

LOUIS P. POJMAN

THIRD  
EDITION

# Environmental Ethics

READINGS IN THEORY AND APPLICATION





# Contents

Preface vii

## INTRODUCTION:

On Ethics and Environmental Concerns 1  
What Is Ethics? 3

## PART ONE:

### Theory 5



#### CHAPTER ONE

Western Philosophy of Nature: The Roots of  
Our Ecological Situation 10

- 1 Genesis 1–3 11
- 2 LYNN WHITE: The Historical Roots of Our Ecological  
Crisis 13
- 3 LEWIS W. MONCRIEF: The Cultural Basis of Our  
Environmental Crisis 19
- 4 PATRICK DOBEL: The Judeo-Christian Stewardship  
Attitude to Nature 24

#### CHAPTER TWO

Animal Rights 29

- 5 IMMANUEL KANT: Rational Beings Alone Have Moral  
Worth 31
- 6 PETER SINGER: A Utilitarian Defense of Animal  
Liberation 33
- 7 TOM REGAN: The Radical Egalitarian Case for Animal  
Rights 40
- 8 MARY ANNE WARREN: A Critique of Regan's Animal  
Rights Theory 46
- 9 J. BAIRD CALLICOTT: Animal Liberation: A Triangular  
Affair 51
- 10 S. F. SAPONTZIS: What Animal Liberation Is and Isn't  
About 62
- 11 DALE JAMIESON: Against Zoos 69

#### CHAPTER THREE

Does Nature Have Intrinsic Value? Biocentric  
and Ecocentric Ethics and Deep Ecology 75

DOES NATURE HAVE INTRINSIC VALUE? 76

- 12 HOLMES RALSTON III: Naturalizing Values: Organisms  
and Species 76
- 13 NED HETTINGER: Comments of Holmes Rolston's  
"Naturalizing Values" 86
- 14 JOHN STUART MILL: Nature 89

## BIOCENTRIC ETHICS 95

- 15 ALBERT SCHWEITZER: Reverence for Life 95
- 16 PAUL TAYLOR: Biocentric Egalitarianism 100
- 17 KENNETH GOODPASTER: On Being Morally  
Considerable 112

## ECOCENTRIC ETHICS 119

- 18 ALDO LEOPOLD: Ecocentrism: The Land Ethic 119
- 19 J. BAIRD CALLICOTT: The Conceptual Foundations of the  
Land Ethic 126
- 20 NED HETTINGER and BILL THROOP: Refocusing  
Ecocentrism: De-emphasizing Stability and Defending  
Wildness 136

## DEEP ECOLOGY 147

- 21 ARNE NAESS: The Shallow and the Deep, Long-Range  
Ecological Movement 147
- 22 ARNE NAESS: Ecosophy T: Deep Versus  
Shallow Ecology 150
- 23 BILL DEVALL and GEORGE SESSIONS: Deep Ecology 157
- 24 RICHARD WATSON: A Critique of Anti-Anthropocentric  
Ethics 162
- 25 MURRAY BOOKCHIN: Social Ecology Versus  
Deep Ecology 168
- 26 JOHN RODMAN: Ecological Sensibility 176
- 27 JAMES P. STERBA: Environmental Justice: Reconciling  
Anthropocentric and Nonanthropocentric Ethics 179

## CHAPTER FOUR

Ecofeminism and Deep Ecology 189

- 28 KAREN J. WARREN: The Power and the Promise of  
Ecological Feminism 189
- 29 MARGARITA GARCIA LEVIN and MICHAEL LEVIN: A  
Critique of Ecofeminism 199

## CHAPTER FIVE

Preservation of the Species, Nature, and  
Natural Objects 205

- 30 DONELLA H. MEADOWS: Biodiversity: The Key to Saving  
Life on Earth 206
- 31 LILLY-MARLENE RUSSOW: Why Do Species Matter? 208
- 32 STEPHEN JAY GOULD: The Golden Rule—A Proper Scale  
for Our Environmental Crisis 214
- 33 MARTIN H. KRIEGER: What's Wrong with  
Plastic Trees? 218
- 34 ROBERT ELLIOT: Faking Nature 229
- 35 ERIC KATZ: The Call of the Wild: The Struggle Against  
Domination and the Technological Fix of Nature 235
- 36 CHRISTOPHER D. STONE: Should Trees Have Standing?  
Toward Legal Rights for Natural Objects 240

