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A READER IN MODERN POLITICAL IDEOLOGIES

Edited by Nancy S. Love

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DOGMAS AND DREAMS

A Reader in Modern Political Ideologies
SECOND EDITION

Edited by Nancy S. Love Pennsylvania State University

Chatham House Publishers, Inc. Chatham, New Jersey



Dogmas and Dreams: A Reader in Modern Political Ideologies SECOND EDITION

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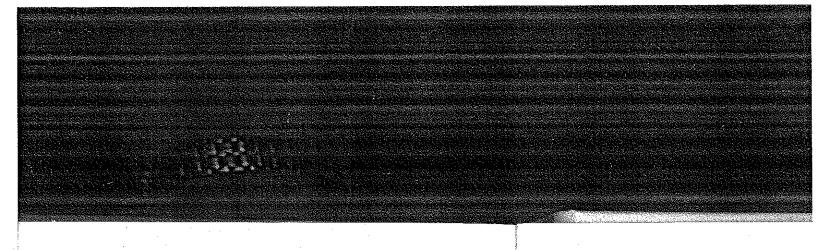
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CAROLYN MERCHANT

Radiçal Ecology: The Search for a Livable World

Carolyn Merchant's *The Death of Nature: Women, Ecology and the Scientific Revolution* (1980) helped found the ecofeminist movement. In *Radical Ecology* (1992) Merchant suggests how to reconstruct human relationships with nonhuman nature in "the search for a livable world." Merchant is professor of environmental history, philosophy and ethics in the Department of Conservation and Resource Studies at the University of California, Berkeley.

Introduction: What Is Radical Ecology?

Radical ecology emerges from a sense of crisis in the industrialized world. It acts on a new perception that the domination of nature entails the domination of human beings along lines of race, class, and gender. Radical ecology confronts the illusion that people are free to exploit nature and to move in society at the expense of others, with a new consciousness of our responsibilities to the rest of nature and to other humans. It seeks a new ethic of the nurture of nature and the nurture of people. It empowers people to make changes in the world consistent with a new social vision and a new ethic.

To become clear about our own goals for change, we need to reflect on the ways in which we have absorbed the norms and roles of the larger society in which we live. How can we replace feelings of individual helplessness with feelings of power to make changes consistent with a new social vision and a deeper, more articulate environmental ethic? . . .

Radical Ecology

Ecology as a science emerged in the late nineteenth century in Europe and America, although its roots may be found in many other places, times, and cultures. The science of ecology looks at nonhuman nature, studying the numerous, complex interactions among its abiotic components (air, water, soils, at-

Carolyn Merchant — Radical Ecology: The Sea

oms, and molecules) and its biotic components (pfungi). Human ecology adds the interactions between ments, enormously increasing the complexities. His successful when it studies clearly defined places a people of Papua New Guinea, the Shoshone India Tukano Indians of the Amazonian rainforests. What tional dimension, environmental history emerges poral changes in specific regions have provided the environmental historians—the ecological history gence of hydraulic society in California, changing servation in America, and so on.

Social ecology takes another step. It analyzes the institutions that people use in relationship to natural ogies—such as axes, guns, and bulldozers—transferinto "natural resources." Systems of economic prograthering, and fishing, subsistence agriculture, a turn the resources into goods for home use or man of reproduction provide norms and techniques the whether and when to bear children. Laws and preproduce the social order. Ideas and ideologies, su ligion, art, and science, offer frameworks of constand making ethical decisions.

Radical ecology is the cutting edge of social ecological systems toward new patterns of product sciousness that will improve the quality of human ment. It challenges those aspects of the political event the fulfillment of basic human needs. It of social causes of environmental problems and altern supports social movements for removing the cause tion and raising the quality of life for people of every social movements.

How can radical ecology help to bring about ronmental problems . . . result from contradictions each other's continuance) in today's society. The stensions between the economic forces of productions, the second from tensions between reproductions, the second from tensions between reproductional particular form of production in modern society-capitalist and state socialist—creates accumulating ter, soil, and biota (including human beings) and tain and reproduce itself over time.

