Uncovering the coral killers

University of California, Irvine Professor Joleah Lamb has always loved the ocean. While researching coral health for her doctoral thesis, she began noticing an abundance of discarded plastic and soon made an astounding discovery: Coral with plastic on it had an 89% disease rate compared to just 4% without it. As the first to scientifically prove this link, Lamb made headlines and impacted lives around the world. Coral reefs are some of the oldest, most diverse ecosystems on our planet, providing food to half a billion people and a home to a quarter of marine life. By studying how we can improve and protect this natural wonder for future generations, Lamb inspires her students to help our oceans—and our future—Shine Brighter.

Learn more at m.uci.edu/coral