**NAME: SAIKI TOLUWALASHE DEBORAH**

**MATRIC NUMBER: 19/LAW01/241**

**COURSE CODE: GST122**

**COLLEGE: LAW**

**LEVEL: 100**

Pollution is one of the biggest problem affecting the environment today. Over 200 million people die of toxic pollution worldwide and more babies are born with birth defects every day as a result of pollution. The role of the environment cannot be underscored not just because it facilitates human life but also because it brings about agricultural, technological and industrial development which helps to reduce poverty. All these reasons have made pollution a huge problem in our environment and have cause researchers to look for ways to curb this issue. Pollution is the process of introducing contaminants thereby making the land, air and sea unsafe for use. The environment is ones surroundings it could be the street one lives in or the whole world at large. Pollution can come in numerous ways some of which would be explained below.

The most popular type of pollution found is Nigeria is air pollution, which is when the atmosphere is contaminated with harmful substances that can negatively affect human life. Four of the worst cities with air pollution are found in Nigeria. These cities are Onitsha, Umuahia, Aba and Kaduna. It is no surprise because Nigeria relies heavily on the use of solid fuels for cooking causing which release particles that float with the air. The use of old cars with their combustion engines emitting carbon monoxide into the atmosphere and finally burning of refuse openly without the use of incinerators and proper recycling of materials. Industrial companies also emit fumes that cause odor and aggregate cardiovascular diseases. All these gases emitted can form greenhouse gases which are warming the plant through the greenhouse effect. Although, it is a natural process the introduction of too much gases will defiantly have a diverse effect.

Another form of pollution present in Nigeria is sea pollution caused by industrial activities and the likes. Due to the advancement in technology and increased production pollution has increased drastically because of lack of proper processing and disposal of materials used in the production process. After the production process some industrial companies dispose minerals into the sea that ends up polluting it causing an increase the level of some compounds like nitrogen which increase the amount of sea plants killing fishes in the sea and inhibiting farmers from properly carrying out their work. Also, the blow out of offshore oil and gas and dumping of drilling muds and oil soaked waste by oil companies as in in the Niger Delta region are other causes go water pollution which sometimes lead to water borne diseases there by making the water unsafe for drinking, swimming and even fishing at times.

One other pollution seen in Nigeria is noise pollution. People don’t regard this one but it is very important and the WHO has even made guide lines for what is regarded as noise pollution. Noise pollution happens when the sound coming from planes, industries, religious houses and even cars reaches a level that is regarded as harmful or are just unwanted and unpleasant. Study has shown that noise directly affects ones health. It shows forth in stress related illnesses like high blood pressure which increases death rate. It also affects under water creatures where fishes cannot navigate properly due to the noise coming from ships thereby killing them off. Sounds coming from religious houses with amplified speakers and even clubs at ungodly hours of the night are causes of this said pollution they far exceed the noise limit stipulated by the Word Health Organization. Noise made by old cars and generators reduces the amount of sleep that people are able to get thereby reducing their overall productivity at work.

Although it may seem like nothing can be done to curb this pollution around us seeing as it has gone too far the citizens and government at large can do a lot to reduce pollution one of which is regulation of industrial activities. The government should properly implement guide lines that these industries must follow when producing and disposing of waste product with due fines and revocation of license when ignored. Religious house should use sound proof walls and abstain from using amplified speakers to disturb the neighbors. Citizens can also contribute by using more of reusable energy and recycle materials instead of littering the place with garbage. The VIO should properly inspect the cars on the road to make sure that they are not hazardous to other road users.

In conclusion, we all have roles to play in stopping pollution because if affects everyone in the environment young or old, big or small. Contaminants don’t have to be foreign objects introduced it can be natural but just in the wrong proportion. Our habits have to change and we need to be more conscious of our surroundings in order to save it.