The first contradiction arises from the assau. Examples include the destruction of the environn production (such as the oil spills and air pollution the predicted nuclear winter from nuclear war); gl



MERCHANT

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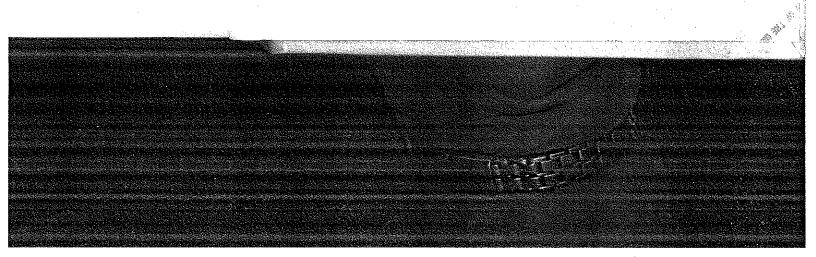
nineteenth century in Europe and many other places, times, and culuman nature, studying the numercomponents (air, water, soils, atoms, and molecules) and its biotic components (plants, animals, bacteria, and fungi). Human ecology adds the interactions between people and their environments, enormously increasing the complexities. Human ecology has been most successful when it studies clearly defined places and cultures—the Tsembaga people of Papua New Guinea, the Shoshone Indians of the American west, the Tukano Indians of the Amazonian rainforests. When time is added as an additional dimension, environmental history emerges as a subject. Even here, temporal changes in specific regions have provided the most grist for the mills of environmental historians—the ecological history of New England, the emergence of hydraulic society in California, changing ideas of wilderness and conservation in America, and so on.

Social ecology takes another step. It analyzes the various political and social institutions that people use in relationship to nature and its resources. Technologies—such as axes, guns, and bulldozers—transform trees, animals, and rocks into "natural resources." Systems of economic production, such as hunting, gathering, and fishing, subsistence agriculture, and industrial manufacturing turn the resources into goods for home use or market trading. Cultural systems of reproduction provide norms and techniques that guide families in deciding whether and when to bear children. Laws and politics help to maintain and reproduce the social order. Ideas and ideologies, such as myths, cosmologies, religion, art, and science, offer frameworks of consciousness for interpreting life and making ethical decisions.

Radical ecology is the cutting edge of social ecology. It pushes social and ecological systems toward new patterns of production, reproduction, and consciousness that will improve the quality of human life and the natural environment. It challenges those aspects of the political and economic order that prevent the fulfillment of basic human needs. It offers theories that explain the social causes of environmental problems and alternative ways to resolve them. It supports social movements for removing the causes of environmental deterioration and raising the quality of life for people of every race, class, and sex.

How can radical ecology help to bring about a more livable world? Environmental problems . . . result from contradictions (tendencies to be contrary to each other's continuance) in today's society. The first contradiction arises from tensions between the economic forces of production and local ecological conditions, the second from tensions between reproduction and production: The particular form of production in modern society—industrial production, both capitalist and state socialist-creates accumulating ecological stresses on air, water, soil, and biota (including human beings) and on society's ability to maintain and reproduce itself over time.

The first contradiction arises from the assaults of production on ecology. Examples include the destruction of the environment from the uses of military production (such as the oil spills and air pollution during the 1991 Gulf War or the predicted nuclear winter from nuclear war); global warming from industrial



emissions of carbon dioxide; acid rain from industrial emissions of sulphur dioxide; ozone depletion from industrial uses of chlorofluorocarbons; the pollution of oceans and soils from the dumping of industrial wastes; and industrial extractions from forests and oceans for commodity production. These assaults of production on global ecology are circulated by means of the biogeochemical cycles and thermodynamic energy exchanges though soils, plants, animals, and bacteria (see figure 1.1 [p. 610], center circle). Their effects are experienced differently in the First, Second, and Third Worlds and by people of different races, classes, and sexes.

