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How The Products and Resources We Consume Are Produced

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How The Products and Resources We Consume Are Produced

The goods we devour come from the environment. According to Azrai et al. (2019), the environment produces material processed into finished products for human consumption via manufacturing and other processes that convert them into a consumable form.

Food production methods continue to impact the environment in different ways. For instance, Meemken and Qaim (2018) suggest that fertilizers in the farms cause pollution in the large water bodies when the fertilizer residue is carried away by rain. Manufacturing processes are also energy-intensive and produce lots of waste. The bottom line is that food production processes contribute to climate change, acid rain, eutrophication, and biodiversity loss. The effect on society is both positive and negative. On the positive side, society gets the products and resources needed to sustain its livelihood. On the negative side, Meemken and Qaim (2018) argue that society contributes to destroying the environment, which threatens their existence.

Consumption patterns differ among different societies. For instance, in many communities, the demand for resources and products is rising with the growing population, which has exerted pressure on the environment at an accelerated rate. Environmental degradation is inevitable because the increasing demand for goods accelerates the need to produce more. In the end, the world continues to witness increased pollution, increased land utilization, deforestation, and heightened climate change. Consumption patterns that preserve the environment can help reverse the damage.

A necessity is an indispensable item that people need to survive. A good example of a necessity is food, water, clothing, and shelter. On the opposite, a luxury is something non-essential but which many people believe would make life pleasing.

According to Freeman et al. (2020), businesses research to develop products that appeal to customers and meet their expectations while generating profits through sales. In this perspective, businesses develop consumer-centric products that are driven by consumer needs and not company needs. However, in doing so, companies look at ways of generating profits.

Materialistic people are focused on acquiring material things at the expense of creating long-term relationships with others. As a result, they place less attention and time on others, leading to social isolation, less effective communication and instability.

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