



# FOR FUCK'S SAKE

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## UN: THE HUMAN RIGHT TO A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT?

BY RONAN PORTER

It sounds obvious right? Having a healthy environment is fundamental to an individual's wellbeing, yet this is something that's missing from the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The closest article that can be found is the following:

"Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services..."

There's a lot we can dig into there, like the failure of the UK to deal with the rise in homelessness - what a developed fucking country we live in, but there's no mention of the environment.

Why are human rights and environmental protection thought of as separate problems? More than 100 countries have laws that basically recognize the connection, but the UN itself and dozens more don't formally recognize environmental rights. Who are the victims here? Those fighting to protect the environment.

The brave fuckers who fight against deforestation, pollution, land grabs, poaching, and more, who are arrested, beaten, intimidated and even murdered for being environmental activists. 197 land and environmental defenders were murdered last year according to monitoring group Global Witness. A



shocking number of these murders aren't brought to trial and killers remain unpunished.

UN Environment recently launched an environmental rights initiative to increase the training of judges, prosecutors and police in environmental law but John Knox, the UN special rapporteur on human rights and the environment wants to take it a step further and make it a UN resolution.

Two of Knox's suggested additions are as follows:

"States should ensure a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment in order to respect, protect and fulfil human rights.

States should respect, protect and fulfil human rights in order to ensure a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment."

These would without a doubt tie together human rights and environmental issues. It's a step in the right direction. It would mean rather than criminalizing those who fight for the environment, the pressure is on governments to support them instead.

# TAKEAWAY CUPS ARE SHIT FOR THE ENVIRONMENT - WHO'D HAVE GUESSED!?

BY KATIE BOWDERY



10,000 cups every two minutes

7,000,000 every day

2,500,000,000 every year (2.5 fucking billion)

This is the amount of supposedly 'recyclable' takeaway cups are used JUST in the UK. In reality, **only 1% of these cups are recycled**. They are coated in a plastic to keep the card waterproof and capable of holding your soya, caramel, low fat fucking latte. Which makes them only recyclable in special specific factories, of which there are only three in the UK. Not to mention this

process is more expensive. So obviously it's 'easier' and 'cheaper' to chuck the BILLIONS of disposable cups in the dump. This isn't even taking into account the carbon footprint from fabricating the cups in the first place, all for a quick coffee.

For a short time, people were scared of the introduction of a 'latte levy', which would add a 25p charge per paper cup. This is

under the same umbrella as the 5p charge for plastic bags - which caused its own upheaval - but has fucking worked with an 85% reduction of plastic bags usage since its introduction. Well lucky for you the conservative government voted against this, despite having yet to offer an alternative solution for the ever-growing waste problem. Companies on an individual basis are attempting to tackle recycling themselves, with some offering a discount if you have a reusable cup. AT UCA YOU GET 10P OFF YOUR FUCKING MORNING COFFEE whereas PRET is a fucking beast and has doubled the discount from 25p to 50p. I would take advantage of that shit, save some money and clear your conscience.



# THE OCEAN IS RISING AND IT'S RISING FUCKING FAST

BY RONAN PORTER



We all know sea levels are rising, what you might not know is that it's actually accelerating...

150 million people worldwide live within three feet of current ocean levels, any guesses as to what the predicted sea level rise at the end of the century will be? Even if it wasn't accelerating, we're looking at a rise of 25cm by 2100, now it's looking more like 65cm. It doesn't sound like a lot but the results are potentially catastrophic. So what's the cause?

As global temperatures rise the ocean expands and rises, this is one factor. The other is of course

## DRUMPF OR NOT?

"This very expensive global warming bullshit has got to stop. Our planet is freezing, record low temps..."

## DID HE SAY THIS?

FIND OUT THE ANSWER IN OUR NEXT ISSUE OUT APRIL 16<sup>TH</sup>

LAST ISSUE: YES, HE DID SAY THAT

melting ice, specifically the huge sheets of ice over Antarctica and Greenland that are vanishing at a startling rate. The authors of the paper state that in fact their estimates are being cautious, and it could be much much worse...

## DEFINITION OF THE WEEK

### LABOUR PARTY

A UK based party that focuses on greater government involvement, social justice and workers' rights.