Environmental Science 14th edition Enger Solutions Manual

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Chapter 2 Environmental Ethics

1. Why does the environmental crisis demand a new ethic?

Ethical approaches to the environment have historically been anthropocentric. Ethics that consider only human interests do not always protect the environment. A new more inclusive environmental ethic can help develop a stronger appreciation for caring for the environment.

Section: 02.01
Topic: Ethics
Bloom's: 2. Understand

2. Describe three types of environmental ethics developed by philosophers.

Types of environmental ethics include:
1. Anthropocentric ethics that view all moral value in the world as derived from humans and their interests.
2. Biocentric ethics that recognize the presence of moral value in all living things.
3. Ecocentric ethics that find moral value in systemic wholes made up of both biotic and non-biotic parts.

Section: 02.02
Topic: Ethics
Bloom's: 2. Understand

3. Describe three common attitudes toward the environment found in modern society.

Three common attitudes are:
1. Pro-development attitude that adopts an anthropocentric approach to nature. It allows any manipulation of nature that furthers human goals and interest.
2. Preservationism that seeks to keep natural areas ecologically intact and as free from human interference as possible.
3. Conservation approach that attempts to seek a balance between preservation and development. This approach looks for arrangements in which a broad range of long-term human interests can be sustainably met.

Section: 02.03
Topic: Ethics
Bloom's: 2. Understand

4. Why is environmental justice part of the environmental movement?

The environmental justice movement recognizes that civil rights issues can connect directly to environmental issues. Environmental destruction affects people. Environmental justice has been a valuable corrective to the idea that environmentalism is about only saving wilderness areas for recreational benefits.

Section: 02.04
Topic: Environmental Justice
Bloom's: 2. Understand

5. What are the conflicts between corporate behavior and environmental ethics?

Manufacturing goods for use and consumption by humans will incur some environmental cost. Corporations are set up with an obligation to manufacture goods as profitably as possible. These profit margins can be directly impacted by the expense of pollution controls.

Section: 02.06
Topic: Corporate Environmental Ethics
Bloom's: 4. Analyze

6. How can individuals direct business toward better environmental practices?

Individuals can impact corporation by action such as:
1. Since corporations do not themselves have obligations to the environment, it must be their executives, their shareholders, or their workers who move corporate behavior in a more environmentally sustainable direction.
2. Corporations can also be shown that it is in their best interest to treat the environment kindly.
3. Individual consumers can also influence corporate behavior with their purchasing power.

Section: 02.06

Topic: Corporate Environmental Ethics
Bloom's: 3. Apply

7. How can individuals implement environmental ethics in their own lives?

Individuals can:
1. Educate themselves about the environmental cost of consumer choices.
2. Make responsible choices about how and how much they consume.
3.Implement their environmental ethics with their voting ethics.

Section: 02.07
Topic: Environmental Education, Ethics
Bloom's: 3. Apply

8. Where does global environmental ethics fit in the broad scheme of environmental protection?

Since we all live on one planet, the choices of people in one part of the world can end up affecting the lives of those who live on the other side of the world. Since it is hard to directly feel a moral obligation to those you will never know or see, global environmental ethics requires international cooperation on a number of environmental issues. National self- interest might sometimes have to give way to global environmental interest. In the long run, what is good for the global environment will also be good for all nations.

Section: 02.10
Topic: Environmental Issues, Ethics
Bloom's: 4. Analyze

9. Is the triple bottom line a realistic concept in the corporate world?

The triple bottom line is an increasingly popular business concept and model. Corporations are realizing that employee as well as customer satisfaction and pride are very important to financial success. Consumers are increasingly aware of corporate environmental and social records and base their decisions on that record. Additionally, corporations understand the health and wellness of their employees affect productivity and longevity ultimately helping stable financial bottom lines.

Section: 02.06
Topic: Ethics
Bloom's: 5. Evaluate