

Many people believe that in order to have clean and tidy streets in their neighborhood, this should be the residents' responsibility, while others think it should be the government's duty. What is your opinion?

Living in a neighborhood free of litter and trash may seem unrealistic, but it definitely is an objective for both individuals and governments. Who should be held responsible for that, however, is where opponents and proponents bifurcate.

On the one hand, the government as a capital institute with a clear mandate should be held responsible. To begin with, the government's authority to introduce and enforce the law makes it able to create conditions for keeping the streets and public places clean in addition to preventing inconsiderate citizens ~~to-from~~ spoiling the neighborhood or penalizing them. From taking punitive measures against offenders such as advertisements ~~to~~ promote-promoting the culture of maintaining the public places tidy by producing programs on media, for instance, the authorities are in the front line of the fight against littering and destruction of residential areas.

On the other hand, believing that such an insurmountable problem should be just addressed by the government means misunderstanding not only the extent but the nature of it. First, to get to the root of the problem, it is vital to understand that it mostly stems from the citizens. Disposing objects on the ground such as cigarette butts, used drink bottles, and broken electrical equipment parts, producing plastic waste and committing environmental vandalism, we are the ones who have brought this on ourselves. Secondly, the state budget allotted to making the city look spotless and clean comes directly from residents' tax and fines. In fact, the more litter produced by people, the more money will be needed to recruit more staff and machines to have litter-free streets.

To conclude, urban cleanliness is certainly an issue which calls for immediate and strong government's containment to pass laws and make people obey them, but in this battle to revive a clean neighborhood is indeed a role for all of us.