Stepping Passed Sustainability

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Mike’s Goals

**Personal/State of Mind/Spiritual Expectations:** To be satisfied with the way I live my life and comfortable in the place that I live and work.

**Social Life: immediate circle of friends/family:** To stay in touch with friends that I have made throughout college as well as stay close to my family and be able to afford a nice house that can fit a family of four.

**Material Life:** To have a boat and a house in Florida as well as a house in the country for vacations.

**Work/Occupation:** To be a successful biomedical engineer in any well known company where I can gain experience and eventually work up to a head position.

**Recreation/Advocation:** To be able to have enough free time to go fly fishing/fishing, be outdoors and travel.

**Political Life:** To stay up to date on local, national and global issues that will keep my perspectives well rounded.
The Diminishing Coal Supply

Coal is an extremely important nonrenewable resource currently used in the United States and all around the world; however, this coal resource is not going to last forever if our coal processing plants continue to use the coal reserves at the same rate. There is currently an estimated 4 trillion tons of coal on Earth but only 256.7 billion tons of this coal is able to be mined with the current technology the U.S. has. Even with this technology, the coal we can actually access and currently mine is drastically less at approximately 984.8 million tons. This amount of coal is estimated to last the U.S. around 261 years but that is without taking into consideration other coal dependent countries. Although 261 years may seem like a long time, it is very short when comparing it to how many tons of coal are being used and how old the Earth actually is. This process of using coal to generate power cannot last at this rate. The only thing that will prevent society from running out of coal is either inventing a more efficient process that generates more power with less coal or by inventing new technology that will enable the extraction of new coal that is currently unaccessible. This relates to my personal agenda because the use of coal provides power for all daily functions such as heating house and providing electricity. [https://www.eia.gov/energyexplained/index.cfm?page=coal_reserves](https://www.eia.gov/energyexplained/index.cfm?page=coal_reserves)
Usibelli Coal Site in Healy Alaska

One of main coal sites in U.S.

http://groundtruthtrekking.org/Issues/AlaskaCoal/UsibelliCoalMine.html

Where Usibelli Coal Ends Up

- Chile: 470,000 tons
- Asia: 340,000 tons
- Alaska: 890,000 tons
- Military: 340,000 tons
- Civilian: 590,000 tons
Olivia’s Goals

**Personal/State of Mind:** to enjoy my future job and not just go to make money and to have a comfortable living situation

**Social Life:** to continue to be friends with not only people from high school and college but to be social with colleagues as well and possibly live near my best friend

**Material Life:** live in a nice house in Pennsylvania or New Jersey

**Work/Occupation:** get a job working for an aviation or automotive industry and work with prototype test analysis

**Recreation:** vacation to foreign countries, eat delicious food and do a Spartan Race and Tough Mudder

**Political Life:** become more informed on the parties and learn to vote wisely
Overwhelming Electronic Waste

Although evolving technology is good for the world’s innovation, it is also causing a rapid increase in the world’s Electronic Waste. The lifespan of a computer has went down from 6 years in 1995 to 2 years in 2005 and we are replacing our cells less than every 2 years.

In 2010, the United States alone contributed 649,000 tons of E-Waste. This sort of waste is not sustainable in our world today. And most of this waste is getting sent to China (70% of all electronic waste gets sent there) where it must be properly processed.

The need to recycle this waste does in fact an abundance of jobs in the recycling operation and can recover thousands of pounds of precious metals (Au, Ag, Cu). However, even some places in China have been so harmed by E-Waste plants that their groundwater is undrinkable.

This relates to my life because there needs to be a sustainable amount of electronics in order for me to pursue a sufficient career in engineering.

How E-Waste harms our society:

- builds up toxic land fills
- causes pollution in groundwater
- waste of energy
- resource loss (especially metals)

http://thisbigcity.net/infographic-the-unsustainable-side-of-evolving-technology/
Jack’s Goals

Personal state of mind: The most important thing to me is getting a good job in the future and being able to provide for a family while still working at a place I love.

Social life: It is imperative to me that I maintain my friendships despite work and still make time to relieve a little stress.

Material life: I don’t feel I need that many materialistic objects like ridiculously expensive cars or clothes.

Work/Occupation: I hope to be working for an engineering firm one day designing tools of the future.

Recreation: I enjoy doing things outdoors such as hiking around and fishing. I also enjoy playing sports for fun like baseball, basketball, and golf.

Political life: I do not plan on being all that involved in politics unless I find the issue very important.
Water Pollution

A serious problem in today’s industry is what to do with the waste that we create. A lot of times waste is not properly disposed of and instead it finds its ways into rivers and lakes where it damages the ecosystem drastically.

Polluted waste can either leak directly into the water system or it can indirectly travel many miles until it finds its way. Some major sources of contamination are mining, construction, logging, wastewater disposal, and agriculture.
Why it matters to me?

This pollution is significant to me because I, along with many other people, enjoy being outdoors. When streams and lakes are polluted, the aquatic animals are devastated. Pollution can completely wipe out whole species. Not only does it harm those living in the water, it is also detrimental to animals that feed on those in the water.


Imagine being an adult and not having the opportunity to take your kid to the lake to fish? Because that is the direction we are heading now...
Is haq’s Goals

**Personal/State of Mind:** Aiming to get a good job in the future that will provide me the income to live an ordinary life

**Social Life:** To maintain good relationship with my friends and make some new friends, but also not to forget keeping in touch with my family.

**Material Life:** To have a good house and a good that are not expensive but at the same time not that cheap (standard)

**Work/Occupation:** To get a job in a well known Engineering firm and to work in power distribution.

**Recreation:** I enjoy travelling and hope to travel all every country in the world. I am also a fan soccer and like to play indoor soccer

**Political Life:** To become more aware of what is happening in the world nationally and globally in order to have better life decisions
Dependance on Technology

- As technology develops, more people become attached to their smartphones, laptops etc.

- Causes people to ignore the surroundings and what is happening around them.

- Watch “I Forgot My Phone” by Charlene deGuzman (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OINa46HeWg8)

- Psychologists found out that as time passes people are more attached to technology, it becomes an addiction that can lead to deadly consequences e.g. texting while driving

Dependance on Technology

- According to Pew Research Center, more than 35% of adults have a smartphone and two thirds of those adults sleep with their phone near them, which causes harm to brain.

- These are some examples of how technology affects us in a negative manner, however, there are many other examples that show how technology could lead to significant problem. e.g. A crash in a machine used in a hospital could cause severe problems to patients.

http://www.edutopia.org/blog/film-festival-technology-addiction-videos