



# Economics

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# Reflection

Andrea Bower's passion and determination for environmentalism is truly inspirational as she combines her craft with local action and activist's fact. As someone fascinated in poetry and the creativity that can be transposed through the written word, I found it very interesting how Bower combines art and activism and strongly believes in the synthesis of art and politics. With the election of Donald Trump as political leader of the nation, I think it is essential that artists make statements to not only further funding for the arts, which the President wants to cut, but also illustrate that people in all fields accept that climate change is 100% real and threatening.

# Bank- Capital One

This bank does not align with my ethical values because as a major corporation, they may invest my money into industries that I refuse to directly support, including fossil fuel projects, military developments, or abusive sweatshops. By having their main objective being to simply increase the wealth of executives, these major banks do not care for the individuals they may harm in the process, as well as the effect their practices have on the environment. For example, there are thousands of complaints about bad credit card practices, scams and fees, all of which I disagree with for obvious reasons. As these banks have been forced to pay back millions of dollars stolen from consumers, I do not align myself with this bank. Instead, my family uses this bank without consulting my thoughts because the family's finances are not typically the concern of high school students. They also choose banks based off which banks most benefit them, instead of the world as a whole. I would, therefore, consider switching banks in order to help create jobs in my community, invest in the local economy, and support clean energy, fair labor, and food security.



Lily Pads added 2 new photos.

Published by Anjika Jha [?] · Just now ·

Through our research, including the research done by my brother throughout his summer social justice research program at the University of Pennsylvania, we have discovered with horror that a majority of the world's cocoa beans are sourced from developing nations where farmers live on less than a dollar a day. Many children in intense poverty are forced into the industry by traffickers and their workday begins at six in the morning and ends well into the evening. Therefore, and for many other reasons, we encourage you all to join a campaign and take action at <https://www.greenamerica.org/content/take-action>. (More research can also be done at <http://www.foodispower.org/slavery-chocolate/>) #PGC2017 Turning Green

Dear Mr. Elsarky,

As someone who enjoys eating chocolate and sharing it with those I love on special occasions, I was very disappointed to learn that Godiva's chocolate is produced unsustainably.

Throughout West Africa, cocoa farmers and their families live in poverty. To truly be sustainable, Godiva must establish long-term and direct relationships with all of the farmers who grow your cocoa, and ensure farmers are earning a fair price.

Additionally, forced child labor is a major problem on cocoa farms in West Africa. I strongly urge your company to purchase cocoa that has been certified by a third-party as being free of child labor. Additionally, you should establish an independent, community-based child labor monitoring and remediation system for all the farms that supply your cocoa. This will assure your customers that you do not rely on the exploitation of children to produce your products.



Godiva's golden boxes of chocolates and decadent chocolate-covered strawberries contain some unsavory ingredients: **poverty and child labor.**

Nearly 70% of the world's cocoa, including Godiva's, is sourced from Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire, where cocoa farmers and their families live on less than \$1 per day—well below the global poverty line of \$1.25/day.

Child labor, a symptom of extreme poverty, has been a known problem in West African cocoa fields for more than a decade. The US Department of Labor found more than 2 million children work in hazardous conditions growing cocoa—such as burning fields, applying agrochemicals, carrying heavy loads—and many do not attend school.

Thanks to pressure from Green America members, Godiva spent the past year exploring what sustainability means to the company and what a policy might look like. While we applaud Godiva for taking an interest in sustainability, there is no need to reinvent the wheel. Many fair trade chocolate companies have sourced directly from cocoa farmers for years, ensuring fair payments, safe working conditions, and no child labor.

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