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When we raise our children we hope they have a better life than we did. If they are to have a better life they need a better earth. We as parents can pass down habits to conserve energy, such as easily opening a window instead of turning on an air conditioner that wastes energy. As we speak energy efficient technologies are being developed. Car manufacturers are building automobiles that run off of electricity. Of course we can still take action for the next few years. We all can try to use clean energy resources.

To start off we should talk about future-generations. It is up to the parents to promote energy conservation methods. For example, if it gets too hot, simply open a window. Don't turn on every air conditioner in the house. The air conditioners waste plenty of energy. This itself will cost the household a lot of money. The Earth will naturally provide you with a gentle, cooling breeze. Of course this will be affected by the area you live in. In Arizona it can reach 100 degrees Fahrenheit. If there is a breeze at all it will carry heat into the house. Even if someone does buy an air conditioner they should not put it in full blast and try to open a window as often as possible.

Whenever I went out I always thought, "Did I leave the heat on?" Then I heard about the automatic thermostat. In the winter when I go out I can set the thermostat to turn on when I am about to get home. This is a much better than keeping the heat on the whole time I am out.

Electricity is probably the most used resource. According to the Union of Concerned Scientist if every U.S. household replaced just one regular incandescent light bulb with a compact fluorescent light bulb it would prevent 90 billion pounds of greenhouse gas emission from power plants. That is the equivalent of taking 7.5 million cars off the road. On top of that replacing one regular light bulb with a compact fluorescent light bulb would

save consumers \$30 in energy cost over the life of the bulb. Compact fluorescent light bulbs use at least two-thirds less energy than regular light bulbs to provide the same amount of light and last up to ten times longer. They also produce 70% less heat so they are safer to handle. The only drawback of the light bulb is each one contains 5 mg of mercury. As a result many environmentalists and other experts recommended recycling compact fluorescent light bulbs to make sure they don't end up in landfills.

Everyday energy efficient technologies are evolving. The most talked about one is Hybrid Electric Vehicles (HEV). HEV's can get up to twice the mileage of a conventional car up to 50 mpg in some recent models. They have greater fuel efficiency because hybrids consume significantly less fuel than vehicles powered by gasoline alone. They have cleaner operation because HEV's can run off of alternative fuels (which have lower emissions), thereby decreasing our dependency on fossil fuels.

Alternative fuels will direct our attention from away from fossil fuels. Gasohol is a mixture of 90% gasoline and 10% ethanol. Ethanol is alcohol made from corn, sugar cane, or other plant material. Using gasohol helps reduce emissions of carbon monoxide and air pollution that contributes to smog. The carbon in ethanol comes from plants rather than fossil fuels. Biodiesel is another alternative fuel. Biodiesel is made from renewable resources, primarily vegetable oils and animal fats. It can be burned in diesel engines in farm and industrial machinery, trucks, and cars. It produces fewer pollutants than regular diesel fuel and it reduces Co2 emissions by 78%.

Wind power should be considered an important component of a long-term energy strategy, because wind power is an inexhaustible resource. Wind power is clean because it doesn't cause air soil, or water pollution.



As the cost of wind power continues to decline due to technology improvements and better generation techniques, wind power will become increasingly feasible as a major source of electricity and mechanical power. Some downsides are placement. There have been reports that some turbine farms lie in the middle of bird migration patterns. Since this is the route the birds take they will try to fly through and some will perish. Of reported birds that have perished have been protected birds. So as a country we would have to discuss the most appropriate and safe places to put turbines.

Solar energy is another inexhaustible resource. Solar energy can help produce electricity. They electricity would never run out as long as the sun doesn't run out. Instead of using fossil fuels and wood that contributes greatly to global climate changes in the winter. The panels will harness the sun's natural energy to provide heat. Two great aspects of the panels are generation and storage. Location will continue to be an issue. Wet climates will corrode exposed parts more quickly which can bring the cost up. Another disadvantage is the whole cost, but the price of coal energy is going up and the price of solar energy going down. Most likely in a couple years cost will not be an issue.

Future generations are important. Passing down simple tools such as using a compact fluorescent light bulbs are useful no matter what. As time passes energy efficient technologies will become more affordable. Clean energies won't run out as long as we take care of the earth. You have seen the upsides and downsides of all these examples. In my opinion there are more upsides.