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Peer Review #3: Dai

Research Question: is air pollution at the fault of the government or the people?

Hypothesis: more developed countries have cleaner air compared to developing countries, where middle class countries have the highest rate of pollution.

To test your hypothesis, you say that the different countries will be compared to different classes. Does this mean that you will determine which countries are upper, middle and lower class? Be more specific when explaining. In your hypothesis, it states that higher income countries have less pollution but when you look at China and Japan they have some of the highest levels of air pollution. They are both considered high-income countries according to the World Bank-(https://data.worldbank.org/country). By using China and Japan I think that could give more insight into the types of countries that have high levels of pollution due to a rapid growing economy. India could be another great variable to look at due to their pollution and economic position.

Independent Variable: a country's economic standing

I would explain a little about why these countries are considered to be upper, middle, or lower class; what is their annual income? I am not sure if this will complicate your research at all but you could also give some insight into the countries that have gone up or even gone down on the social scale and how that has affected the pollution.

Dependent Variable: levels of pollution

Your research question introduces air pollution but throughout your paper it seems like you are measuring pollution all together. Focusing your dependent variable on air pollution alone will

help the structure of your argument. You briefly discuss things like health issues and deforestation but then do not follow up on the research. In order to test air pollution you should look at several different outside sources that measure air pollution by country and explain how they measure their findings.

https://airnow.gov/index.cfm?action=aqibasics.aqi

https://qz.com/794542/air-pollution-map-by-country-fine-particulate-matter/

After explaining these statistics you can then discuss the effects of air pollution by country using research you have gathered (literature reviews). You could also measure the levels of production of each country i.e. number of factories, net exports, etc. If you decide to do this you should also discuss what their main exports are and how that affects pollution. Some of these countries do export timber, which causes air pollution due to deforestation so you could bring that into your research.

My main question regarding this paper is how to incorporate policies. I think the question that you are asking is very broad and there are many different factors that play into why a country has poor air quality. Your findings are leaning towards economic development and how **that** is affecting the air. You definitely can talk about the different kinds of policies that each country has but maybe discuss that towards the end of your paper maybe in a section dedicated to how these countries are planning on improving the air quality.

Additional comments:

-when talking about the Clean Air Act, make sure that you are telling the readers it is a United States law

-make sure you are telling the readers that the OECD is the Organization for Economic

Co-Operation and Development

     -there are abbreviations that need to be clarified (OECD, WHO, etc.)

-in your middle class literature review you discuss the air quality, be sure to explain what these

findings are as many readers will not know what nitrogen gas is or PM10.

-there are grammatical errors that need to be looked over