible if we believe in American values - another reason why finding common ground with Russia is important.

To create a sustainable solution with varying opinions on an issue is very hard to do. That is why we came up with a way to make sure that we see both perspectives. Our plan for a sustainable solution to the problem presented is to create a committee with six members from each country, so we can have a productive discussion on what Russia and the United States want to be done to contribute to global peace. There will be a moderator for these discussions, and the moderator will be a special ambassador from the United Nations. This will ensure that we have an unbiased moderator for these talks to make sure that both sides can express their opinions. On top of that, the resolution (R.A.C.) and the treaty will serve on figurative moderators for the discussion. Finally, the U.S. and Russia will discuss four issues in total. First, an issue the U.S. decided on. Second, an issue Russia decided on. Third, an issue decided on by U.S. citizens. Finally, an issue decided on by Russian citizens. The thing is, these issues will

have to be global issues, not domestic ones. They will then try to come up with an approved solution to these problems. This will be one of the first steps to global peace.

To carry out this committee, we need resources. Mainly, we need to get the people of Russia, and the U.S. involved, as well as the leaders. Besides that, one of the most critical resources is a place to meet. Most likely the meeting place will be a location that is unbiased and known for peace. Somewhere like Iceland or Switzerland would be an ideal location. As well as a meeting place, an ambassador and people to write R.A.C. are necessary to this committee. Finally, good security is vital. Without proper security, we raise our chances of an attack which could disband the committee entirely.

Like we talked about earlier, Russia and the United States have not been able to find common ground on the Crimea issue. This issue could be seen as a potential challenge to our goal to achieve world peace as Russia has refused to budge on this issue. However, in a recent speech given by Russian President Vladimir Putin, he stated: "Russia and the United States will unite." It is clear that both parties involved want to compromise so long as Russia leaves Crimea and ends support to anti-Ukraine groups, our path to peace should be clear.

A relationship between the United States and Russia would be the trailblazers for world peace. First, as mentioned multiple times, a Russia and United States alliance could "stabilize" the Middle East and bring peace to a region of conflict. This is due to Russia's influence in Syria and Iraq, as well as their significant military capability. Secondly, both countries could significantly reduce their nuclear stockpiles and help lead the example for other nations. This will not only ensure greater peace between the two nations but possibly encourage states to follow their lead of reducing nuclear weapons. Third, in the ever technological world that we live in, cyber attacks are on the rise, and both the FBI and CIA have stated that Russia has one of the best Cyber Security departments while the United States lacks an effective one. A coalition of these two countries will ensure peace in Cyber Warfare between the two countries and throughout the world. Finally, Russia and the United States have the potential to become significant economic partners. According to a report done by Goldman Sachs, the Russian and American economies are very similar, as both have massive oil industries. If these two countries worked together, they both could help their oil industries and increase economic growth overall. As you can see, there are many ways that this alliance can benefit both the U.S. and Russia and make the path for peace.

Resolutions take time, and peace is no exception. To carry out our resolution, we first need to remove all current conflicts off the table, or only agree to disagree. This is because, in order to create a committee for peace, we need a peaceful relationship. Next, every logistical detail should be solved. Everything from security arrangements all the way to a meeting place. Then, the leaders or government need to elect representatives (a moderator needs to be appointed, too) and the two superpowers should create their treaty (with a moderator of course). After electing representatives, R.A.C. should be written, and the people will decide some of the first issues. Finally, the

meeting[s] will commence, and hopefully, the path to world peace will begin. All in all, this process will decide its length, but it should begin within the next 4-8 years (the next 2 U.S. presidential administrations).

To achieve this alliance, we have a proposed resolution to Congress that would create a committee between America and Russia. This resolution is called the R.A.C. (Russian and American Coalition). Its aim is to increase economic relations between the two countries and to better spread peace throughout the world. This resolution would also create a committee between the two nations so we can better communicate to each other what we want to be done. This action taken with the R.A.C. will allow us to better cooperate with Russia benefiting us, and other countries again. With this resolution, world peace can be achieved. Without a doubt, this resolution will give us hope. Because after all, in a world of conflict, our most powerful weapon is hope.

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# Envision | Issue Statement Paper

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## Authors

1. Jolie Brochu
2. Kiana Ejercito
3. Brittney Clemons
4. Paul Fiorenzo
5. Francesco Contreras

## Issue and Topic

The ocean is humans most important resource. Despite humans needing the ocean to survive, we are still continuously polluting and ruining it. If humans don't cease polluting the ocean soon, there will be disastrous results.

