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Environment

In order to better protect our environment, the governments of the world need to stop conjuring complicated plans involving cap and trade programs. All that is really needed is a simple system of reward and punishment. For example, in order to conserve natural resources and costs of production, the Chinese government implemented a series of laws allowing only one plastic bag per customer in grocery stores. In comparison with the United States, which uses one plastic bag for only a couple items, China definitely has the upper hand in the race for becoming the next world power. Not only does this conserve resources, it also reaps in profits for the government, because every extra bag used costs the user some extra money. If not, at least it encourages people to use reusable bags.

Not only are punishments effective, but rewards are too. California recently formulated an incentive plan for the purchase of hybrid vehicles. If a person buys a hybrid within a certain amount of time, he or she receives a sticker that allows him to drive on the carpool lane at any given time. During this time frame, hybrid vehicles sold tremendously fast, especially those of Toyota's Prius. Without these incentives, many potentially successful ideas will be bypassed, and our planet will continue on its spiraling decline.