

Environmentalism

When people talk about 'sustainability' as a concept, this tends to be the understanding they are thinking of, but it is actually only one view of sustainability.

An environmentalist sees the environment as the most crucial thing. Nothing in the world can exist without the environment, and everything that happens does so within the environment. The limits to existence, in the eyes of the environmentalist, are the limits of the environment, so that is where we must place our focus and emphasis in the fight for sustainability.

Environmentalists see human society as a part of the natural world/environment; existing within it and shaped by it. Many environmentalists believe that it is the responsibility of human society to be more attuned to the natural world, and adapt more effectively to its rules. They see a failure to do this as a root cause of many societal and economic problems.

Environmentalists also see the economy as a smaller part of human society. We control the economy, dictate its rules and terms, and make it work in the way that it does. Most environmentalists have a firm belief that our modern attachment to market capitalism is unnecessary, and that there are many alternative ways to manage the world's economic affairs.

Most pressing issues facing the world today: climate change, ocean acidification, and mass extinction

Examples: Dr. Jane Goodall, Professor Brian Cox