The second contradiction arises from the assaults of production on biological and social reproduction. The biological (intergenerational) reproduction of both human and nonhuman species is threatened by radiation from nuclear accidents (such as the 1979 accident at Three Mile Island in the United States and the 1986 accident at Chernobyl in the Soviet Union) and by toxic chemicals from industrial wastes. The reproduction of human life on a daily (intragenerational) basis in Third World countries is endangered as local food, water, and fuel supplies are depleted by the conversion of lands to cash crops and in the First World as harmful chemicals in foods, drinking water, and indoor air invade the home. The reproduction of society as a whole is imperiled by government policies that support continued industrial pollution and depletion and by industry policies that support continued sex and race discrimination (see figure 1.1, middle circle). A country's form of social reproduction and its form of economic production constitute its political economy. Thus the United States, China, Brazil, Kenya, and Malaysia all have particular political economies.

The global ecological crisis of the late twentieth century, I argue, is a result of these deepening contradictions generated by the dynamics between production and ecology and by those between reproduction and production. But problems of pollution, depletion, and population expansion have specific roots in each country's internal history, its place in the global order, and the current trajectory of its internal development. Each environmental problem therefore needs to be examined in the context of its own specific history as well as its linkages to global political economies. . . .

As these two contradictions become more visible, they also undermine the efficacy of western culture's legitimating worldview, pushing philosophers, scientists, and spiritualists to rethink human relationships with the nonhuman world (see figure 1.1, outer circle). The mechanistic worldview created during the seventeenth century scientific revolution constructs the world as a vast machine made up of interchangeable atomic parts manipulable from the outside, just as the parts of industrial machines can be replaced or repaired by human operators. This mechanistic worldview, which arose simultaneously with and in support of early capitalism, replaced the Renaissance worldview of nature as a living organism with a nurturing earth at its center. It entailed an ethic of the control and domination of nature and supplanted the organic world's I-thou

ethic of reciprocity between humans and nature. domination legitimates the use of nature as comm dustrial capitalism....

Deep ecologists . . . call for a total transformation that will replace the mechanistic framework of difframework of interconnectedness and reciprocity. Some to infuse religions with new ecological ideas vering nature. Social ecologists . . . see a total transformation omy as the best approach. Most of these theories which all parts of the ecosystem, including human ecologically-modified homocentric ethic that valucial ecology.

Radical environmental movements draw on the orists, but intervene directly to resolve the contract production and between production and reproduction and reproduction and a variety of direct actions that production on reproduction by saving other speciand cleaning up the environment. Ecofeminists about issues that affect women's own bodies in bic toxic substances and nuclear radiation) and wom tion (such as altering workplace/homeplace patter able development movement ... searches for new that would reverse the assaults of production on e preserving soils, waters, air, and biota.

Although radical ecology pushes for change as not a monolithic movement. It has many schools groups. Its branches are often at odds in goals and and specific actions. These produce conflicts an larger movement resulting in a variety of approach problems. My own view is one of guarded opting movements that intervene at the points of greatest reverse ecological damage and fulfill people's basic tion need to be subordinated to the reproduction of human needs and the preservation of local eco. ethic of partnership between humans and nonhun worldview advocated by deep and spiritual ecolo transformation, it can nevertheless foster and sup social directions taken. Perhaps over the next fiv revolution will take place so that by the middle of will have new forms of production, reproduction sustain both people and the natural environment. fulfill much of the vision and hope of radical ecolo n industrial emissions of sulphur diss of chlorofluorocarbons; the polluty of industrial wastes; and industrial nmodity production. These assaults ted by means of the biogeochemical es though soils, plants, animals, and rcle). Their effects are experienced Worlds and by people of different

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ethic of reciprocity between humans and nature. Mechanism and its ethic of domination legitimates the use of nature as commodity, a central tenant of industrial capitalism....

