

## **Fashion Clothes and Toxicity**

**Yea the clothes we wear, has a cost to the environment. Thats why buying organic clothes is important to our health and environment.**

It's Big with Growth from 50 billion pieces in 2000 to 100 billion in 2015. American annual clothes disposal has tripled in the same period. Climate Change with carbon emissions from the industry equates 8% of global emissions. Toxic chemicals at all levels of the supply chain with dyes, polyfluorinated chemicals, and flame retardants. The wet process requires dyes and chemical processing.

Water-20% of industrial water pollution traceable back to textile industry, chemicals in drinking water and micro plastics into the sea. Some Limited initial Programs as MRSL or Manufacturing restricted Substances Lists, and RSL Restricted substances lists. exist. Uncertain health effects from fish and animals eating plastic and people eating and drinking these particles. Synthetic fibers as polyester, nylon, and acrylic break down into microfibers. When washing clothes each load releases as many as 700,000 microfibers into the water and soil.....as Chemicals go into the soil and land it becomes less arable. The labor force is exposed to poisons...Polyesters account for 55% of all clothing production and rely on the use of heavy metals, like antimony, cadmium, and lead. Farmers exposure to a chemical mix that can disrupt the hormone systems, harm liver health, and more. (Soil Carbon Index.)

Clothes and the relationship to the purchaser exposed to poisons?

Reusable clothes that are recycled equate less than 1% of resources used. Organics certified is best but GOTS + Oeko-Tex are certified that no chemicals are added. Cotton is one of the most water intensive crops with 2700 liters of water to grow the cotton to make one cotton t-shirt.

Much of cotton is genetically modified gmo which increases the use of pesticide applications.

Cotton makes up 2.5% of the globe's cultivated land. Rayon is made with wood pulp where some 70% of the resource is lost in the process and causes destruction of forests.

Brands that are good are Viscose, lyocell, Tencel(MODAL), SeaCell, Raw silk. Bluesign.

Stand.earth. See "toxic textiles report" by Asher Weinstein at Green America.

Source my garment by Adila Cokar gives advice on sourcing responsible clothing.