

Pasadena Water and Power Scholarship Essay

In our current day and age, society has become more and more dependable on technology. Because of this, there have been several advancements in science in recent years. Although this is generally viewed in a positive light, there is definitely a drawback. As technological advancements continue, several families all over the globe still struggle with gaining access to any technological resources—in other words, they do not have access to power at home. This is also true with other resources such as water; even in the modern day, countless families lack access to some of the most common resources known to humans. Education is a notable aspect that can seriously be disrupted by a lack of these resources. As evidenced by numerous studies, water and power availability seriously affects students' ability to learn. Without these resources, a child's academic performance can severely decline.

There are several consequences to not having a dependable water supply. One of these consequences is the side effects associated with dehydration; a serious problem that arises quite often. These side effects include constant headaches, dizziness, and excessive fatigue; which are not ideal for thriving within a learning environment. Additionally, prolonged dehydration can lead to other serious conditions, including heat stroke and heat exhaustion. Although a child may have access to water on school grounds and may therefore not affect the student in class, lack of water at home can disrupt at-home studying. As a result, children may not be able to complete their homework to their best ability.

In addition to water, access to power is crucial to a student's learning capability as well. If a family does not have power available to them, they would not have a stable internet connection either. In a society with a growing dependence on technology, limited internet access is damaging to the learning of students. Students with no internet connection are correlated with having lower digital skills, as studies suggest. These types of students statistically do far worse on academic tests such as the SAT than those with enough internet access at home. Evidently, having no internet access at home leaves students at a significant disadvantage than those who do. It could also lead to students falling behind on online assignments, as they do not have enough technological resources at home. They may experience more trouble completing classwork at school as well. If assignments rely on technological competence, students who lack electricity at home would find themselves at a serious disadvantage.

It is clear that without water and power, all of these factors can be extremely detrimental to students regardless of where they are working. Technological accessibility is crucial to improving the academic abilities of students, and water availability is essential to the well-being of students. Without proper learning, it is difficult for advances in certain fields such as STEM to continue. To be able to reach further with technological advancements, society as a whole needs to pause and consider one thing: the importance of accessibility of resources for students.

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