Deep ecologists . . . call for a total transformation in science and worldview that will replace the mechanistic framework of domination with a ecological framework of interconnectedness and reciprocity. Spiritual ecologists . . . see the need to infuse religions with new ecological ideas and revive older ways of revering nature. Social ecologists . . . see a total transformation of political economy as the best approach. Most of these theories entail an ecocentric ethic in which all parts of the ecosystem, including humans, are of equal value, or an ecologically-modified homocentric ethic that values both social justice and social ecology.

Radical environmental movements draw on the ideas and ethics of the theorists, but intervene directly to resolve the contradictions between ecology and production and between production and reproduction. Green political activists ... advocate the formation of green parties that would recast social and political reproduction and a variety of direct actions that would reverse the assaults of production on reproduction by saving other species, preserving human health, and cleaning up the environment. Ecofeminists ... are particularly concerned about issues that affect women's own bodies in biological reproduction (such as toxic substances and nuclear radiation) and women's roles in social reproduction (such as altering workplace/homeplace patterns and norms). The sustainable development movement ... searches for new approaches to resource use that would reverse the assaults of production on ecology, thereby renewing and preserving soils, waters, air, and biota.

Although radical ecology pushes for change and social transformation, it is not a monolithic movement. It has many schools of thought and many action groups. Its branches are often at odds in goals and values, as well as techniques and specific actions. These produce conflicts and heated debates within the larger movement resulting in a variety of approaches to resolving environmental problems. My own view is one of guarded optimism, placing hope in social movements that intervene at the points of greatest ecological and social stress to reverse ecological damage and fulfill people's basic needs. The goals of production need to be subordinated to the reproduction of life through the fulfillment of human needs and the preservation of local ecologies and be informed by an ethic of partnership between humans and nonhuman nature. Although the new worldview advocated by deep and spiritual ecologists may not lead the social transformation, it can nevertheless foster and support the new economic and social directions taken. Perhaps over the next five decades a global ecological revolution will take place so that by the middle of the twenty-first century we will have new forms of production, reproduction, and consciousness that will sustain both people and the natural environment. Such a transformation would fulfill much of the vision and hope of radical ecology.

(Continued on p. 611)

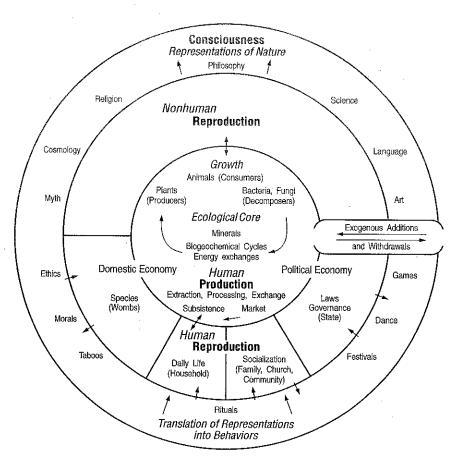


FIGURE 1.1
CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK FOR INTERPRETING ECOLOGICAL REVOLUTIONS

Ecology, production, reproduction, and consciousness interact over time to bring about ecological transformations. The innermost sphere represents the ecological core within the local habitat, the site of interactions between ecology and human production. Plants (producers), animals (consumers), bacteria and fungi (decomposers), and minerals exchange energy among themselves and with human producers in accordance with the laws of thermodynamics and the biogeochemical cycles. Introductions and withdrawals of organisms and resources from outside the local habitat can alter its ecology. Human production (the extractions, processing, and exchange of resources and commodities) is oriented toward immediate use as food, clothing, shelter, and energy for subsistence or toward profit in mercantile trade and industrial capitalism. With increasing industrialization, the subsistence-oriented sector declines and the market-oriented sector expands (as indicated by the clockwise arrow).

The middle sphere represents human and nonhulus generational reproduction of species and intrageneral ecological interactions directly in the case of nonhumants by production in the case of humans. In subsistence (or tion is oriented toward the reproduction of daily life in the duction of food, clothing, shelter, and energy (as indiffer humans, the reproduction of society also include church, and community) and the establishment of laws order in the tribe, town, state, or nation.

