



THE PALM OIL DILEMMA



What is Palm oil?

Produced from the fruit of the African oil palm tree, palm oil is used in a variety of food items, cosmetics & hygiene products, from ice cream and pizza dough, to laundry detergent. Though native to western Africa, palm oil trees are also being farmed in South America & Asia. Indonesia exports over 50% of the world's palm oil.



Why is this an issue?

When forests are cut down to make room for palm oil farms, many animals lose their habitats. As a result of habitat destruction directly related to the palm oil industry, animals like orangutans, tigers, & elephants have become critically endangered. But curbing palm oil farming to protect ecosystems is not so easy: many people depend on palm oil farming as a source of employment.

The Dilemma



Which means helping...



Tigers



Orangutans



Elephants

VS



At the cost of...



Child Labor



Deforestation



Bigger Carbon Footprint

What can we do?

- Shift palm oil farms to degraded land
- Support sustainable palm oil
- Support palm oil alternatives
- Spread the word!



To find sustainable palm oil, look for these labels.



NEW ENGLAND
Franklin Park Zoo • Stone Zoo