

# JUSTICE IN THE CONTEXT OF ECO-CRISIS

## Anthropocentrism or Ecocentrism

Three concerns:

- Isn't non-anthropocentrism in our approach towards nature self-contradictory?
- Doesn't it absolve us of responsibility?
- What exactly are we opposing?

Given our historical-technological situation, non-anthropocentrism may no longer be viable. Moreover, the position of responsibility demands that we embrace some form of anthropocentrism compatible with certain forms of normative ecocentrism.

## What is Climate Justice?

Context:  
The revolutionary extension of ethics to the environment

- The Limits to Growth report and the rise of the idea of sustainable development
- The problem of environmental justice in the context of global inequalities
- The further problem of intergenerational justice
- The imperative of responsibility and care due to the enormous increase in human technological power
- Relevant to the ethics of values and affects

Key focus:

Vulnerable people and groups (dispossessed due to natural disaster or war, indigenous peoples, small or marginalized communities, people with disabilities, women, and children, UNESCO 2017)

Dangers:

Excessive politicization, radicalization

**Critical or Conservative Environmental Theory?**

The need to think economic modernity within historical boundaries.

This is not only a theoretical question, but also a practical one.

Capitalism as setting a logic of growth that leads to "ecollapse".

Forms of counter-action: resistance or care?

## The Living Earth Between Exhaustion and Enhancement

The interplay between chemistry and economics:

- Plastic as a planetary problem of the metabolism between nature and the human economy (21th c.)
- Industrial agriculture (already in 19th c.)

Paradoxically, the technological enhancement of nature's productivity leads to its long-term deterioration

## Environmental Crisis and Apocalyptic Thinking

It is not apocalyptic narratives, but rather criticisms against them, that are blind to human responsibility.

We need a reconstruction of the history of artistic depiction of humans' war with the Living Earth.

The affects pertaining to the environmental crisis are closer to the catastrophic than to the tragic.

This allows for the re-actualization of forces in theatre and other arts that have been suppressed by their usual idealized readings.

## Research Team

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