

ENVIROMENTAL ETHICS

WHAT IS THE BASIS OF OUR MORAL OBLIGATIONS REGARDING THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT?



ANTHROPOCENTRIC APPROACHES

OUR OBLIGATIONS REGARDING THE ENVIRONMENT ARE TO BE DETERMINED SOLELY ON THE BASIS OF HUMAN INTERESTS

HUMAN WELFARE

HUMAN LIFE DEPENDS ON NATURAL NECESSITIES

Necessities as breathable air, drinkable water, and eatable food are essential. In the absence of overriding moral considerations, pollution is morally unacceptable precisely because it is damaging to the public welfare.



SENTIENTIST APPROACHES

THE INTERESTS OF SENTIENT BEINGS DETERMINE OUR OBLIGATIONS REGARDING THE ENVIRONMENT

ALL BEINGS VALUE

INTRINSIC NOT INSTRUMENTAL

All sentient beings, not just human beings, are seen as having inherent (intrinsic) value and not merely instrumental value.



BIOCENTRIC APPROACHES

ECOCENTRICM AND DEEP ECOLOGY

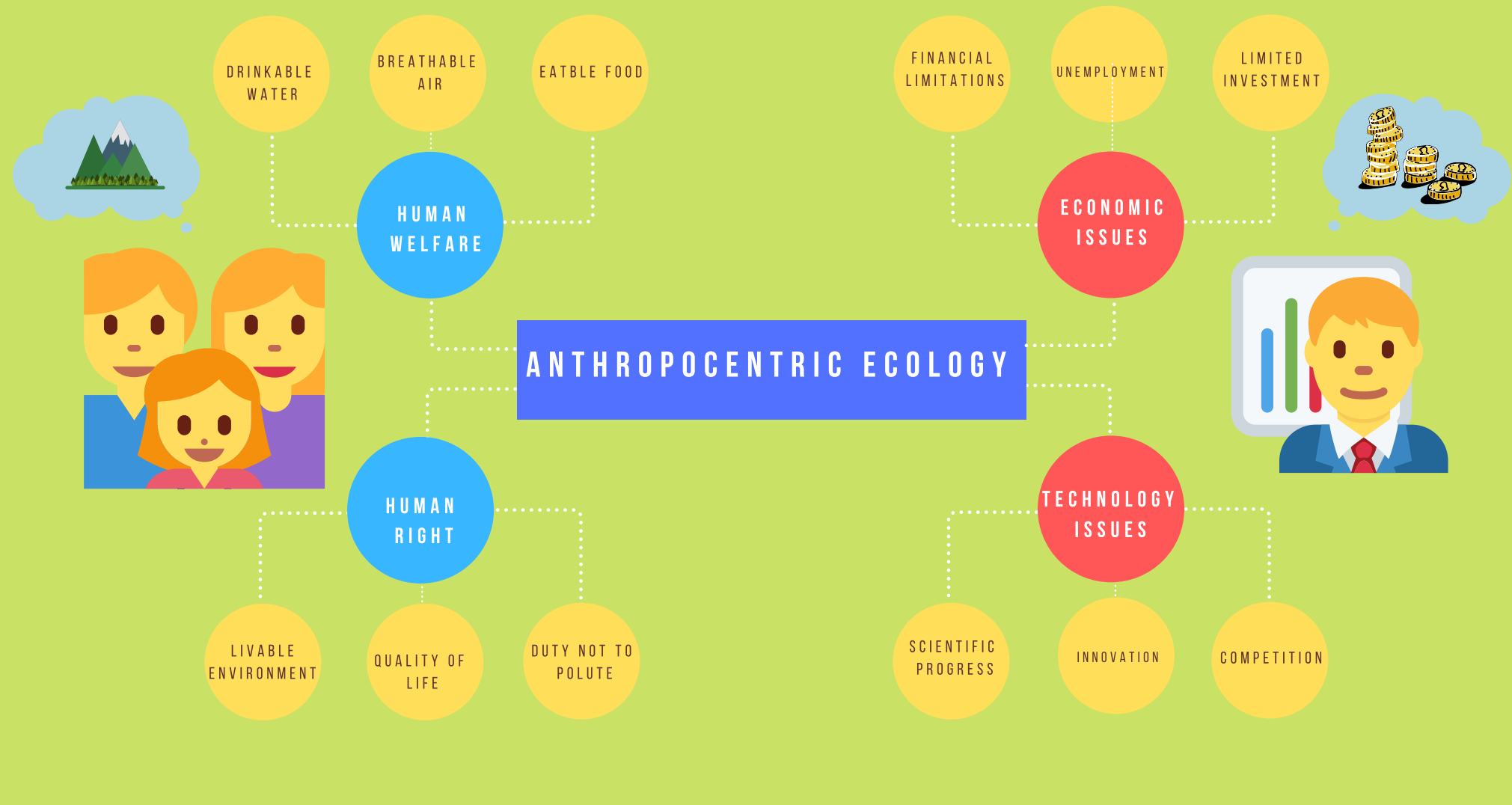
Our moral obligations with regard to the environment involves a biotic ("relating to life"), biocentric or ecocentric view

