# Shark Fin Soup is:



### Dangerous to Humans

## Sharks contain high levels of mercury and other dangerous toxins

- Mercury can cause birth defects, nervous system damage to men and women, and sterility in men.
- Sharks contain the highest levels of mercury than any other fish because they are at the top of the food chain and absorb the toxins from all the fish they eat.
- The toxins then move into the person who eats the shark, and the toxins remain in the body.

### Destructive to the Oceans

### The elimination of sharks results in other big problems in our food supply

- Sharks play a vital role in the ocean at the top of the food chain, keeping balance and population stability among other species of sea life.
- Studies show that when sharks are eliminated, other desirable species disappear and the eco-system is disrupted. For example, when there are no sharks to eat skates and rays, those species explode in population and destroy all shellfish.

### Extinguishing Sharks Worldwide

### Over 100 million sharks are killed annually, mostly for soup

- Sharks are being killed at such a rapid rate that their populations are down over 90% in many areas.
- Sharks are being killed for their fins. The bodies are thrown away while the sharks are still alive.
- Sharks reproduce much more slowly than other fish, taking ten years or more to reach sexual maturity and then bearing few young. They cannot survive the high rate of killing.



#### Please do not eat or serve shark fin soup



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