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I'm glad PGC is promoting *The True Cost*! I really like that documentary and think it does an excellent job of educating viewers about the social, economic, and environmental harms caused by the fashion industry. Since it's midterm season and I don't have time to host a screening today, nor would anybody have time to come, I talked with some friends who have already seen *The True Cost*.

My friends thought that the film was useful in forcing them to realize how their current fashion economy affects people on both ends of the supply chain and the environment. After watching it, they felt a greater sense of responsibility towards their clothes. Three common synonyms were infuriated, disappointed, and compassionate. Moving forward, we agreed that good goals to have were to buy less new and buy less in general. In the event that something is not available secondhand, opt for more sustainable and ethical options. We all thought that it is important to spread the word about the immediate and future hazards of the our current fashion industry. A key takeaway from the documentary was that we are powerful as consumers and that by changing out behavior to not accept the status quo, we can make a positive change for our fellow people and the environment that we all share.

Personally, my reaction to the film in three words is: angry, overwhelmed, and motivated. I am angry that these practices are allowed. The world is at least semi-aware of the injustices of the fashion industry, from child labor to developing countries being disproportionately affected by the pollution it creates, but to my knowledge nothing has changed. Even after the factory in Bangladesh collapsed just a few years ago, killing over a thousand people, fast fashion continues and prices stay low. I am also overwhelmed in trying to change this system because I am just one person and this system is a multinational industry worth a *ton* of money. I am also motivated to keep my closet as sustainable and ethical as I can. Since I watched *The True Cost* last year, I have become a much more conscientious clothing consumer. I buy almost all my clothes used, I buy far fewer clothes and shoes, I try to repair everything, and when I buy new clothes I buy them to last.*

*Here is a photo of me in today's outfit: a thrifted sweater, jeans I ironed a patch on, and undergarments that I've had for years. Not pictured: the high-quality raincoat and rain boots I bought new last year before watching *The True Cost*. Had I watched the film beforehand, I probably would have at least looked for a used rain jacket, but I'm not sure about the boots because they could easily be gross.