ENVIRONMENTAL HOLISM

MORAL ECOSYSTEMS AND DEEP ECOLOGY

A moral standing to ecosystems - a unit made up of a community of living things taken in conjunction with the nonliving factors of its environment- constitutes a biocentric approach is also called ecocentric.





MIND MAP

ANTHROPOCENTRIC ECOLOGY

In an anthropocentric approach to ecology our obligations regarding the environment are to be determined solely on the basis of human interests.

We can appeal to human interests in order to ground a duty not to pollute the environment — that is, a duty not to pollute unless there are overriding moral considerations.



sentient beings are
valuable in themselves

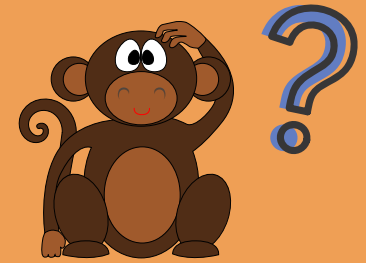


SENTIENTIST



no harm to nonhuman
animals and their
environment

All sentient beings and not just human beings are
seen as having inherent (intrinsic) value and not
merely instrumental value



analogous to speciesism



SENTIENTISM



unjustified preference to
one's own "kind"

SENTIENT ECOLOGY



We have a moral obligation to preserve some natural habitat that is of no
value to human beings if its destruction would harm some nonhuman animals

DEEP ECOLOGY

Deep ecological consciousness is the search for a more objective consciousness and state of being through an active deep questioning and meditative process and way of life

Deep ecology criticizes the dominance of humans over nonhuman Nature, masculine over the feminine, wealthy and powerful over the poor, with the dominance of the West over non-Western cultures

WORLD VIEWS	
DOMINANT WORLDVIEW	DEEP ECOLOGY
Technocratic-industrial societies regard humans as isolated and fundamentally separate from the rest of nature	The study of the natural world includes the study of ourselves as part of the organic whole
Dominance over Nature	Harmony with Nature
Nature as resource for humans	Nature has intrinsic worth in biospecies
Material growth	Elegantly simple material needs
Belief in ample resource reserves	Earth "supplies" limited
High technological progress	Appropriate technology non dominating science
Consumerism	Recycling
Centralized Communities	Minority traditions and bioregions

DEEP ECOLOGY

basic norms



SELF-REALIZATION

The realization of "self-in-Self"
where "Self" stands for organic
wholeness



BIOCENTRIC EQUALITY

The nature of reality and our place as
one-many individual reality in the
larger scheme of things



EXPERIENTIAL

Experiential understanding precedes
intellectual understanding

DEEP ECOLOGY

the basic principles

The following eight principles of the Deep Ecology Platform have been drafted by Arne Naess and George Sessions



1

The well-being and flourishing of human and nonhuman Life on Earth have value in themselves (synonyms: intrinsic value, inherent value). These values are independent of the usefulness of the nonhuman world for human purposes.

2



Richness and diversity of life forms contribute to the realization of these values and are also values in themselves.



3

Humans have no right to reduce this richness and diversity except to satisfy vital needs.

4



The flourishing of human life and cultures is compatible with a substantial decrease of the human population. The flourishing of nonhuman life requires such a decrease.



5

Present human interference with the nonhuman world is excessive, and the situation is rapidly worsening.

6



Policies must therefore be changed. These policies affect basic economic, technological, and ideological structures. The resulting state of affairs will be deeply different from the present.



