

Shark Finning

By Armaan

We have been killing too many sharks for their fins. Great Whites are on the brim of extinction. I know we need to stop killing sharks for their fins. If we continue to do this we will invade the food chain, humans will have an excess amount of mercury in their body (which is not good for you), and sharks have a possibility of curing cancer. A huge number of sharks are being killed a year. As it says on Shark Friends website, "Shark finning is killing sharks every year at an alarming rate! It is estimated that 100 to 200 million sharks annually are killed for their fins alone. This practice is mainly for supplying shark fins for the so-called delicacy known as shark fin soup¹."

Sharks play a vital role in the food chain. The extinction of sharks will completely wipe out every living organism in the world, including humans. This will first be the cause of an extensive amount of aquatic plants. It will also lead to extinction of smaller animals that consume these aquatic plants, because sharks are in charge of eating their predators (stingrays ect.). As it says on the CNET website, killing sharks "could trigger things like out-of-control algae or the extinction of smaller animals such as scallops that rely on sharks to eat their predators²."

Shark meat has a huge amount of toxic mercury. Too much mercury in a human body is extremely dangerous. If a human eats too much shark meat, that human has consumed a lot of toxic mercury, which is very dangerous in a human body. "Consuming sharks will increase the [level of mercury you ingest](#) which will in turn increase your risk of [neurological](#)

¹ "Shark Finning - Shark Friends." <http://www.sharkfriends.com/sharks/sharkfinning.html>. Accessed 27 Mar. 2018.

² "What would happen if there were no more sharks? - CNET." 11 Aug. 2014, <https://www.cnet.com/news/what-would-happen-if-there-were-no-more-sharks/>. Accessed 27 Mar. 2018.

[disorders](#), [autism](#), [infertility](#), [Coronary heart disease](#) or even [death](#),” as it says on the “Why Protect Sharks?”Website.³

Sharks have the potential to cure cancer. Shark immune systems are a lot stronger than a humans. We can extract the enzymes of a shark (which we can do easily with no harm), modify them, and insert them into humans to stop cancer. If we kill all the sharks in the world for shark fin soup we can't do this if there are no more sharks left. “Sharks almost never get sick. “Shark tissue appears to have anticoagulant and antibacterial properties. Scientists are studying it in hopes of finding treatments for a number of medical conditions, including viruses, cystic fibrosis and some forms of cancer,” explains Conservation International⁴” as it says on the Cure 2 Cause website

Sharks dying out can demolish the entire universe. We can stop this by banning shark finning everywhere. Shark finning, buying or selling shark fins are banned in Texas. This proves we can stop it for the rest of the world. Just like ivory. We could also stop it by reducing the demand for shark fin soup. If we reduce the demand for shark fin soup , we will reduce the amount of sharks being finned. We can do this by convincing others why eating shark fin soup can wipe out the human race.

³ "Why Protect Sharks? - Support Our Sharks."

http://www.supportoursharks.com/SOS_Why_Protect_Sharks.htm. Accessed 7 Apr. 2018.

⁴ "Could shark cartilage help cure cancer? | HowStuffWorks."

<https://animals.howstuffworks.com/fish/sharks/shark-cure-cancer.htm>. Accessed 10 Apr. 2018.