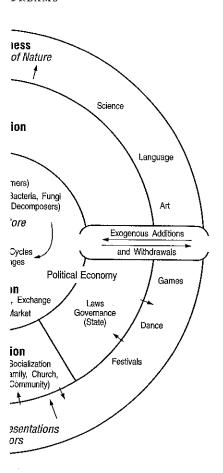
Human consciousness, symbolized by the outermoutations of nature reflected (as indicated by the arrows) philosophy, science, language, and art, helping to mair and to influence change. Through ethics, morals, taboc and games, they are translated into actions and beha affected by the environment, production, and reprodurows).

The "semipermeable" membranes between the stateractions among them. Ecological revolutions are butions between production and ecology and between These changes in turn stimulate and can be stimulate nature and forms of human consciousness.

(Continued from p. 609)

Many people will disagree with the goals of ra will decline to participate in its various actions. Yet cal standpoint from which to view and analyze mastream environmentalism. It sharpens our understunderlying Western civilization and its values. It becond and Third World economic and environme formulate answers to the dilemmas of self in society sus society.

The visibility of radical environmental movem environmental goals more acceptable. Radical acti sciousness about issues enmeshed in bureaucratic 1 gered by radical actions may then come about processes. Although it may fail to bring about re radicalism can still be effective in changing attitude promoting social change.



TING ECOLOGICAL REVOLUTIONS

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The middle sphere represents human and nonhuman reproduction. The intergenerational reproduction of species and intragenerational survival rates influence ecological interactions directly in the case of nonhuman individuals or as mediated by production in the case of humans. In subsistence (or use-value) societies, production is oriented toward the reproduction of daily life in the household through the production of food, clothing, shelter, and energy (as indicated by the two-way arrow). For humans, the reproduction of society also includes socialization (in the family, church, and community) and the establishment of laws and governance that maintain order in the tribe, town, state, or nation.

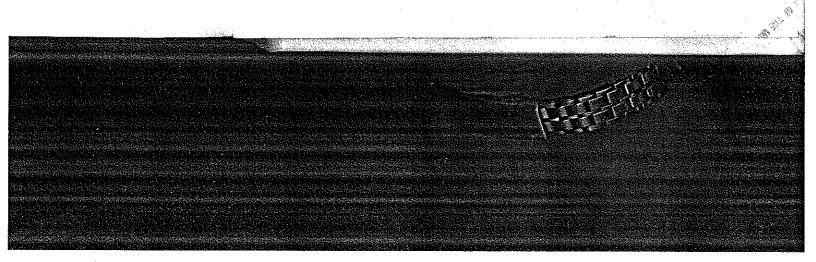
Human consciousness, symbolized by the outermost sphere, includes representations of nature reflected (as indicated by the arrows) in myth, cosmology, religion, philosophy, science, language, and art, helping to maintain a given society over time and to influence change. Through ethics, morals, taboos, rituals, festivals, the dance, and games, they are translated into actions and behaviors that both affect and are affected by the environment, production, and reproduction (as indicated by the arrows).

The "semipermeable" membranes between the spheres symbolize possible interactions among them. Ecological revolutions are brought about through interactions between production and ecology and between production and reproduction. These changes in turn stimulate and can be stimulated by new representations of nature and forms of human consciousness.

(Continued from p. 609)

Many people will disagree with the goals of radical ecology. Perhaps most will decline to participate in its various actions. Yet radical ecology offers a critical standpoint from which to view and analyze mainstream society and mainstream environmentalism. It sharpens our understanding of the assumptions underlying Western civilization and its values. It broadens our perspective on Second and Third World economic and environmental problems. It helps us to formulate answers to the dilemmas of self in society, society in self, and self versus society.

The visibility of radical environmental movements may make mainstream environmental goals more acceptable. Radical actions often raise public consciousness about issues enmeshed in bureaucratic technicalities. Changes triggered by radical actions may then come about through normal political processes. Although it may fail to bring about revolutionary transformation, radicalism can still be effective in changing attitudes, raising consciousness, and promoting social change.



