The vast history of the People’s Republic of China is indeed a fascinating journey. The many unfortunate tragedies and seldom fortunate progressions have lead China to its current state. This presence it exerts to the world now depicts that of a developing country that the world heavily relies on. China, through its history, became a major manufacturer that provides its products to the rest of the world. However, this status came with its consequences. The immense industrial nature of the People’s Republic of China has introduced a corrosive element to China’s environment. Their excessive industrial market has been the cause for the ever increasing air pollution in China. This pollution has accumulated alongside the industrial development of the country. Air pollution and the pollution of the environment is a global dilemma. However, the concentration of pollution in China is particularly threatening. As some studies have stated the leading cause of death in the People’s Republic of China is respiratory diseases caused by air pollution (pg. 3).[[1]](#footnote-1) Many factors are present for this threatening air pollution and these many factors contributed to the masses that have died. One of these major contributions to air pollution is China’s dependence of coal in their industry.

China’s industry increasingly depended on coal as production increased through the years. As of 1980 till 1997, coal supplied approximately 72% of its commercial energy (ibid, pg. 9).[[2]](#footnote-2) This immense dependence on coal caused major pollution in the environment. The use of coal and other toxic fuels in manufacturing good at plants and factories has created a particulate matter that infiltrated the air. This particulate is soot, dust and smoke that lingers in the air and infiltrates the lungs. This pollution is killing

1. Nielsen, Chris P., and Mun S. Ho. Air Pollution and Health Damages in China: An Introduction and Review. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2007. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Nielsen, Chris P., and Mun S. Ho. Air Pollution and Health Damages in China: An Introduction and Review. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2007. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)