Oil and Water Essay

In today’s modern society, Southwest Asian nations are forced to make the decisions that directly impact their societies, most of which are made about water or oil. These two natural resources are extremely important to Southwest Asia’s economy, and the life of the nation itself. This part of Asia lacks both water and oil, making these two rare resources strategic commodities.

In my opinion, it is quite clear which resource Southwest Asia should invest in. Water. Water is used in for nearly everything, and supports the human beings themselves. Living in the southwest part of Asia, all of the people there know that their area is losing water, and without water there is no life. People are using water faster than it can replenish back, and after a few years the problem won’t be finding clean water, it will be to find water itself. Without having many cars, the small countries in Southwest Asia have little need for abundances of oil, but water will always be something that the need. An economic example is actually occurring right now in places like Africa. Large companies or corporations that have bought all the water are charging large amounts of money in order to obtain clean water. A Political example of this would be the fact that entire countries are beginning to fight over the sources of water, and the land that it’s on. This solution does not benefit anybody. A social example of this is that in Southwest Asia, people are beginning to have to migrate to other places, just to obtain any water at all, such as the people living near the Arabian sea which is rapidly drying up.

“Strategic Commodities” are resources that entire countries are willing to fight over in order to obtain. Water and oil are exact examples of a strategic commodity. Nearly every country’s war conflict after WWII has been over oil. But what some countries don’t realize is that their country’s water supply is running out. Even places such as Las Vegas are having to “steal” water from other places because they don’t have their own supply.

In this crisis, oil producing countries are probably the ones to benefit most. A positive affect on these countries would be that they would be able to charge as much as they want for the oil. As the worlds demand for oil goes up, then the oil producing countries will make more money. A negative effect on these countries would be that their entire economy would be based off of oil, and if/when they run out, then they will not have an economy. There are also positives and negatives to oil consuming countries as well. A negative being, that if the producing countries decided to double the price of oil, then they wouldn’t have a say, or be able to do anything, which would perhaps lead to violence. But a positive effect would be that the consuming countries would be able to trade with the producing countries necessities such as water, if the producing country was a developing nation.

In conclusion, southwest nations today have many difficult decisions to make about their future, whether to invest in oil or water. But my prediction is that with these trends continuing, eventually our oil WILL run out, then we will have to work together in order to find the correct solution that should’ve been found before any conflict occurred.