

Team Green Gang (Aurora Yuan and Alice Feng)

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- What did you take away from this film? Can you sum up your reaction in three words?
- What changes will you make when you go shopping in the future?
- What will you do to spread the message about the impacts of fast fashion to friends and family?

The fashion industry impacts **every individual** in the society, without any exaggeration. All of us, as the audience, have understood the intricate relationship between the clothing industry and the health, environment, social justice, peace, and economics of our society. Currently, our fashion chain is operating under a very unhealthy cycle-- cheap fast-fashion clothing are dominating the market, creating waste in the wealthy countries and threats to basic human rights in the less developed countries. After the 92 minutes, the most common reactions from my peers were “surprised”, “shocking”, “mind-blown”, or saying the current situation is “unbelievable” and “unbearable”. As consumers, we often times get buried in the fast pace of our society and just buy into the man-made social norms. One of my favorite reactions from my friends is “**the sense of motivation**”. This is particularly crucial under the current **climate** (no pun intended) because the scenes of distress are emerging every day. But we are the ones who decide what to do with them. In the film we see all sorts of problems that stemmed from the detrimental cycle of fast fashion: waste and chemical pollutants, the emergence of sweatshops and the concerning workplace safety, economic disparity due to the outsourcing and the health within every family. But we can control our own behaviors and start making changes one step at a time.

Let us be real. Shopping habits are not easy to change. Among the several friends I invited to watch the film with me, albeit feeling distressed, few of them has pledged to terminate any fast fashion shopping that could occur in the future. Even if some of them have pledged to do so, we have to admit that such change would take a long time and requires a lot of self-motivation and self-discipline.

We would all hope for such motivational documentary to showcase the truths and impact the people in any way they can, and in fact, they have successfully done so. But it is also our own decision to see whether we should put the humanity or the economics as our priority. Back to the sense of motivation, many of my friends have indicated that they will inform their friends and family about the news and the facts presented in the documentary. Many of them indicated that they would definitely do some research into the brands they love (thank you PGC for inspiring us to look into this field!) and consciously make the environmentally-friendly decision. They would start purchasing clothing from sustainable brands, which indeed cost much more money (some other social justice issue). The transition between fast-fashion and “slow fashion” would definitely be difficult. We believe these are some very good starting points, and by inspiring others with our knowledge on the subject, we hope to inspire more take make small changes one day at a time, just like us.

Our Fun Watch Party with Friends!

