

The Mercury News

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Dear Editor,

The article on the plastic gyre in the pacific ocean drives home an important point. Large numbers of people are consuming ever more products. The smallest acts of thoughtlessness by people in first world countries -such as littering- have created an enormous global problem. As a culture we ignore the external effects of our life style and focus on short term material gains. We can no longer ignore the fact that we have forever altered the oceans' ecosystems. If we want to leave the world a better place for our children we need to come to terms with the results of our actions by consuming less, and picking up more of our mess. Is it time for a state-wide bag and polystyrene ban?

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