

Cape Town's water problem

I think that Cape town found Day Zero a challenging time for most. It made them realise just how lucky they were to have clean running water and put into perspective for the world how different things could be for the globe as a whole if climate change and global warming continues as it is. As for Cape Town I think the citizens have learned that water should not be viewed as something that they would never be without, but instead as a privilege that comes with obeying the government restrictions and guidelines set out by the UN and other climate change organisations. It must have been extremely difficult and time consuming to have to go to one of only 200 in Cape Town just to get water for everyday needs such as drinking, bathing, and cooking with.

In some ways Day Zero was an opportunity to turn around people's views about climate change and just natural environmental changes that come with living with certain privileges such as clean and unlimited running water. The drought in South America has still continued to cause major issues for the citizens of Cape Town and other surrounding areas in South Africa. This drought was recently re-declared as a national emergency in South America and it could be possible that Cape Town will face another Day Zero similar to the one they were put up against in early 2018. However because the citizens of Cape Town have now seen what can come with abusing privileges such as running water they may be able to prevent this from happening. They can do this by trying to limit themselves on how much water they use up, things such as showering should be short so as to conserve water, washing cars, watering plants, and even filling swimming pools should not be seen as absolutely necessary if they want to stop themselves from nearly running out of water for a second time.

One of the main reasons that the drought became so bad for Cape Town was because of climate change as we know, however overpopulation in Cape Town and some infrastructure being made without forward planning or the environment in mind also led to Day Zero becoming a reality. With Cape Town's tourism decreasing hugely due to both Covid 19 and lack of water in the region less much needed money will be brought in for South Africa which could have been used to build better dams or underwater storage facilities so as to stop the water from evaporating into South Africa's sweltering heat. Due to bad luck it may be very possible that another Day Zero will be brought upon the inhabitants in Cape Town - we must wait and see.