

I first encountered the concept of pollution in a basic science class. Our teacher taught us four types of pollution: land, water, air, and noise pollution. I was particularly perplexed by air pollution, because how can the very air (oxygen) we breathe to survive be polluted? One problem in the present society flying under the radar is carbon monoxide poisoning, a serious risk to humanity. It is a poisonous gaseous substance that silently kills humans and other creatures, and it's not discussed as much as it should.

What exactly is carbon monoxide, and how can a person be poisoned by it? Carbon monoxide is a dangerous gaseous substance produced from the burning of fuels like wood, charcoal, petrol, diesel, kerosene, etc. It is mostly colourless, odourless, and tasteless, making it difficult to detect. Carbon monoxide poisoning occurs when carbon monoxide builds up and replaces oxygen in the red blood cells, which leads to serious tissue damage and, in extreme cases, death.

With the predicament above, one thing I wish I could invent is a carbon emission recycler.

In Nigeria, everyday mechanical machines run on petrol, kerosene, or diesel, excreting carbon monoxide, which pollutes the environment and affects our carbon footprint. The creation of a carbon emission recycler would convert these harmful gases, such as carbon monoxide from mechanical machines, into breathable air, which would not only reduce the number of human beings who die from carbon monoxide poisoning annually but also help to preserve the earth's ozone layer.

The carbon emission recycler would work the same way a water purification system does by attaching itself to the exhaust pipe of the mechanical machine and directing the flow of carbon monoxide into a catalytic converter, which, through a process of conversion, creates and excretes oxygen into the environment instead of carbon monoxide.

This invention would positively affect society and save people from the dangers of inhaling dangerous gases. Carbon monoxide poisoning is very expensive to treat; if someone poisoned by it does not have sufficient funds to pay for the treatment, said

person will die. But the availability of a carbon emission recycler would help prevent such a situation.

This invention would encourage individuals to take carbon monoxide poisoning more seriously, which would also help us take good care of our environment and positively affect our ecosystem, resulting in a better world for you and me and all other future generations to come.

Constructing this machine would also help to preserve our agricultural resources and prevent crises such as famine from economically affecting society, while also protecting our wildlife and their habitats from early extinction and deforestation.

Conclusively, I hope this essay has been able to convince anyone who reads it why carbon monoxide poisoning is no joke and should be taken more seriously and how the creation of a carbon emission recycler can be a big game changer in civilisation and even in the history of mankind as we know it.

Name: Taiwo Raji

School: Silversands Hall School

Class: JSS3