

Fire Safety Essay

Imagine your home, your wonderful home, with a big screen t.v, a nice kitchen, and a state of the art air-conditioning unit. You also have your family, your wonderful family, with your beautiful spouse, your sweet wonderful kids, and your happy, loyal dog. Your life is great. Let's say you go to bed one night. You have locked the doors, tucked the children to sleep, and put the dog in its crate. Then you kiss your spouse goodnight and go to sleep. Suddenly, you wake up to intense heat and screaming. Fire is all around you. Your bed, your t.v, your clothes, your everything is on fire. You try to get up, but your bed sheets have melted to your bed. Your mind starts to wander, wander, wander... then Bam! You wake up. Nothing has caught fire. Your house is fine, your family is fine, you are fine. You get up to go to the kitchen, but before you step outside your door, you look at your smoke alarm. Then you start thinking, "Have I changed the batteries yet?" You then realize that the little piece of plastic that you change the batteries in once a year can make a difference between your family being alive, and your family dying in the dream you had.

Fire is something man has sought after since the dawn of time. From a cooking fire for survival, to a fire in a fireplace to keep you comfortable while you read a novel, fire is part of our everyday lives. However, it is not always in a good part of our lives. In 2013, there were 369,500 reported fires. There were 2755 civilian deaths and 12200 civilian injuries because of fires. It cost a total of 6.8 billion dollars in fire damage. From these statistics, anybody can tell fire has definitely hurt us, killing and injuring civilians, as well as costing 6.8 billion dollars in damage. The thing is, most of these deaths and damages all can be prevented, all with some batteries and a plastic alarm.

Smoke alarms are alarms to alert people that there is a fire in their home. It can alert people to a fire and let the people live, and get the fire department out quicker to minimize property damage. Smoke alarms are in pretty much every home in the U.S. Anytime you walk into a house, you can see little plastic discs on the tops of door frames. These are smoke alarms. The weird thing is, not a lot of people keep batteries in it. When a smoke alarm's battery starts to die, it will start beeping, signaling someone to change the batteries. Most of the time, the house owner will not have the batteries, and will instead take out the batteries and never change it. That is where the problem arises. People soon forget to replace the batteries, and as soon as a fire happens, it is already too late. However, there is a simple solution to this problem. If house owners were advised to keep spare batteries for their fire alarms, there would be less property damage and less death/injuries from fires. Propaganda and t.v advertisements should be used to help this. If people band together, fire deaths and major property damage will be a thing of the past.

Throughout history, man has sought after fire, for all the wrong and right reasons. Fire has proved to be good, and evil. However, there are ways to help prevent serious harm from fire. Smoke alarms can alert people of a fire, and save their lives and minimize property damage. All people need to do is stress the importance of fire alarms, and fire related deaths and property damage will be a thing of the past. As a great organization stated, "Hear the beep, where you sleep; every house needs a working smoke alarm".