

To whom it may concern,

I believe that it is becoming increasingly important that the labelling of products containing palm oil should be present. It is the right of individuals to choose whether or not they purchase products containing palm oil and appropriate labelling should therefore be seen on packaging so they can make this decision on their own accord. Not including this on packaging will result in no change by consumers as they are most likely unknowledgeable when making purchases.

As an environmental science student at Deakin University I would personally like to see a change which could help make a difference to the natural environment in a positive manner. I would personally adapt my consumer choices in order to prevent buying products which would result in the destruction of wildlife habitats, and therefore promote wildlife extinction, predominantly in Malaysia and Indonesia. The Truth in Labelling – Palm Oil bill would allow individuals to make their own choices which would allow beautiful creatures such as orang-utans to be existent for future generations.

It is unacceptable that consumers don't recognise that the products they are buying in supermarkets are having detrimental effects on the natural environment. Positive actions can be done to stop this. It's just a matter of whether someone wants to stand up for our planet and try to make a difference instead of sitting back watching it get bulldozed in order to make a few dollars or because caring is too much of an effort.

All I know is that I want my children to one day experience the awe of natural, untouched environments and not the smell of pollution and the sight of skyscrapers as far as the eye can see. There is more to life. A brighter future is possible; someone just has to try to make it happen. And it can happen. Everyone can make a difference. Giving people the option to buy fair trade products in comparison to palm oil laced would result in a beneficial result for our planet and for the wildlife within these palm oil plantation areas. It would bring a smile to environmental activists who are trying to overcome some of these issues. So put your best foot forward to ensure that the use of palm oil within products can be found on packaging, so that it is labelled, so you have the choice, so I have the choice, so we can make this planet a better place and accomplish a sense of achievement and satisfaction through making a difference.

Emma Harvey