

Newton chapter three: From Ethics to Environmental Ethics.

There are 8 ways to conceptualize our relation to our environment. You need to know all eight and be able to compare and contrast them.

A. Resource.

1. Unlimited exploitation. Humans are permitted to do/take what they want from nature with no limits up. Nature has no moral weight in our considerations.
2. Wise use. Nature still has no moral weight in our considerations, however, we know that human interests, and in particular economic interests, are morally important, so we need to conserve those natural resources which are important for our long term economical interest.

B. Protection.

3. Conservation. Nature has aesthetic and/or spiritual value for us. These values go beyond the economic value noted in 2. Nature possesses these values because of our aesthetic and spiritual values and we are stewards of nature for these reasons.
4. Preservation. Nature has its own moral value and should be preserved. This is independent of any human goal or value.

C. Rights.

5. Animals have rights, because of either their ability to feel pain or be conscious, they should not be harmed and require our protection.
6. Ecosystems have rights. As a fundamental unit of our environment, an ecosystem should be harmed and require our protection.

D. Holistic.

7. Humans are morally equal parts of ecosystem with all other living things. The primary moral duty is preserving the entire ecosystem.
8. Deep ecology conceptualizes humans as just one part of an “organism.” Each part must limit itself only to its role. Roles limit each members to sustainable living in nature, i.e., we must have no “footprint” in altering current balances in nature.

Know the acronym CORPSE for the categories of environmental problems and be able to give examples of each.

Newton chapter four: The Law and the Natural Environment.

Be able to recount the story of the National Recycling Act Bill. Be sure to include key parts of the official procedures of how a bill becomes law as well as the influence of money and publicity in this case.

In the section entitled “In the Beginning,” recount the justification of government and laws given in the first paragraph. Match this account to the summary given in class concerning the “libertarian” account of the origin of a government’s right to enact laws

restricting an individual's actions from a state of nature where individuals possess rights to unrestricted actions, as given by Hobbes and Locke.

Contrast this to the "liberal" account of the origin of a government's right to enact laws restricting an individual's actions given by Rawls. What important differences do they make in the "original position" of individual's in the state of nature which account for the differences in the scope of laws that each believes in justified?

Recount the case of David Lucas and the Beachfront Management act in South Carolina. How does this case mirror the above two diverse accounts of the legitimate scope of laws? Which account is dictated by the fifth amendment? How is "harm" defined in the law and used to justify the Supreme Court's decision in this case?

Newton offers a general test case for environmental law in the section entitled "The case of the lake." What are the three "boundaries" to any such environmental issue? What is Newton's justification for claiming that we need environmental law to effectively handle environmental issues?

Newton chapter five: Green Strategies and New Opportunities.

What are the seven easy steps for businesses to "increase profitability and environmental stewardship"?

What are the seven harder steps for businesses to "increase profitability and environmental stewardship"?

Solomon chapter ten: Free Enterprise and Social Justice.

What is the argument for a strict egalitarian standard for distributive justice? What is the standard counterexample for this view?

What is the argument for a strict merit standard for distributive justice? What is the standard counterexample for this view?

As presented in class, what is the general argument for affirmative action?

Solomon chapter eleven: Human Rights and International Business.

The questions under this chapter were incorporated into Newton's chapter 4 questions.

Newton chapter six: Globalizing: Environmental Problems Abroad.

In the section entitled "In praise of straitjackets: Globalization for the benefit of all," what is Newton's argument for the desirability of globalization?

Be able to summarize examples in each of the nine areas that Newton outlines concerning ethical dilemmas resulting from globalization.

Newton chapter seven: The Role of Civil Society Organizations.

If we conceive of business environmental issues as a three-way interaction between pressures of profitability and democratic consensus and ethical concerns, what is the necessary role of CSOs?

What are the general characteristics of CSO management?

From the point of view of business, what is the best approach to dealing with CSOs, according to Newton?

Newton chapter eight: Sustainability: The New Directions for Business.

Sustainable in business terms is often seen as long term profitability, e.g., is the market for your product enough to sustain (or provide a return) your investments in an area. This concerns your business environment. If we add a concern for the natural environment to this equation, we need to consider whether business activity is sustainable on this larger level.

Outline Newton's worst case six-fold scenario of environmental issues (CRAMPS).

Consumption: seemingly unlimited affordable retail choices lead to retail waste and exploitive production practices. The alternative is frugality: lesser choice and more expensive retail choices.

Reproduction: world population may be more than is sustainable. The alternative is government control of reproduction.

Affluence: extra money lead to wasteful consumption. The alternative is either income limits or higher taxes to redistribute wealth.

Mobility: too many resources are spent on transportation. The alternative is to localize all commerce, recreation, and community life and use public transportation and banned private transportation.

Pollution: space for permanent garbage is running low. The alternative is to require all waste to be recycled.

Property: land is a resource for all and should be used for the benefit of all, not certain owners. The alternative is to ban private property.

Realistic agenda. What is Aldo Leopold's Land Ethic and how does Newton use it to provide a guide for a corporate manager?

Solomon chapter twelve: Freedom And Power: Privacy and Pressures in the Workplace.

What is the pure positive and negative definition of freedom (or power)? What are some counterexamples to these definitions? What are the revised definitions of freedom (or power)?

What is the definition of privacy given in class and how would you apply it to job activities, e.g. give two examples of job descriptions and the subsequent boundaries of an employee's privacy?

Solomon chapter thirteen: The Meaning of Work.

Briefly summarize the three important areas of meaningfulness for an individual that are provided by one's work? Why are these areas "issues" for the importance of work?

For Solomon, "knowledge" work is difficult to evaluate. What are the three areas outlined in class that typically provide an evaluation? Why are these evaluations not as clear cut as the typical evaluation of "physical labor"?

According to Solomon, why is leisure so important? How does it provide meaningfulness for an individual?

Solomon chapter fourteen: The Personal Side of Business.

Explain the triangle of success, merit, and friendship (with respect to both mentor and peer friendships). Also explain Aristotle's three varieties of friendship.

Define sexual harassment generally and two types of harassment. Be able to defend a position on the three test cases on pp. 474-475.

What is Solomon's conclusion about the prudential matter of "love in the office"?

Do women have more difficulties in advancing in business (please explain the Trendix case)?

Solomon chapter fifteen: Doing Good and Doing Well.

Be able to explain Solomon's claim that the good life consists of happiness and that the latter (1) depends on actions, not feelings, (2) is social and not applicable to individuals, and (3) concerns failure, dissatisfaction, and even death.

According to Solomon, what is the connection between success and respect?

Distinguish three primary sets of motives, according to David McClellan, of achievement, power, and affiliation and link them to the three areas of ethics, as outlined by Newton, which follow from our nature as being embodied, rational, and social.

What is Solomon's defense of the need of "the finer things in life" as a necessary part of a successful business life?