Conclusion: The Radical Ecology Movement

What has the radical ecology movement accomplished? A broad range of answers to this question is possible. Radical ecology has not brought about a worldwide socialist order. Nor is such a scenario likely in the immediate future. Its achievements are far more modest. As a theoretical critique of the mainstream environmental movement, it exposes social and scientific assumptions underlying environmentalists' analyses. As a movement, it raises public consciousness concerning the dangers to human health and to nonhuman nature of maintaining the status quo. In so doing, it pushes mainstream society toward greater equality and social justice. It offers an alternative vision of the world in which race, class, sex, and age barriers have been eliminated and basic human needs have been fulfilled.

What analyses and concrete results have radical theorists and activists contributed to the environmental movement?

Contributions of Radical Theorists

- Reality is a totality of internally related parts. The relationships are fundamental and continually shape the totality as contradictions and conflicts arise and are resolved.
- Social reality has structural (ecological and economic) and superstructural (law, politics, science, and religion) features. Continual change is generated out of the contradictions and interactions among the parts and levels.
- Science is not a process of discovering ultimate truths of nature, but a social construction that changes over time. The assumptions accepted by its practitioners are value-laden and reflect their places in both history and society, as well as the research priorities and funding sources of those in power.
- Ecology is likewise a socially constructed science whose basic assumptions and conclusions change in accordance with social priorities and socially accepted metaphors.
- What counts as a natural resource is historically contingent and is dependent on a particular cultural and economic system in a given place and time.
- Surplus and scarcity are produced by economic interactions with nonhuman nature. Scarcity is both real in that some resources are nonrenewable over human lifespans and created in that economic producers control the technologies of extraction and the distribution of commodities.
- Human reproduction is not determined by indiscriminate sexual passions, but is governed by cultural norms and practices.
- · Gender is created not only by biology, but by social practices.

Contributions of Radical Activists

 The dangers of radioactive, toxic, and hazardous wastes to human health and reproduction have been exposed by citizen activists and regulations concerning disposal have been tightened.

- The siting of incinerators and landfills in poor and Third World countries has been exposed as racist.
- The rapid clearcutting of tropical rainforests are growth forests by corporations on both public an ciated decimation of rare and endangered species awareness, and cutting in some areas has been cur
- The slaughter of whales, dolphins, salmon, and sharply criticized and in some cases curtailed or te
- The dangers of pesticides and herbicides on food the availability of alternative systems of agricultur
- The viability of green parties as a source of pol nized.
- The self-determination and power of indigenous world to the right to control their own natural 1 tant.
- Direct, nonviolent action has become an accepta of political protest.
- Alternative, nonpatriarchal forms of spiritualit
 within mainstream religions that view people as
 of nature rather than dominators are being a
 people.
- The need for ecological education and individual lifestyles that reduce conspicuous consumption a ing headway.

While radical ecology has achieved specific ga less has its own limitations and internal contradi coherence as a theory and as a movement. Theore to underlying ethical, economic, social, and scient ecologists wish to focus on redefining the meaning science and cosmology, still others on the connect deep ecology. Social ecologists and deep ecologists priority lies with challenging and redefining the mode for initiating transformation or whether th the pursuit of social justice, with each camp accu phistication. Some social ecologists disdain spiritu and as diverting energy away from social change, gists defend ritual as a way of focusing social act. also in disagreement, with many deep ecologists ar some form of ecocentric ethic, while social ecolog centric approach informed by ecological princip. debates among proponents of radical ecology in §

