

DEEP ECOLOGY: FROM DUTY TO ECOLOGICAL CONSCIOUSNESS

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Summary

Deep ecology is an important vision in environmental philosophy. It criticizes and rethinks many aspects and deep connections of modern technocratic-industrial societies between humans and nature. It probes the true values of human life and the rational reconstruction of contemporary societies. After the mid-1980s, deep ecology swiftly became a leading force of radical environments in the environmental movements.

Identification is a core concept that makes deep ecology a version. The ultimate norm of “self-realization” is a process of widening and deepening identification with other individuals or beings. The idea is based on modern ecological science and largely absorbs Eastern and Western cultural thoughts. Therefore, the idea has more rationality than others.

The appearance of deep ecology is an important turn from reformist environmental thinking to the radical. It is a turning point from anthropocentric mechanisms to ecocentric holism. As an important part of the postmodern worldview, deep ecology provides a new approach for the theory of sustainable development. This article provides views on “self-realization,” values between individuals and wholeness, the scientific basis, and the ecological strategies in different countries and regions.

1. Deep Ecology: The Philosophical Foundation of Deep Environmental Ethics

1.1. What Is Deep Ecology?

Deep ecology is a philosophy, and a postmodern philosophical worldview. The term deep ecology was coined by Arne Naess in his 1973 article “The shallow and the deep, long-range ecology movement.” The essence of deep ecology is to keep asking further questions about human life, society, and nature. Naess points out “the subjective ‘deep’ stresses that we ask why and how, where others do not. For instance, ecology, as a science, does not ask what kind of a society would be the best for maintaining a particular ecosystem—that is considered a question for value theory, for politics, for ethics.” issues, such as natural view and value view; political and ethical issues.

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Biographical Sketches

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