

Should All Governments Ban Trophy Hunting?

Student's Name or Students' Names

Department Affiliation, University Affiliation

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Instructor's Name

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Trophy hunting is a gaming competition in which selected animals are shot, and the winners are awarded for their superiority (Carwardine, 2021). To conduct this gaming competition, key players must obtain an official license from the government to operate within the framework of the law. Primarily, in trophy hunting, an animal is killed in a sporting activity, and its body parts are displayed as an accurate representation of the trophy. A demonstration of why all governments should prohibit trophy hunting will be discussed in this paper.

Many conservatives of wildlife claim that trophy hunting does not support wildlife as it is depicted as immoral ("10 Facts," n.d.). On the same lens, many hunting promoters argue that the prizes achieved from the competition are directed to fund the conservation organizations (Semcer, 2019). According to Goncalves (2020), more claims from the hunting proponents state that they aim to remove the redundant animals to control wildlife species. In this regard, the output is not substantial to warrant the execution of the animals. As a result, the governments have an obligation to ban all activities that promote hunting in the purview of gaining funds to support the organizations as mentioned above.

Furthermore, conducting unregulated trophy hunting creates space for the reduction of target animal species in the wildlife. For instance, the most hunted animals include elephants and lions exported to the United States from African nations such as Tanzania and Zimbabwe (Dickman et al., 2019; "10 Facts," n.d.). Thus, it is depicted that these animal species will reduce, and their beauty, like wildlife, will be diminished. According to a book written by Lovelock (2007), trophy hunting has threatened the life of specific wildlife species. The book reveals that organizations and human rights bodies continue to criticize hunting because it enhances the death of certain species. For this reason, continuous trophy hunting activities will serve to gratify the

proponents while compromising the future life of the wild animals. Hence, all governments should prohibit unregulated trophy hunting activities.

Moreover, trophy hunting has been used as a source of income for the neglected African communities that impact wildlife activities. However, anti-hunting supporters claim that the gains realized from the trophy competition are less than when alternative hunting methods are adopted by the communities (Keeling, 2020). The alternative approaches used to acquire income are essential than the threatened wild animal lives. Trophy hunting activities are expected to continue when the governments do not provide suitable options to cater to communities' needs. In the same breadth, trophy hunting games tend to focus on specific animals, especially those resulting in high-profit returns in exchange for reducing the wildlife population (Keeling, 2020). Thus, the governments should outlaw trophy hunting activities within their boundaries.

In summary, trophy hunting has resulted in more harm than good to the lives of the wildlife. Views of many wildlife conservatives reveal that killing animals for monetary gains is immoral rather than an opportunity to get rid of redundant wildlife species. Trophy hunting has led to the reduction of specific animals in wildlife conservation, such as lions and elephants, compared to income obtained by the perpetrators. Most trophy hunting sporting events happen in African nations such as Zimbabwe and Tanzania. Animal products obtained from killing targeted animals are exported to developed countries such as the United States. The exporting countries do this for monetary gain. Also, they find a ready market in the developed countries. Even when awards are given in the form of monetary gain, the devastating impacts left by illegal trophy hunting cannot go unnoticed. The claimed source of income that the promoters of trophy hunting attribute should not make governments allow its continuation. Hence, to save the lives of the wildlife, all governments should ban trophy hunting activities within their environs.

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