Letters to a President

Commended Entry Y9 – Saint Adams

March 23, 2021

The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. Biden,

I hope this letter finds you in good health and spirits. Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedule to read this letter and listen to my concerns. My name is Saint and I attend Bury Church of England High School. I'm writing because the world is changing. A storm has been brewing these past few years and as I write this, I wonder if there are darker times ahead.

Now before I start, Mr. President, I'd like to congratulate you on the impressive achievements you have made so far. What you've done to help immigrants in particular is amazing.

Though equality is vital for humanity to have a peaceful and prosperous future, it isn't the only problem we face. A better writer might have a more graceful way to continue this letter. Unfortunately, I find myself missing the words to eloquently turn to one of my larger concerns. What good is equality if it only means we won't argue over who is burning up worse when global warming reaches its peak?

America is the second largest producer of greenhouse gases in the world. In 2018 *alone*, the USA produced **6.7 billion metric tonnes** of CO2. Imagine, what America will be like in 50 years if things continue like this? Also 75% of America's forests have been destroyed since the 1600s which hasn't helped.

Furthermore, it's not just extreme air pollution that's a problem. America produces 1.2 trillion gallons of untreated sewage and waste each year which is dumped into American seas. **Approximately 40% of the lakes in America** are too **polluted** for aquatic life. In addition, the Mississippi River carries around 1.5 million metric tonnes of nitrogen pollution into the Gulf of Mexico each year, creating a "dead zone" in the Gulf each summer the size of New Jersey.

Will America lead the world in an attempt to save our beautiful planet? If America can do it, surely we all can.

We have taken so much from the Earth without ever giving it a chance to heal – so it's no surprise that the Earth is finally struggling to keep up.

We owe it to this planet. We owe it to nature. We owe it to all the species *humans* drove to extinction. We owe it to generations who haven't had a *chance* to start dreaming for a future they won't have unless we do something **now**. The actions of all our world leaders today are so important because it is <u>your</u> actions that will clear a path for tomorrow's leaders. Can America rise to the challenge?

The world is changing. Will you prepare for the storm?

Again, thank you for reading my letter and acknowledging my concerns. Congratulations on your accomplishments so far and best of luck in making the changes America needs to come together to help save Earth. You **can** do it.

Yours sincerely,

Saint