

Environmental Worldviews

- Asks ↙
- How do you think the world works?
 - What should humans' role in the world be?
 - What is right & wrong environmental behavior?

Classifying Worldviews

2 MAIN GROUPS: Holistic & Atomistic

→ Holistic (Ecocentric) earth centered & focused on sustaining Earth's ecosystems, biodiversity, life-support systems, & generally helping all organisms.

→ Atomistic → Anthropocentric or Biocentric

Ecocentric

- "earth-centered"
- humans are destroying Earth
- all things have intrinsic value
- Emerson, Thoreau, Leopold, Muir, & Carson

Anthropocentric

- "human-centered"
- No problems can't be solved
- free-market says it's ok
- Importance is based on \$ value not intrinsic value

Biocentric

- "life-centered"
- humans are one with Earth
- intrinsic value important
- Focuses on living organisms not Earth as a whole

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Environmental Worldviews

• Planetary Management - Anthropocentric

- Humans are the most important, apart from the rest of nature
- technology means we will always have enough resources.
- Economic growth is unlimited

- Stewardship - Biocentric, be stewards of Earth, manage Earth's systems, we prob. won't run out of resources but don't waste them anyway.
- Environmental Wisdom - Biocentric, we are dependent on nature, don't waste resources, we need to learn how nature sustains itself
- Ecofeminism - main problem is male-centeredness, fix rift bet. humans & nature as well as all oppression.
- Social Ecology - Create better democratic communities, figure out new ways to produce smarter, create new technology.
- Deep Ecology - Ecocentric, focuses on the interconnectedness of all living & nonliving things, all parts of the living environment have the right to flourish.
- Gaia - all organisms & abiotic surroundings work together to form systems of one organism - Earth