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Theme: How do your worldviews inform your conceptions of environmental and water injustices? How might the absence of having to think about issues of water injustice be significant?

As someone who grew up near the ocean not in California, I have never really perceived water as an issue until moving to California. Since then, it seems droughts are becoming a common occurrence happening at least once a year, turning water from a commodity into a precious resource. I have always been one to conserve water as I use it, hand-washing dishes and taking quick showers to name a few, but it turns out a majority of water consumption stems from usage in agriculture. California consumes huge amounts of water due to its massive agriculture production, and groundwater sources that provide irrigation for these crops is getting smaller every year. As shown in the *Apricot Lesson* by Arax, the amount of crops grown stretches for miles, and has a negative effect on the environment as time progresses. The profit for agriculture that consumes more water, such as avocados and cattle, is very high so the water consumption does not seem to be declining. As the nation gradually gets more profitable, and in general people rise in social class, it creates more demand for these products that are unsustainable. This creates a shortage of water as well as agriculture being detrimental to the environment as fertilizers contaminate water supplies and farms create greenhouse gases.

To those who do not have to think about these issues, either being ignorant or simply not knowing how water is managed, it contributes to an increased use of water consumption. As I said before, I think the consumption of more expensive crops (such as cattle) will increase, and to those who do not consider the amount of water that goes into creating a piece of meat compared to a loaf of bread will not consider the difference when thinking about saving water. This extends to those who are affected by droughts or inaccess to clean water, such as in rural communities. The video about the village in India did not have access to clean water, creating a variety of health problems for the inhabitants. This extends to many other parts of the world, and to those who do not know about this problem, say individuals who have had access to clean water all their lives at the touch of a lever, they are less likely to consider this an actual problem based upon their previous experiences with water. To some, water is a commodity, and to others it is a struggle, making it a difficult issue for everyone to understand.