## Problem Statement

The ocean supplies humans with many resources. The ocean gives us food to eat, medicine to use, ways of transportation, water to use, plants that extract carbon dioxide from the air, plants that provide oxygen, and much more. Oceans are the reason humans can inhabit planet earth. While humans are using these resources from the oceans, we are also polluting the ocean. It is estimated that 80% of ocean pollution comes from land activities. 36% of this 80% comes from runoff. Runoff is when fluids travel on land by going downhill. While runoff is sometimes good, by shaping earths landscape and keeping rivers and streams full, it also causes runoff pollution by picking up oil, fertilizers, pesticides, and toxic fluids and then dumping them into the oceans.

Runoff causes 36% of pollution in the ocean. While humans are polluting the ocean, we are also tarnishing our most important resources that come from the ocean.

The problem that humans are causing is the pollution of the ocean, by the process of runoff from drains and rivers as waste. This type of pollution can make it extremely unsafe for plants and animals. The pollution can also make it unsafe for humans after rainstorms.

The problem of runoff pollution is affecting waters on a global scale. Cities around the world are contributing to the pollution that could be killing humans in the near future. Because there are cities around the globe, runoff pollution is happening across the world. Populations affected by runoff pollution can range from small insects all the way to humans. Consuming, or living in, oil, pesticides, or fertilizer would harm almost any living thing. If humans want to continue living on earth, we need to immediately stop pollution of the ocean by runoff. Stopping runoff pollution would reduce pollution in the ocean by about 36%! Also, if attention is brought to runoff pollution, smaller aspects of ocean pollution, such as oil spills, may be taken more seriously. If this 36% of pollution

is stopped, resources will become more plentiful and reliable, beaches and waters will become safer, and it will help restore the habitats of many animals.

## **Sustainable Solution**

### **Description of Solution 1**

The first solution we came up with is implementing a reverse osmosis plant. The reverse osmosis plants, which would be located on the shores of oceans, would take the toxic filled runoff, clean it through primary and secondary treatments, and release the clean water into the ocean safely. With this solution, runoff would still shape earth's landscape and cleanly go into the ocean.

For this solution to work, we would need certain partners and resources. One partner would be Pure Water Incorporated. Pure Water Inc. would help supply the necessary reverse osmosis plants, so the cleaning of runoff can actually happen. Along with Pure Water Inc., we would need construction workers to make areas for the reverse osmosis plants to be buried. Also, we would need technicians to make sure the reverse osmosis plants are fully functional.

With this plan, there would be a few challenges we would have to work around. The first challenge is the cost. The purchasing of many reverse osmosis plants would be costly, also we would have to pay all the workers who help in making and putting together the reverse osmosis plants. Another challenge may be convincing the owners to install the reverse osmosis system. While we know this will be a sustainable solution, other people may not believe it will help. Although, we strongly believe convincing people to use reverse osmosis plants will be easy.

The reverse osmosis plant timeline will not be lengthy. Installing a single reverse osmosis plant would only take around a week. With this in mind, to cover an entire shore would probably take around four months.

The impact of this great solution would be absolutely astounding. Stopping runoff pollution would decrease ocean pollution by 36%! This would improve animals' habitats, not poison animals' food and our food, it wouldn't kill or harm plants, it would make the water in the ocean cleaner, and would make beaches and waters safer to be around.

### **Action Requested**

Action requested is for the federal government to pay for part of our reverse osmosis plan.

### **Description of Solution 2**

Our second solution is green infrastructure; this is the process of planting many trees around big cities to absorb water. With this plan, the trees around the city will soak up the water and therefore result in less runoff. More benefits to this plan are increased

oxygen, less carbon dioxide in the air, more beautiful trees in cities, and more habitats for animals. This solution also doesn't have to be associated with some sort of company, it could just be something for community service, or you can just do it for fun!

This solution would be far less costly, all you need for this solution is trees, time, selfless people who care about their environment, and permission from the city possibly. Also, the timeline could be as long as you want! This can be a once a day thing for your entire life, or you can just do it for a couple months. Either way, you're making a difference.

### **Action Requested**

Action requested is permission from the city you're planting in.

### **Research Sources**

The sites used were [wwf.panda.org](http://wwf.panda.org), [national geographic](http://nationalgeographic.com), [climateinterpreter.org](http://climateinterpreter.org), [protectplanetoccean.org](http://protectplanetoccean.org),

