Jaden Johnson

2022 September 9

Youth Institute

Research essay

## Starvation in Ethiopia

Starvation is something we pity. It tugs at the strings of our hearts to see children that belong to countries like Ethiopia. To know that many of those children have gone to bed hungry for over forty one years with no resolution. Starvation is something we think about so vaguely but never stop to question why does starvation impact this region? What role does Ethiopia play that contributes to its own detriment? What can be done to improve this problem? Or what regulations can be put in place to ensure a better future for the children of Ethiopia?

The prime minister of Ethiopia Abiy Ahmed launched a law enforcement operation against the northern region of Tigray. This law against the northern region was enforced due to accusations of rebellion among the people. The Civilians of the northern region were lined up and shot in the back by Etrien troops fighting alongside Ethiopian forces. As inhumane as these crimes were, it only got worse when the Ethiopian government deliberately starved its citizens. According to The Economist, "Since the fighting broke out Tigray has suffered an increasingly restrictive blockade by the government. " Since July it has received only a fraction of the food needed to keep its 6m inhabitants alive, hardly any fuel and no medical supplies at all." This evidence demonstrates that the Ethiopian government contributes to the food insecurity in regions of its own country. If the people elected to support, protect, and provide for a nation aren't doing any of those things, why are they still employed where they don't qualify? I believe that matters should be taken to stop Tigray's citizens from starving and provide civilians with the proper amount of food they need. What could be done to provide Tigrayans with food to feed their

population is to enforce self gardening. Although it will not happen quickly it will allow the population to be less reliant on the Ethiopian government. An efficient way for this regulation to be implemented is to provide brochures and donations. Brochures and Donations will ensure that the proper equipment is provided as well as the education needed to self garden in this region.

The four season rain drought has been ruinous to livelihood and food production in Kenya and Somalia. Studies show that the rain deficit in this region has left 4.5 million people in need of humanitarian assistance. With a climbing prevalence of seven million deaths in livestock the Kenyian and Somali region is in desperate need of welfare. A solution that could help with the rain deficit's effect on the environment is rain water harvesting and planting a variety of trees, grass, and shrubs to help stabilize the soil. Rainwater harvesting in Ethiopia will allow the runoff rainwater to be collected from a structure in the roof, the rainwater can then be stored for later use. This system will allow citizens to be more self-sufficient and decrease the need for water. By planting more trees, grass, and shrubs is a part of a process called hydraulic redistribution; it helps to prevent root damage and retain soil moisture. Planting more trees is an investment and aids the environment. Planting more vegetation contributes to property value as well as energy and water conservation

In closing by making Tygarian citizens independent from the Ethiopian government it provides the much needed distance to allow conflict to defuse, while providing citizens with the necessaries for survival. Planting vegetation and using the rainwater harvesting system benefits the Kenyian and Somali environment by providing citizens with a self-sufficient resource arrangement. By implementing these regulations we can ensure a better more resourceful future for Ethiopian children and citizens.