

Attention those of you who try to be basketball stars and practice taking shots on a garbage can without the courtesy to pick up after your misses,

Come on, guys! I love taking shots at trash cans too, but please don't leave the mess there if you miss.

I know, I've been there. You probably are trying to impress someone by showing off your mad skills, and I don't blame you. I've done that so many times, because honestly, who wants to walk up to the can and drop it in. But, please if you miss, admit you missed and pick it up. People will not ridicule you, and the environment will thank you.

Not all of us are LeBron James or Steph Curry, even if we aspire to be them, but leaving after a miss is littering, and littering not only sends a bad impression about yourself but also destroys the environment in a considerable way. Just take the extra few steps, and burn the extra calories, to save the environment and keep the place clean.

What harm did the environment do to you? Why do we, as the human race have to be so rude to it? While garbage industries can give thousands of reasons such as money and loyalty to their company, can you give a reason why you don't burn those calories and pick up after yourself?

Your parents have taught you how to clean up after yourself after eating. Why don't you do it even after you have grown up?

These questions have one answer, the human race has gone lazy. If you don't believe me, one look at our obesity rate will prove everything.

If we weren't lazy, in the first place, why would we be complaining about the dwindling population of our marine life? nine billion tons of litter shows up each year ("9 Interesting..."). Why?! Are we really that lazy? Come on! Do the sea creatures need to suffer for our laziness.

It also sends a bad impression of the place in addition to giving our environment harm. Would you want to go to a place filled with trash that stinks so bad, that you can't breathe?

Treat others the way you want to be treated and pick up that mess. People will thank you.

Already countries are spending millions for their government (Stauring). By littering like this, you have increased the spending of the government, and have to contemplate why your tax bill is so high. You have created a financial burden which you are carrying yourself. Would you rather lose some calories, picking up that trash, or a lot of money thanks to your careless attitude?

Don't be a follower, be a leader and pick up after yourself. More people will follow you and do the same, small changes have major impacts.

This rule also applies to LeBron James and Steph Curry. If your name is one of the aforementioned names, you too must pick up your mess. Even we know you miss on the court, the same could happen in any public place, so take the rebound shot. You do it on TV, so why can't you do it anywhere else.

Also, admitting your mistake is a sign of improvement. Even if you long to become a star and practice on these cans, admitting you missed and how you did so is the best way to improve. If you pick it up, you can try to shoot again, no need to drop it in because that's just lame. You can try how many ever times you like, but if you give up, you don't even need to drop it in, do a layup, or dunk it, but wash your hands afterward. A layup is almost too easy, and you are a lot less likely to miss than an actual shot.

I would completely agree that the best way to practice hoops, especially free throws, without going to the gym is practicing on these cans with your trash so you can do it before game time. You can bring your skills to a whole new level. But don't make the environment and other people suffer, keep trying, or give up, either way, get it into the trash somehow.

Let's make the world a cleaner place!

Signed,
Rithesh Manikandan

Works Cited

“9 Interesting Facts and Statistics about Littering.” *Litter, It Costs You*, 13 Dec. 2018, litteritcostsyoudotorg/9-interesting-facts-and-statistics-about-littering/.

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