# Envision | Issue Statement Paper

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## Authors

1. Daniela Oquendo
2. Alexis Tamon
3. Lea Thomas
4. Adam Oliveri
5. Grace Roberts
6. Ayusha Thapa

## Issue and Topic

Prescription Drug Abuse

## Background on the Issue

- Prescription Drug Addiction kills more people than car accidents each year
- Abuse has doubled over the last decade
- Classified by the CDC as an epidemic
- America has the most cases of abuse/addiction
- More than 6.5 million people over the age of 11 used prescription drugs for non medical purposes in 2013
- This is more than cocaine, hallucinogens, and heroin combined
- Most common prescribed drugs are opioids, antidepressants, and antibiotics
- Elderly citizens are the largest abusers of prescription drugs
- From 2002-2012, the number of seniors dependent on prescription painkillers rose up to 336,000, an increase of 132,000
- Over half of the people (12 and older) who abused prescriptions in 2012-2013 received drugs from friends or family members for free
- In 2010, one out of every five high school students abused some kind of prescription drug
- Mostly the abused drugs are painkillers
- **Causes death by overdose**
- **Linked to choking, changes in mood, infertility, slowed breathing, paranoia, high body temperature and abnormal heartbeat, greater risk of accidents, and poor academic performance**
- [www.ulifeline.org/articles/390-the-dangers-of-misuse-prescription-drugs](http://www.ulifeline.org/articles/390-the-dangers-of-misuse-prescription-drugs)
- <https://www.drugabuse.gov/publications/research-records/misuse-prescription-drugs/summary>
- Increases emergency room visits



- <https://www.drugwatch.com/2015/07/29/drug-abuse-in-america/>

## Problem Statement

The debate on laws around drugs and the war on the drug trade are coming to a close. The sale of marijuana, crack, cocaine, and heroin has declined over recent years. Marijuana is slowly becoming available for recreational use around the country and by 2020 will most likely be nationally legal. However, a blind eye has been turned to the real problem because drug addiction still exists and is more prominent than ever. Prescription drug abuse has doubled over the last decade and is officially classified by the CDC as an epidemic. The war on drugs is far from over and will not end until we address the real problem.

In order to solve the problem, we first need to state the problem. Prescription drugs, especially opioids, antidepressants, antibiotics, and painkillers have become the most used and abused drugs. Over 6.5 million people over the age of 11 misused prescription drugs, more than cocaine, hallucinogens, and heroin combined. Abuse has doubled over the last decade and remains at a steady incline. Additionally, many underestimate the effects of prescription drug abuse. These are known to cause choking, slowed breathing, abnormal breathing, infertility, and a greater risk of accidents. The problem is no longer drug dealers and crack or cocaine; it is now prescription drug addiction.

High school students and seniors in America are the most affected by this epidemic. One in five high school students in 2010 misused at least one prescription drug. The effects of abuse are even more damaging for children and also are proven to lead to poor academic performance. In 2013, 336,000 seniors were dependent on painkillers, an increase of 132,000 since 2002. Within this time, elderly citizens have become the largest abusers of prescription drugs. Dependency leads to misuse and then misuse leads to addiction. Between 2012-2013, half of those over 12 who abused prescription drugs received the drugs from friends or family members for free. Specific demographic groups are more susceptible to prescription drug abuse.

## Solution

The more the problem is ignored the worse it gets, and a resolution needs to be found immediately. Doctors are slowly beginning to use time regulated containers when they prescribe drugs to patients. These work by having an individual dose in one slot that opens up at the appropriate time. It will not open before the correct time and is on a schedule set up by the doctor. Afterwards, it must be returned along with any extras. Possession of extra drugs should be illegal and confiscated, if necessary. Keeping extras can lead to dependency and misuse by the patient or can be available for the misuse of their children. These containers are similar to those of gum companies, where the patient simply pushes the pills out of the plastic pouch when the time is correct. Should a refill be necessary, the doctor must sign for it.

# Envision | Issue Statement Paper

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**Unlocked Education LLC.**

## **Authors**

1. Avery Winslow
2. Kimberly Ramos
3. Lexx Atwood
4. Ashley Hamilton
5. Gregory Green
6. Douglas Scealf

## **Issue and Topic**

Education in the world is very limited and needs to be improved, especially in the U.S.

## **Background on the Issue**

There are 7.4 million children in the U.S., and not all of them are getting high-quality education, which is setting them back for their future. In 2011, 1 in 5 children were in poverty.

## **Problem Statement**

### **Description of the Problem**

Not everyone is receiving the same quality and resources in education they need to become successful.

### **Major Area(s) and Population(s) Affected**

Students in urban cities, high poverty level areas, and 3<sup>rd</sup> world countries will be affected.

### **Description of Needs to Fulfill**

We need a solution that will not only be able to be widespread quickly, but are also affective to other areas of the world.

## **Sustainable Solution**

### **Description of Solution**

Textbooks in U.S. schools will be replaced with new technologies. Hopefully, this will enhance kids' interest in school, since our generation is all about technology. The old textbooks will be donated to 3<sup>rd</sup> world countries to help more children around the world get an education for a smarter planet. Another pro to our solution is if we start using technology instead of textbooks, we will not need as many school supplies, which will make school more affordable. One more thing we would like to make note of is if school is more affordable and more people can come, such as children living in poverty, then those kids will grow up to be successful. This can decrease the poverty rates. Did you know that in 2012, the government spent around 1 trillion dollars on families in poverty? Think about how all of this money could benefit other important topics and issues in the U.S.

