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This reflection looks to explore some of the key areas that I have studied in the business ethics class, most notably the consideration of all stakeholders, issues concerning natural resources (with particular attention on water), health concerns, pollution, and deception by companies. Of importance to consider in the reflection is the film Flow: For Love of Water, which is the primary focus in addressing the above mentioned issues as they come up in Session 21 (the movie review).
Explore
Having reflected on the movie review and the ethical issues that come up in it, this section aims at exploring the issues that I found confronting and/or surprising, the extent to which I was persuaded and why, and the new things I learned from Session 21 that I have not thought about before.
What I Found Confronting and What Surprised Me
One of the things that I found quite challenging is the extent to which many stakeholders are ignored by their own systems of administration as they allow corporations to take over natural resources, which, as I understand now, cannot have a price tag on them. This is based on the fact that we ignore the damage that we inflict upon them today, but hardly do we even examine the damage that we do to the future of these resources and coming human generations. The ignorance demonstrated by both governments, which have been put in the corporations, and the corporations, which look to make nothing but profits, is quite confronting. For instance, dumping animal remains in rivers and never minding to clean them up and evicting families from fertile land, where they survive, just to make a dam for water meant for sale is quite disheartening (Merin Para 4, 5). What surprised me, however, is how we all think that we are not affected because we are so far away from Bolivia, Lesotho, China, and many other affected areas, little do we know of the globally extensive impacts that continue to haunt us today.
Why I Was Persuaded
The perceptions developed in the movie are extremely captivating and greatly convincing for anyone that cares about other people, as opposed to those who are only driven by self-interest, and anyone who cares about natural resources, especially water. Even those who are driven by self-interest should now, after reflecting on this session of even watching the film, be persuaded. One of the reasons I did not take much efforts to persuade me is the fact that I am personally affected by the continued privatization of water resources, which should never have a price on them. I have considered with the amount of money I spend on water every day and decided that the price of water is not fair, at least, not with companies like Nestlé buying water resources in the wilderness and pump at no taxes while they bottle it and sell it to us at exorbitant prices.
New Things
As a person, I have always thought of bottled water as an advancement of the twenty first century towards cleaner water. I have never thought about it from the perspective of the film. Following this reflection, however, I have learned that companies use us to make profits and we hardly realize it, and neither do we realize how they endanger us all through this deception.
Comment
The session has helped me to look at my workplace differently, which involves taking everyone’s concern as my own as I might be the next. This will also help in creating a better workplace and a collaborative effort towards working to change the few things we can while we still have a chance.
Work Cited
Merin, Jennifer. Flow - For Love of Water - Movie Review - 2008. 2008. http://documentaries. about. com/od/revie2/fr/flow. htm. 02 April 2015.