Ecology Movement

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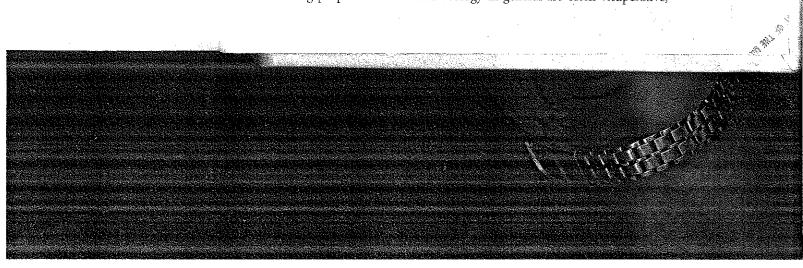
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- The siting of incinerators and landfills in poor and minority communities and Third World countries has been exposed as racist.
- The rapid clearcutting of tropical rainforests and northern hemisphere old growth forests by corporations on both public and private lands and the associated decimation of rare and endangered species have been brought to public awareness, and cutting in some areas has been curtailed.
- The slaughter of whales, dolphins, salmon, and other ocean species has been sharply criticized and in some cases curtailed or temporarily reduced.
- The dangers of pesticides and herbicides on foods and in water supplies and the availability of alternative systems of agriculture have been made visible.
- The viability of green parties as a source of political power has been recognized.
- The self-determination and power of indigenous peoples throughout the world to the right to control their own natural resources has become important.
- Direct, nonviolent action has become an acceptable and highly visible means of political protest.
- Alternative, nonpatriarchal forms of spirituality and alternative pathways within mainstream religions that view people as caretakers and/or equal parts of nature rather than dominators are being adopted by more and more people.
- The need for ecological education and individual commitment to alternative lifestyles that reduce conspicuous consumption and recycle resources is making headway.

While radical ecology has achieved specific gains and visibility, it nonetheless has its own limitations and internal contradictions. Radical ecology lacks coherence as a theory and as a movement. Theoreticians are deeply divided as to underlying ethical, economic, social, and scientific assumptions. Some deep ecologists wish to focus on redefining the meaning of self, others on redefining science and cosmology, still others on the connections between spirituality and deep ecology. Social ecologists and deep ecologists are at odds as to whether the priority lies with challenging and redefining the dominant worldview as the mode for initiating transformation or whether the preeminent strategy lies in the pursuit of social justice, with each camp accusing the other of lack of sophistication. Some social ecologists disdain spiritual ecology as politically naive and as diverting energy away from social change, while many spiritual ecologists defend ritual as a way of focusing social actions. Ethically the camps are also in disagreement, with many deep ecologists and spiritual ecologists holding some form of ecocentric ethic, while social ecologists generally pursue a homocentric approach informed by ecological principles. Although the theoretical debates among proponents of radical ecology in general are often vituperative,



they are equally incisive and healthy as a forum for clarification of assumptions and principles.

Similarly, green movements are divided along both theoretical and strategic lines. Green politics is fraught with disagreements between those who hold deep ecological and/or spiritual ecological assumptions and those who identify with social ecology and hold an ethic of social justice as the primary objective. Equally significant are the divisions between Greens who wish to pursue a practical real-world strategy of working with other political parties to achieve ecological goals and Greens who refuse to compromise fundamental movement principles and prefer to work outside the established political system. Ecofeminists are often critical of deep ecologists for their failure to recognize both biological and socially constructed differences, and divided among themselves as to basic strategies for change, with some pressing for spiritual, others for social approaches, and still others seeking to combine ritual with action. Similarly the sustainability movement is divided among those who primarily follow scientific/ecological principles in advocating policy and those who incorporate or subordinate scientific strategies to social justice strategies.

Radical environmental movements also differ in different parts of the world. In the First World, much energy is directed toward mitigating the effects of toxic pollutants (e.g., chlorofluorocarbons, petroleum spills, PCBs, pesticides, and nuclear and hazardous wastes), preserving endangered species, saving wilderness, and promoting recycling. In the Second World, priorities are focused on controlling industrial threats to human health, particularly the effects of urban air and water pollution as well as nuclear contamination resulting from the Chernobyl accident. In the Third World a primary emphasis is on obtaining sufficient food, clean water, and adequate clothing for basic subsistence, developing appropriate technologies for cooking, heating, and farming, countering the effects of pesticide poisoning on human health, and preserving the lands of indigenous peoples.