### **Key Partners and Resources Needed**

Sponsors from big corporations, such as Walmart and Nike, can sponsor schools. This will not only be good for the schools, but it will be a worthy investment for those big named companies because it will make them look better.

### **Potential Challenges and Workaround**

It will be very expensive, but we can work around that by getting funds from large companies, which is described above.

### **Timeline**

This solution may take 3-5 years for things to really get started but will never end, because hopefully we will always be updating our resources and giving to other countries in need.

### **Expected Impact**

This solution can make America smarter and more successful as a whole. Unemployment and poverty rates will decrease.

### **Action Requested**

Thank you for taking our idea into consideration. We believe the outcome of this will be very valuable, and it is worth all the hard work in the beginning. Overall, this will make the world smarter and MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN!!!

### **Research Sources**

DoSomething.org  
PBS.org

# Envision | Issue Statement Paper

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## Group Name

Chain Breakers

## Authors

1. Maddy Vonins
2. Gabby Burgess
3. Julia Yohe
4. Elena Mitchell
5. Logan Russell
6. Alexis Vivanco
7. Ryleigh Resendiz

## Issue and Topic

Women's Equality

## Description of the Problem

Women have been discriminated against by men since the beginning of time. Women were not allowed to vote until 144 years after men could vote. From the beginning, women were forced to stay home. Cooking, cleaning, watching after children, and not attending school, while men were getting an education, working at a job and getting paid. Women get paid 78 cents for each dollar a man makes. If women and men had an equal chance of getting into the white house, all 44 presidents being men "by chance" is 1 in 18 trillion.

### ***Will equality in our system bring more female leaders?***

Women feel put down by men and are held to a higher standard. Women want to be leaders but men are always pulling them down. Men are not the only influence to this problem. Companies are under paying women when they are working just as hard as or even harder than men in the same job and situation. Men have this "trophy wife" ideal of what a woman is supposed to be, meanwhile, women are barely hanging on with the under payment they're receiving.

## Major Area(s) and Population(s) Affected

Every woman across the world is affected by this problem. Women are looked down upon by people everywhere. Women in most third world countries cannot drive, obtain an education, leave their houses, or even vote.

## CLASSROOM CURRICULUM FOR TEACHERS

The rate of change in our society is outpacing our educational system, creating a gap that we can fill.

**Our future leaders aspire for greatness but do not know how to achieve it.** They feel disempowered and frustrated by work without direction. With this in mind, teachers, schools, and policy need to focus on one trait:



# ENGAGEMENT

At Envision, we employed design thinking in each of our programs and noted in our *Delegations for Change* that students didn't see left vs. right. They often don't even see an aisle. They worked together in many cases to solve problems that affected everyone.



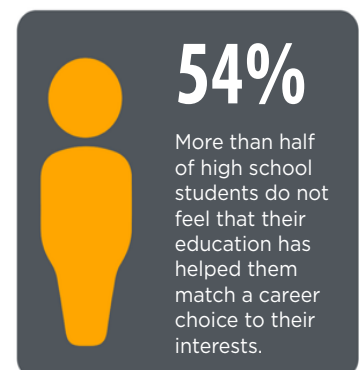
**I was impressed that students could work together even when their parents couldn't.**

Andrew Potter, M.A.; M.A. (NEJS)  
Chief Academic Officer, Envision

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## HOMEWORK, FOR PARENTS

**Parents need to look at the gap** between an education system that was designed for the industrial economy and a reality that is digital – and dynamic. To bridge that gap, it will require the continued partnership of parents and innovative education companies, like **ENVISION**, to help steer students toward their passion and provide them with the skills they need to be nimble enough to adapt to the changing demands of our always evolving economy. We need to teach our children to think, create, innovate, and collaborate – which are functions that will never be automated.



## WILL GENERATION NOW ANSWER THE CALL?

Each generation of citizenship has a calling. The 1920's and 1930's were about defeating fascism, the 1950's and 1960's about civil rights, and the 1990's and 2000's about gay rights. What will the 2020's and 2030's rally around?

This is a generation that will redefine what it means to be human, as genetic engineering and technology advance. The questions will switch from "can we" to "should we?"

### THE MODERN MORAL COMPASS.

Science and technology now are redefining what it means to be human, what it means to have moral choice — both as a corporation and a person. Those questions must guide students, parents, and educators alike.



**Students are entering the workforce knowing that change is fast and monumental — regardless of industry. Will they be equipped to spot the opportunities in the sea of displacement? Can they tune out the threats and the fear and see the promise?**

Paul Jones  
Professor, University of North Carolina

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