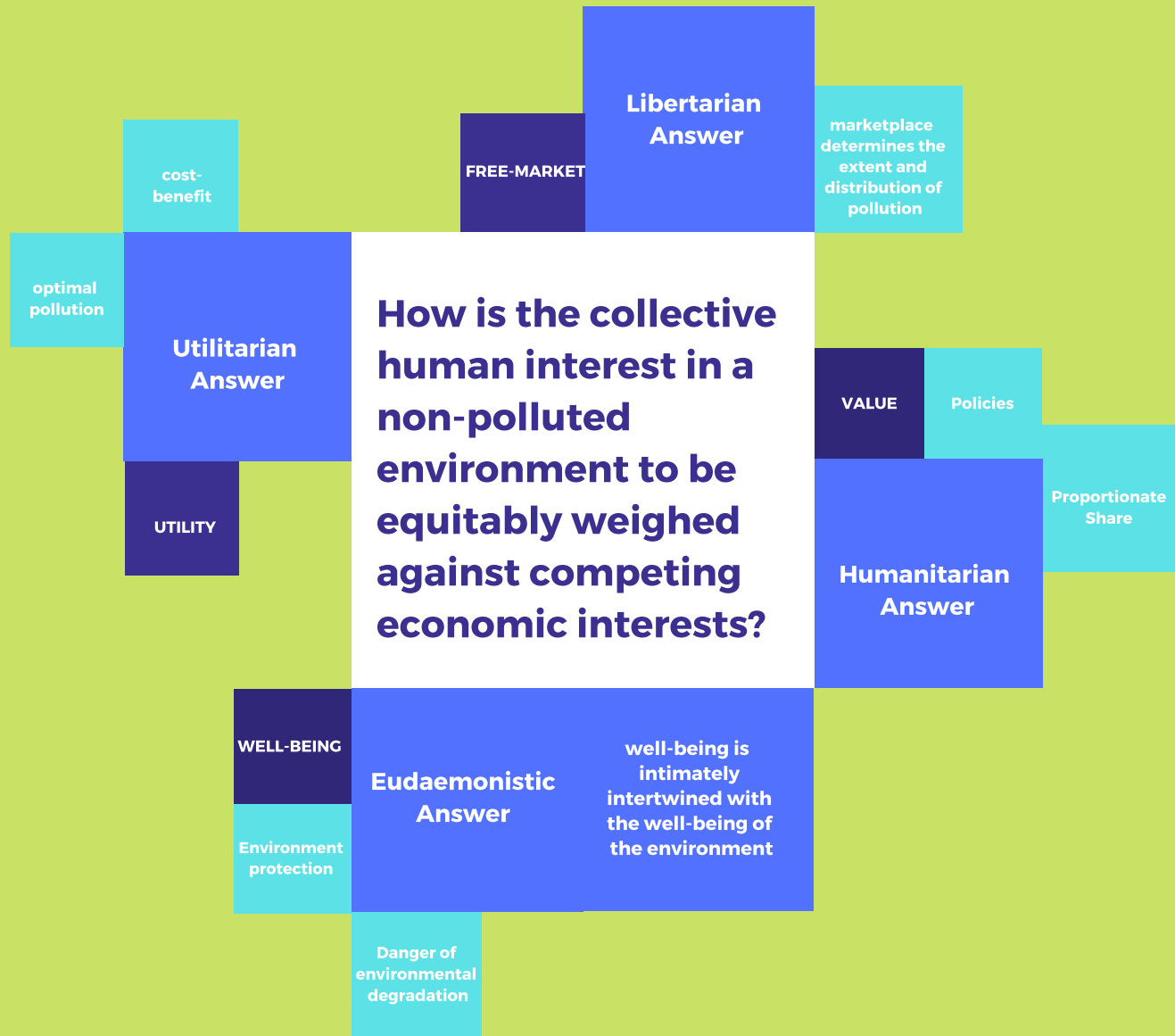
7

The ideological change is mainly that of appreciating life quality (dwelling in situations of inherent value) rather than adhering to an increasingly higher standard of living. There will be a profound awareness of the difference between big and great.

8



Those who subscribe to the foregoing points have an obligation directly or indirectly to try to implement the necessary changes.



ECOLOGY AND HUMAN INTEREST

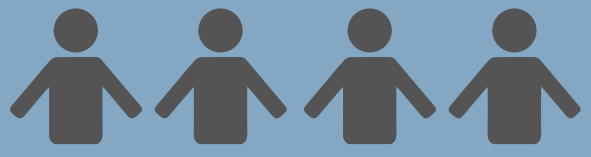
The problem of weighing the collective human interest in a nonpolluted environment against competing human interests, often economic ones.

An industrial plant, representing a (small, large, massive) financial investment, producing a product that is (unessential, very desirable, essential) to society and providing a (small, large, enormous) number of jobs, pollutes the environment in a (minor, substantial, major) way.

ENERGY CONSUMPTION



The energy required in manufacturing, the disposition or recycling of computers as well as the energy required to run them are some important environmental problems



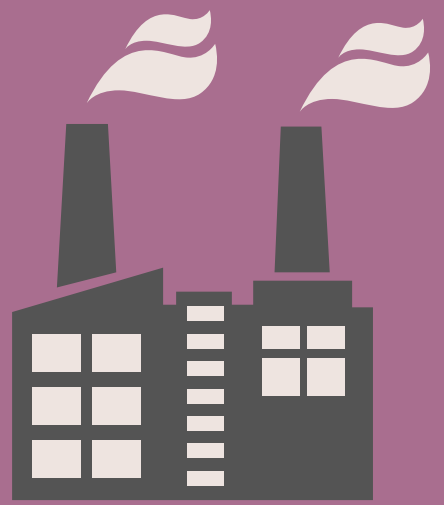
Many people are affected



At a great cost for the environment and national economies

POLLUTION

Semiconductor manufacturing pollutes the air and ground water. Human made chemicals or other alteration in the natural soil environment cause land degradation



ELECTRICITY WASTE

Every time we leave computers or lights on we waste electricity. Burning fossil fuels generates most of our electricity and it also emits pollutants, sulfur, and carbon dioxide into the air.



