

---

# Research Paper Reflection

## **A Reflection of the Research Paper written for the class Walking**

Alaina Finley - April 27th, 2019

---

For this paper, I was to research and write about a city and discuss the air pollution in the city. From there, I was to discuss any actions the communities and/or government was taking to mitigate the pollution issue. For me, determining a city to research was easy. I was born and raised in Sandy, Utah, and grew up with the horrendous smog and pollution seen in the Salt Lake Valley. I wanted to learn more about what this valley is *actually* doing to lessen the air pollution.

Overall, this was a fascinating project. I had learned so much about what sort of air pollution is concerning in the valley, and I had also gained a much better understanding of what different positions held were. Beforehand, I had such a strong opinion that our government was doing nothing to help better our air pollution. My only piece of evidence of this was that the pollution isn't going away. This opinion was quickly altered through my research.

I learned that not only is the government working to create regulations to lessen the pollution causes, but the primary culprit of the poor air quality are the *individuals* in this city. Realizing this made me feel like I needed to tell others and improve my personal habits to better the air quality. It made me realize I needed to understand *why* things like idling and cold starting your car is illegal. And then I need to share these things with others. Because as mentioned, it is up to the individuals to make the air quality better.

The assignment showed me that I am able to fight for change in my own backyard. It also taught me how to be informed when fighting for change, and it taught me *how* to be informed. Through these reasons, this assignment clearly addresses the Westminster College Learning Goal of Global Responsibility.