Yet just as the environmental and human health problems facing the three worlds are interdependent, so radical movements are linked. When toxic substances and pharmaceuticals are banned in the First World, they are often dumped in Third World countries. Radical movements expose and protest against such practices. When rainforests are cut in Third World countries, destroying indigenous habitats, First World environmental groups organize consumer boycotts of timbers and hamburgers. When Second World activists organize environmental protests, they receive support and assistance from First World activists. International environmental conferences produce international networks of groups helping other groups.

Within the First, Second, and Third World radical ecology movements, theory and practice are linked, each informing and inseparable from the other. Divisions among proponents open new avenues for both synthesis and criticism. The movement as a whole is both dynamic and timely. New ideas and

new strategies for change are continually evolving; new people with energy and enthusiasm.

I... [use] the concepts of ecology, production sciousness in understanding both the ecological crit. I have analyzed the crisis [as] a result of two comproduction and ecology, the second between production and ecology, the second between productions deepen, they push the world. The crisis could be relieved over the next several aglobal ecological revolution brought about by chantion, and consciousness that lead to ecological susgists call for a transformation in consciousness from ical worldview which transforms knowing, being, and science, while spiritual ecologists focus on relievering nature. Social ecologists call for a transformation based on new ecologically sustainable modes of political reproduction.

Radical ecological movements attempt to res lead to the crisis through action. Green politics a tween production and reproduction, pressing for and nonhuman life that are compatible with ecotice. Ecofeminists press for gender equality and t tion to the reproduction of life such that childre that can provide adequate employment and securituring both humans and nature. The sustainabilic contradiction between ecology and production, able production technologies, restoring ecosystems development programs.

Despite the accomplishments and vision of most of the world's power is presently concentrate political institutions that bring about environment that split rich from poor, whites from people of a humans from nature remain. Radical ecology itself political, economic, and scientific world order. To actions challenge the hegemony of the dominant a problems promise to be among the most critical century, environmentalists will play increasingly in tion. Radical ecology and its movements will contention environmentalism and will remain on the cutting contributing thought and action to the search for

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l World radical ecology movements, ming and inseparable from the other. avenues for both synthesis and critidynamic and timely. New ideas and new strategies for change are continually evolving; the door is always open to new people with energy and enthusiasm.

I ... [use] the concepts of ecology, production, reproduction, and consciousness in understanding both the ecological crisis and ways of overcoming it. I have analyzed the crisis [as] a result of two contradictions, the first between production and ecology, the second between production and reproduction. As these contradictions deepen, they push the world into greater ecological stress. The crisis could be relieved over the next several decades, however, through a global ecological revolution brought about by changes in production, reproduction, and consciousness that lead to ecological sustainability. Thus deep ecologists call for a transformation in consciousness from a mechanistic to an ecological worldview which transforms knowing, being, ethics, psychology, religion, and science, while spiritual ecologists focus on religion and ritual as ways of revering nature. Social ecologists call for a transformation in political economy based on new ecologically sustainable modes of productions and new democratic modes of political reproduction.

Radical ecological movements attempt to resolve the contradictions that lead to the crisis through action. Green politics address the contradiction between production and reproduction, pressing for ways of reproducing human and nonhuman life that are compatible with ecosystem health and social justice. Ecofeminists press for gender equality and the subordination of production to the reproduction of life such that children will be born into societies that can provide adequate employment and security and have an ethic of nurturing both humans and nature. The sustainability movement focuses on the contradiction between ecology and production, devising ecologically-sustainable production technologies, restoring ecosystems, and promoting socially-just development programs.

Despite the accomplishments and vision of radical ecologists, however, most of the world's power is presently concentrated in economic systems and political institutions that bring about environmental deterioration. The trends that split rich from poor, whites from people of color, men from women, and humans from nature remain. Radical ecology itself stands outside the dominant political, economic, and scientific world order. Together its various strands and actions challenge the hegemony of the dominant order. Because environmental problems promise to be among the most critical issues facing the twenty-first century, environmentalists will play increasingly important roles in their resolution. Radical ecology and its movements will continue to challenge mainstream environmentalism and will remain on the cutting edge of social transformation, contributing thought and action to the search for a livable world.