

LECTURE / DISCUSSION / DEBATE
FEMINISM AND ECOLOGISM

Terms and concepts to know:

Liberal feminism	Radical feminist critique
Socialist feminist critique	Black feminism
Standpoint feminism	Postmodern feminism
Environmentalism vs. ecologism	Ecological crisis
Aldo Leopold and 'land ethic'	Arne Naess and 'deep ecology'
Tragedy of the Commons (Hardin)	Green politics

Study and discussion questions:

1. Is feminism still relevant in today's world?
2. Which theory of feminism – the liberal, the socialist, the radical or the black – do you find the most persuasive?
3. Can men become feminists or is feminism an ideology that only relates to women?
4. Do biological differences between men and women have any social significance?
5. Are there major philosophical differences between environmentalists and ecologists?
6. Is ecologism compatible with democracy and socialism?
7. Should ecologists be concerned with animal rights?
8. What is ecofeminism and why does Tristan Bove believe that "...ecofeminism may hold the key to recognising how elevating women can help reduce emissions and create more equitable societies"? Is there any evidence which is presented that makes this argument plausible? Or unlikely?
8. Examine Urie's argument on global climate change and capitalism. What are the salient points, and do you agree with his overall argument? Why or why not?
9. Smith's article is an extended critique of Paul Hawken's 1999 book, *Natural Capitalism*. Elaborate on Smith's criticism of the 'green capitalism' movement. Is it a compelling argument?

Readings:

Hoffman and Graham: Chapters 14 and 16.

Video:

Surviving Earth: Climate Change Adaptation Population.