

<b>Topic:</b>	<b>WASTE MANAGEMENT AND PLASTIC POLLUTION</b>
<b>Claim:</b>	The government should implement stricter waste management systems and plastic regulation as to lessen the flooding and environmental degradation
<b>Reasons:</b>	Implementing stricter waste management and plastic regulations helps maintain cleaner drainage systems, lowers the risk of severe flooding during typhoons, and minimizes the long-term environmental and public health impacts of plastic pollution
<b>Evidence/Examples:</b>	In fact, during the recent massive flooding in Metro Manila and other parts of Luzon, officials identified garbage-clogged drains as a major cause, particularly in areas such as the Quezon Boulevard underpass and Lagusnilad. These areas became impassable during heavy rains, and water took hours to subside, showing how blocked drainage worsens urban flooding. To address this, the government and its international partners launched the Metro Manila Flood Management Project in 2017, which focused on modernizing pumping stations, improving waste management, and providing housing support for affected families. With these efforts, some flood risks have already been prevented.
<b>Counterarguments (With Rebuttal):</b>	While stricter waste management and plastic regulation can help, flooding in the Philippines will still happen unless the government fixes problems in flood control, improves drainage, since heavy rains, natural disasters, and full of corrupt government also make flooding worse, and even with better systems, flooding will continue unless Filipinos practice discipline by throwing their garbage in the proper bins.
<b>Conclusion / Call To Action:</b>	To truly reduce flooding and protect the environment, the government must stop corrupt practices and improve flood control systems, while Filipinos must practice discipline by properly disposing of their garbage and keeping their surroundings clean.