

Artist Name: Brenden Westenbroek

I created this piece as a visual statement to draw parallels between environmental pollution and the physiological and psychological pollution of drug addiction. Both the tree and the hand are of basic structures similar (Trunk with Branches, Arm ~~with~~ fingers) and also shaded alike to aide the viewer in drawing their conclusions. I intentionally left "Empty space" to represent the possibility of hope for reconciliation and healing. The angular black fractures are meant to represent damages done in the past. One of the key signatures of addiction is continued behavior despite overwhelming evidence of negative consequences. The same could be said about humanities addiction to fossil fuels, plastic products and carbon emitting industrial practices.

As an Artist, and more importantly as a Human Being, I want my audience to know it's never too late to make a change, Even if it's only a small one, to make the **World** a better place.

-Thank you