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The Facts:

- \Rightarrow Shark finning is the removal of shark fins and the discard at sea of the carcass. The shark is usually still alive when it is tossed back into the water. Since it can't swim, the shark slowly sinks toward the bottom where it may be eaten alive by other fish.
- Shark finning takes place at \Rightarrow sea on boats so the fishers have only the fins to transport. Shark meat is low value so it's not worth the cost of transporting the bulky bodies to market.
- \Rightarrow One pound of dried shark fin can sell for \$300 or more.
- \Rightarrow The fins are then dried to be sold in markets to individuals and restaurants, and sold to the public for as much as \$350 per bowl! *The shark* fins don't even add any flavor to the soup. Chicken or pork are used to flavor, the fins are for texture only.

Is this a serious problem?

YES! 10-100 million sharks are killed each year by humans and globally a reduction of over 80% in the last 20 years. You don't have to be a genius to figure out that spells extinction, and in case you haven't heard, *extinction lasts* forever!



- can help
- ⇒ **Don't order shark fin soup!** Talk to your friends about shark fin soup and remember: Friends don't let friends eat shark fin soup!
- \Rightarrow If local communities realize that they can make more money by conserving sharks than by killing them, then we will ensure the survival of sharks. If you are considering a holiday in a location where there are sharks, you might want to go shark diving. This is a source of income for communities that encourages shark conservation.

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