## CHAPTER SIX

### Non-Western Perspectives on Environmental Ethics 249

- 37 O. P. DWIVEDI: *Satyagraha* for Conservation: Awakening the Spirit of Hinduism 250
- 38 LILY DE SILVA: The Buddhist Attitude Towards Nature 256
- 39 MAWIL Y. IZZI DEEN (Samarrai): Islamic Environmental Ethics, Law, and Society 260
- 40 SEGUN OGUNGBEMI: An African Perspective on the Environmental Crisis 265
- 41 RAMACHANDRA GUHA: Radical Environmentalism and Wilderness Preservation: A Third World Critique 271

## CHAPTER SEVEN:

### Obligations to Future Generations 278

- 42 GARRETT HARDIN: Who Cares for Posterity? 278
- 43 MARTIN GOLDING: Limited Obligations to Future Generations 284
- 44 DEREK PARFIT: Energy Policy and the Further Future: The Identity Problem 289

## PART TWO

## Ethics 297

### INTRODUCTION 298

## CHAPTER EIGHT

### Population: General Considerations 299

- 45 BILL MCKIBBEN: A Special Moment in History: The Challenge of Overpopulation and Overconsumption 302
- 46 GARRETT HARDIN: The Tragedy of the Commons 311
- 47 LINDSEY GRANT: The Central Immigration Issue: How Many Americans? 318
- 48 JACQUELINE KASUN: The Unjust War Against Population 331
- 49 JODI JACOBSON: China's Baby Budget 341
- 50 HUGH LAFOLLETTE: Licensing Parents 348

## CHAPTER NINE

### Population and World Hunger 355

- 51 GARRETT HARDIN: Lifeboat Ethics 356
- 52 WILLIAM W. MURDOCH and ALLAN OATEN: Population and Food: A Critique of Lifeboat Ethics 363
- 53 PETER SINGER: Famine, Affluence, and Morality 367
- 54 JAMES RACHELS: Vegetarianism and "the Other Weight Problem" 373
- 55 TRISTRAM COFFIN: The World Food Supply: The Damage Done by Cattle-Raising 380

## CHAPTER TEN

### Pollution: General Considerations 384

- 56 HILARY FRENCH: You Are What You Breathe 386
- 57 GEORGE BRADFORD: We All Live in Bhopal 391
- 58 JULIAN SIMON: Against the Doomsdayers! 395

- 59 WILLIAM F. BAXTER: People or Penguins: The Case for Optimal Pollution 404

## CHAPTER ELEVEN

### Pesticides 408

- 60 RACHEL CARSON: *Silent Spring* 409
- 61 DIXY LEE RAY and LOUIS GUZZO: The Blessings of Pesticides 413
- 62 MICHAEL FUMENTO: Environmental Hysteria: The Alar Scare 417
- 63 DAVID PIMENTEL: Is *Silent Spring* Behind Us? 426

## CHAPTER TWELVE

### Atmospheric Conditions: The Greenhouse Effect and the Ozone Layer 431

- 64 CHRISTOPHER FLAVIN: The Heat Is On: The Greenhouse Effect 432
- 65 DIXY LEE RAY and LOUIS GUZZO: The Greenhouse Effect: Hype and Hysteria 439

## CHAPTER THIRTEEN

### Economics, Ethics, and the Environment 447

- 66 JOHN STUART MILL: Of the Stationary State 452
- 67 WILLIAM E. REES: Sustainable Development: Economic Myths and Ecological Realities 455
- 68 HERMAN E. DALY: Consumption: The Economics of Value Added and the Ethics of Value Distributed 461
- 69 MARK SAGOFF: At the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima, or Why Political Questions Are Not All Economic 467
- 70 KRISTIN SHRADER-FRECHETTE: A Defense of Risk-Cost-Benefit Analysis 474
- 71 ROBERT GOODLAND and GEORGE LEDEC: Neoclassical Economics and Principles of Sustainable Development 482

## CHAPTER FOURTEEN

### Ecology and Global Justice 489

- 72 The Rio Declaration (1992) 489
- 73 PETER S. WENZ: Just Garbage 492
- 74 MARIA MIES: Deceiving the Third World: The Myth of Catching-up Development 499

## CHAPTER FIFTEEN

### From Dysfunctional to Sustainable Society 505

- 75 AL GORE: Dysfunctional Civilization 506
- 76 LAURA WESTRA: Environmental Risks, Rights, and the Failure of Liberal Democracy 515
- 77 EUGENE HARGROVE: Environmental Ethics and Democracy: A Response to Westra 528
- 78 ALAN THEIN DURNING: An Ecological Critique of Global Advertising 533
- 79 LOUIS P. POJMAN: Pedaling Power: Sustainable Transportation 539
- 80 DAVE FOREMAN: Strategic Monkeywrenching 542
- 81 LESTER BROWN, CHRISTOPHER FLAVIN, and SANDRA POSTEL: Vision of a Sustainable World 545