

**‘Most people have adopted environmentally friendly practices at home’. Do you agree?**

Climate change, water shortage, and animal extinction are environmental issues that are plastered across newspapers like writing on the wall, serving as a reminder for what is to come if we do not heed the cry of Mother Nature. No matter how hard erudite environmentalists indefatigably try to emphatically promulgate the importance of protecting the environment, their voices consistently go unheard. I believe that most people have not adopted environmentally friendly practices at home. Some people have a parochial mindset and operate under the assumption that environmental issues are peripheral to their own problems in life. Secondly, some individuals are unaware of how the environment’s condition is deteriorating. Thirdly, they do not believe that they have the power to make a significant change in ameliorating the degrading condition of the environment.

Due to the insular mindset that some individuals may harbour about how environmental issues are not serious issues, they do not attempt to take the initiative to protect the environment. These individuals view their own convenience and comfortability as superior and hence do not pay heed to the languishing and deteriorating condition of the environment. Instead of implementing environmentally friendly practices such as trying to curtail the amount of water used and saving electricity, these individuals prefer to prioritise their own luxury and execute tasks that are germane to their own comfortability at home. If carrying out environmentally friendly practices is a major inconvenience for them, then it would serve as a reason to why they should not adopt such practices, especially at home where they prioritise their own comfort and luxury over anything else.

Albeit the many efforts to spread awareness about how the environment is enduring the repercussions of humankind’s irresponsible behaviour, some individuals are immersed in their own lives and remain uneducated on the magnitude of the problem the environment is contending with. Without the necessary knowledge of what issues the environment is facing, one is unable to implement environmentally friendly practices in his or her own home that will engender the environment’s condition to improve. An individual could only be well-versed in the matters that he or she is interested in, such as gaming or decorating his or her own social media page, and thus this ignorance in matters of the environment would not galvanise the individual to protect the environment starting from his or her own home due to the individual’s inability to recognise the urgency of it. With the myopic view of the world that these individuals have buoyantly adopted, no initiative would have been taken to protect the environment starting from his or her home.

It is disappointing to say that the reason most people do not adopt environmentally friendly practices at home is because they doubt the impact they can make in the world. Due to the incontrovertible fact that the issues the environment is facing are extremely huge and heavy for a single individual alone to burden such an onus, they think that whatever changes they may incorporate into their lifestyle would be of little use in protecting the environment. The indiscriminate use of plastic bags and wastage of electricity are examples of acts that damage the condition of the environment. These activities are executed by millions of people on a daily basis. Most people view it as hopeless to even try to make a change at home to protect the environment as the condition of the environment is degrading at an accelerating pace that simply cannot be solved in a short amount of time. Hence, they do not try to implement environmentally friendly practices such as turning off extra lights when not in use, and opting for more environmentally friendly options.

In conclusion, due to the ignorance that some people have towards matters of the environment, it has engendered them to not act in benevolent ways that will cause the environment to flourish. The belief that they cannot make any change in ameliorating the condition of the environment also holds

them back from protecting the environment by starting from their own households. I therefore staunchly stand by my conviction that most people do not adopt environmentally friendly practices at home, as they do not make an attempt to alter their extremely flawed perception of environmental issues and the power they hold towards stopping them.

*MARK RECEIVED: 26/30*