

PHL 310
Environmental Ethics

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Week Four

Analytical Tools

- ◉ Science
- ◉ Economics
- ◉ Game theory
- ◉ Philosophy
 - ◉ Ethics
 - ◉ Ecofeminism
 - ◉ Political philosophy

Identity Politics

- Race
- Gender
- Ethnicity
- Sexual orientation
- Age
- Disability
- Class
- What about the poor white guys?
- This past election
- Still ...

Feminism

- ◉ Liberal feminism
- ◉ Marxist feminism
- ◉ Radical feminism
- ◉ etc.
- ◉ "all feminists agree that feminism is (at least) the movement to end sexist oppression"

Facts

- ◉ Environmental problems disproportionately affect
 - ◉ Women
 - ◉ Racial minorities
 - ◉ The third world
 - ◉ The poor
- ◉ Environmental solutions often have similar affects

Solutions?

- Cultural change
- Political change
- Legal change
- Deeper understanding – Philosophy

Ecofeminism

- ◉ Karen Warren
- ◉ Domination of women
- ◉ Domination of nature
- ◉ Dualistic distinctions
- ◉ Hierarchical distinctions
- ◉ Relevance of women's unique experiences
- ◉ The ethics of care

Justice

- Retributive justice
- Distributive justice
 - Wealth
 - Power
 - Work
- Feminist justice
- Environmental justice
- John Rawls

The Social Contract

- Hobbes
- Thought experiments
- Economic rationality
- State of Nature
- Prisoner's dilemma
- Bargains
- Enforcing bargains
- Social Contract
- Sovereign

Original Position

- Basic structure of society
- Before government and constitution
- Veil of ignorance
 - Smart, informed
 - No knowledge of self
- Maxi-min strategy
- Principles of justice

Principles of Justice

- Two principles - really three
- Lexical order
- Greatest equal civil liberties
- Equality of opportunity
- Difference principle
- Softball example

Applicability to a Global Context?

- Standard for evaluating existing institutions
- Rawls' assumptions
- Domestic justice
- Global justice
- Environmental justice

Martha Nussbaum

- 1947 -
- NYU
- Harvard
- Harvard, again
- Brown
- University of Chicago

Social Contract Tradition

- Hobbes
- Rawls
- Real-world contracts
- Focus on self-interest
- More to society

Human Capacities

- Aristotle
- Human flourishing
- Life
- Bodily health
- Bodily integrity
- Sense, imagination, thought
- Practical reason
- Affiliation
- Other species
- Play
- Control over one's environment
- Justice

Nussbaum's Experiences

- ◉ Privileged background
- ◉ Sexism in college
- ◉ Religion
- ◉ Third world
- ◉ Feminism
- ◉ Ethics to social justice

Nussbaum's Theory of Justice

- Social contract theory is too narrow
- Self-interest is too narrow
- Human flourishing and human capacities
- Abstraction
- Obligations to disadvantaged
- Human rights
- Animals?

A Good Quote

I guess the heart of this discussion is the question: Why do people get together to form a society in the first place? And, really it's not because they are afraid and they want to strike a new deal for mutual advantage; it's much more out of love of humanity and the love of human dignity that they want to join with others in creating a world that's as good as it can be.

A Theory of Environmental Justice?

- Honor the human capacities approach to social justice when considering environmental problems and solutions
- Respect nature for its own sake
- Respect animals & even include them in concerns about justice
- Environmental ethics must be about more than individual or collective best interest