

Jamie:

— I became a vegetarian when I learned about how animals are being abused in the meat packing industry. For me it's unacceptable the way we disrespect animals, for example transporting them long distances under horrible conditions.

I would never buy leather, or use anything tested on animals. By the way, I read somewhere that a purely vegetarian diet can feed about 7 billion people, which is the world's entire population.

Jason:

— You find great vintage clothes and furniture if you buy second-hand. Some people don't like wearing someone else's clothes – but if you borrow books, why not borrow clothes?

There's this clothes library where you borrow clothes for three weeks before returning them and getting "new" ones – for fancy parties but also everyday things like jeans and shirts. It might cure a few shopaholics, too!



Gabriella:

— We use oil and coal in industry, for transportation and electricity. And we're losing rainforests as well as animal and plant species. Polar bears will disappear and insects will spread more diseases due to global warming. Also, natural disasters are becoming more frequent.

We must start using wind, solar power, bio-gas – and find other means of transportation. Also, planting trees could save forests and wildlife. We don't have much time ...

Ali:

— Food in our supermarkets is transported 2,400 kilometres on average, and that's just what's produced here in the US. What a waste of energy! Small farms disappear because we don't buy local products – instead the large farming industries produce unhealthy food, sometimes containing bacteria.

Also, we'll be short of oil, and energy will become more expensive. We should buy from local farmers – they need our support.

Doing the Right Thing?

Joel:

— Why doesn't everybody give money to Greenpeace, or even better, join them and work for them? They're trying to change our attitudes and behaviour in most important areas: climate change, protecting animals and rainforests, working for peace and against nuclear weapons and pollution.

They even refuse money from governments just to stay independent. I think Greenpeace is a great organisation!

Doing the Right Thing?

Michelle:

— Some say I should refuse anything produced by underpaid workers, sometimes even by children. But how am I supposed to know? Should I start asking: "Who made those socks?" or "How much did the workers who made the sneakers earn?" I'd just feel stupid.

It's not like they would shut down the factory because of me, would they? And someone else will buy those sneakers anyway ...



Doing the Right Thing?

Sonia:

— We should grow our own food. It's easier than you think – all you need is a backyard or a balcony. It could be anything from potatoes and carrots to garlic, peas and onions. You decide!

Now that fuel prices are rising, food will become much more expensive. Giant industries spray our food with chemicals and wrap it up in plastic. It's an environmental disaster ...

Doing the Right Thing?

Dean:

— I love jeans and I always wear them, but last week I got scared. I heard that the cotton fibers could be toxic from pesticides used to make them look good.

Now I'm thinking of buying eco-jeans instead, in natural organic cotton, non-toxic. It's just that these are more expensive, and I'm on a tight budget. I don't really know what to do.