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**WASTE: THE PROBLEM, ITS SOLUTION.**

Waste disposal has been a problem affecting our environment for quite a period of time and due to an increase in population, the generation of waste is being doubled on a daily basis which affects the lives of so many individuals. Empirical evidence ranks Nigeria as one of the countries that produces high quantity of wastes in the world and due to the uncontrolled generation and disposal of these waste, we have deteriorated our otherwise conducive environment and virtually all cities in Nigeria are characterized by heaps or mounts of solid waste.

The realization of good health, hygiene, and sustainable development in any society is practically impossible when pollution by solid waste impacts strongly on the socio-economic, cultural and environmental settings because policy makers, leaders and political office holders are confronted daily with the problems of what to do with the growing heaps of solid waste in our environment. Solid waste management is a very difficult task as we all know because it creates a lot of problems like drainage blockage leading to flooding, traffic jam, health hazards and unsightly environment etc to people.

Environmental pollution in our environments due to solid waste is a matter of serious concern to the national and international community as the present scenario depicts a hopeless state as virtually all agencies of government entrusted with managing the waste especially the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) seems to be at cross roads. A lot of businesses are affected today by both environmental changes and government effort towards controlling these changes for pollution in any form interferes with our good chain, health, comfort, amenities, property values and standards of living.

With the growing challenge of climate change, the country could stand to benefit greatly from the recycling industry. In developed countries around the world today, Waste-to-Energy technology (WtE) is a huge sector of their power industries. With the growing rate of technology in the world, new and more effective means of converting waste to electricity have been invented and we stand to gain a lot by investing this technology. While hydroelectricity slowly reaches full utility, dark areas of the country with no power supply could finally be connected to the national grid especially in slums where said waste heaps up by the tones. This could also provide a substantial amount of job opportunities for the growing jobless populace and help curb the negative impact of increasing joblessness in the society.

The inhabitants of the riverine areas are not left behind as they suffer huge amounts of water contamination by oil spillages and bi-products also contaminating the air leaving the locals and inhabitants of the area plagued with diseases and problems they are either too poor or incapacitated to deal with or treat. Measures could be taken by putting policies in place to check the activities of said companies and protect these locals as well as provide proper medical infrastructure for them as they face high threats of being affected by any potential disaster in the oil rigs and factories

We live in a generation where everything is made simpler through either the internet or technology which means that waste disposal should be reduced drastically because almost everything can be done on either on a laptop or a mobile phone. This simply means that the use of paper or non biodegradable substances like tins, cans, etc should and can be minimized. While lumbering may still be on the rise, forest reserves and the general promotion of tree planting should be publicized and established to help promote a greener state and nation as a whole as we battle climate change and the depletion of the ozone layer.

The issues of proper waste management can never be overemphasized because the more there is an outburst in population, there will also be an outburst in waste produce. When this happens, and there is no way to get rid of these waste materials they start to pile up and spill over into the roads contributing to traffic. They also emit bad smell that is not conducive for human living. But when these waste materials are being disposed properly, it gives room for healthy living and it also provides the society with healthy people of both the working class and the dependent class. I believe it is impossible to be entirely green but with a little effort, biosustainability can be the new way of life and waste can be drastically reduced or properly disposed so that there will be a safe and conducive environment for not only our generation but for other generations to come.