ENERGY EMISSIONS

Energy emissions cause respiratory disease, smog, acid rain and global climate change.



HARDWARE DISPOSAL

Obsolete computers, tablets and mobile phones create another environmental problem. Health problems may result to people and animals from groundwater pollution, toxic gases and compounds due to disposal of batteries or **non-recycled hardware parts**. Hardware components contain **hazardous substances** and radiation.

NON-RECYCLED PARTS

- circuit boards
- monitors
- wires
- microchips
- motherboards

HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES

- dioxide
- platinum
- toxic
- mercury
- heavy metals
- phosphorus



HARDWARE DISPOSAL

SOLUTIONS

the following suggestions are for a better hardware disposal practice

UPGRADE

Upgrading and not replacing old computers saves money and protects the environment

RECYCLE

Recycling hazardous components especially with help of waste-collection organisations

LEGISLATE

Governments have to apply specific laws concerning the disposal and recycling of hazardous components

DONATE

Donating old computers to schools, non-profit organisation or third-world countries

EDUCATE

Educating new generations in computer and hardware disposal and ethical awareness

THINK GREEN

Follow green computing: design hardware components with less hazardous substances or radiation

GREEN COMPUTING



Green computing encourages computer users to 'think green'. It refers to practices, studies and methodologies of environmentally sustainable information and communication technologies.

Green computing practices involve a number of daily things that computers users can do in order to reduce environmental and energy costs.

by Giannis Stamatellos

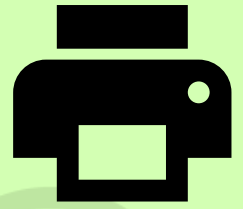
1 SHUTDOWN

Do not leave computers running continuously without reason.



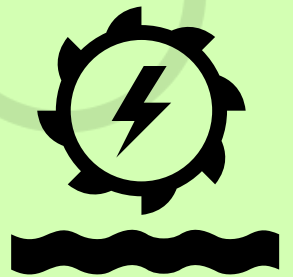
2 PRINT WHEN NEEDED

Do not turn on the printer until it is ready to print.



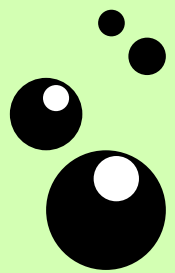
3 SAVE ENERGY

Buy or use energy-efficient products with energy labelling and ecodesign requirements



4 USE SCREEN SAVERS

Use screen saver programs to prevent phosphor burn-in old monitors such as CRTs



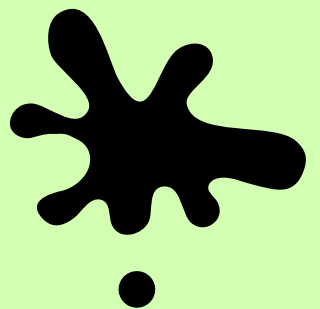
5 RECYCLE

Recycle hazardous material such as batteries and cartridges.



6 BE ECO-FRIENDLY

Buy ecological non-petroleum-based inks such as soy-based inks



7 ACT PAPERLESS

Reduce paper waste in an automated paperless office practices



8 ENTER DARK MODE

Use the dark mode feature that is better for the eyes and eco-friendly



PAPERLESS SOCIETY

Green your office



MINIMIZE HARD COPIES

Print less

In the most popular office automation tools the user is able to prepare a soft copy of his document presented on the monitor before making a hard copy later in a printout.



RECYCLE WASTE PAPER

Recycle systematically

Paper is invaluable so it must be recycled in designed areas or recycle bins. Used paper could be retained in specific office boxes ready for recycling



USE E-MAILS INSTEAD OF FAXES

Digitize communication

Interoffice communication should be contacted in email messaging, not faxes or print paper documentation.



REUSE PAPER

Used paper is not always for trash

Already printed paper which has used in one side it can be used as scratch paper for notes, drafts or sketches.



BUY RECYCLE PAPER

Use ready-made recycled paper

Many companies provide ready-made recycled paper through which waste paper is turned into new paper products.

SOFT COPIES, NOT HARD COPIES