



CALIFORNIA SCIENCE & ENGINEERING FAIR 2018 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s) Haneefah F. Syed	Project Number J0426
Project Title It's Time for Waste Loss	
Objectives/Goals Is a 2 week waste loss challenge an effective way to promote waste reduction among my family and friends?	
Abstract Methods/Materials #Power Point presentation with statistics and facts to motivate participants #Project Pamphlets with details of challenge #Items for zero waste kit #Materials for compost box #Google Survey #Brea Landfill tour arrangement, waivers and photo release forms #Reminder app	
Results A majority of the respondents were female (84%), and were between the ages of 18-65yr (83%). While half of the participants were motivated to start the challenge the other felt they were already applying some of the 5 Rs. The most applied of the 5 Rs was Recycle and Rot was the least. Among the weekend challenges, the zero waste kit was made by a majority of the respondents and while most would have liked to make a backyard compost or pit, were not ready at the moment to make one. Although it was difficult for working individuals to attend the landfill tour, having a video of the tour and sharing details was a learning and eye opening experience for 67% of the respondents. The most effective part of the challenge was making a zero waste kit and surprisingly after 2 weeks of trash trolling, a majority of the participants stated that they would miss the challenge and found it very motivating. One week after the challenge ended while 29% felt they were already being applying some of the 5 Rs the majority (57%) were amazed at themselves for making continued mindful choices.	
Conclusions/Discussion I concluded that the 2 week "Waste Loss" challenge was successful in promoting mindful choices when it comes to waste reduction one individual at a time. To promote the least applied R which is Rot I would like to setup a live demonstration with the group or individually at their homes to start a backyard compost. The Landfill tour was difficult due to staff shortages for the OC waste and recycling center, video is sufficient. I would like to make creative and personalized zero waste kits in the future as it was such an effective part of my challenge.	
Summary Statement Post my two week waste loss challenge, my participants are on track to be mindful consumers and actively practice the 5 R's of zero waste living	
Help Received Staff of OC waste and recycling helped me arrange for a Landfill tour of the Brea Olinda Landfill in Brea, California	