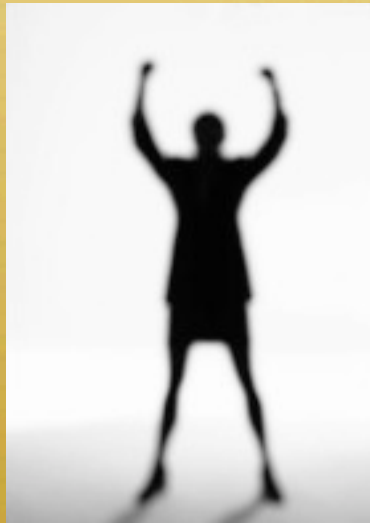# Environmental Perspectives

Environmental Systems and Society

Environmental Value System

The "world view" or set of paradigms that shape the ways that individuals and groups approach

Inputs and outputs

- Inputs: Media, religion, education, background, science, politics, economics

- Outputs: Decisions, perspectives, course of action

Environmentalism

Ecocentric
(Nature Centered)

Anthropocentric
(people centered)

Technocentric
(Technology Centered)

Minimum disturbances
to nature

People are managers
of the Earth

Technology solves
problems

Ecocentrism

- All life has inherent value

- We should not cause extinction of other species

- We should protect habitats and ecosystems

- Humans are not more important than other species

- Resources are limited

- We need the Earth more than it needs us.

Deep ecologists and Soft

Deep Ecologists:

- Nature has more value than humanity.

- Biorights for all species

Soft Technologists /Self-reliance

- Small scale, local community action

- Individuals make a difference

Anthropocentrism

- Humanity centered

- Nature is to benefit mankind

- MEDC's?

- Humans are the most important species

Technocentrism

- We will control and manage these resources

- We can solve any problem we cause, including pollution

- Economic growth is a good thing

Environmental Managers and Cornucopians

Environmental Managers

✦ The Earth needs tending: Stewardship

✦ Governments legislate and protect the environment

Cornucopians

✦ The world has infinite resources

✦ Technology and inventiveness can solve problems and increase living standards

✦ Earth is a spaceship and we are the crew!