

## I. Abstract

*The world is in the middle of an environmental crisis, one that is causing permanent damage to the communities we live in and to our bodies. We are seeing weather systems doing damage like we've never seen before at frequencies I've never seen before, ocean acidification and rates that we have not seen since a prior Extinction event, and the loss of biodiversity at an astounding rate. There's not one cause for this crisis, but one major reason for this is most likely technology. More accurate to say stem. Stem or better known as science, technology, engineering and mathematics, produces some of the most amazing things that have revolutionized our lives but has also produced many unneeded tools that go to waste and have put out massive amounts of pollutants that have destroyed the world around us. The true extent of what technology has done will not be known for many years, but in the here and now one can see the massive effects that technology has on biodiversity. Biodiversity is known as the variation of life around us, and with every wound that technology inflicts puts another wound on human society. Biodiversity is an important aspect of the lives we live, providing for us and helping us succeed in many cases acts as an inspiration for the very technology we are using to kill it. There are many things within technology that are actively destroying the environment, some of which are political systems, cultural systems, economic systems and science itself. As society moves forward, we've grown to rely on technology and in order to solve the problem that we have started with technology, we must finish it with technology. There are many ways that we've started to try to amend the issue with technology. Some being AI drones, and predictive systems. These are acting as stepping Stones for fixing the loss of biodiversity. But just the beginning society must change the way that they think and look at the world around us. To begin, People must take a more pragmatic view of the world around us, not just anthropocentric and not just biocentric but somewhere in the middle where we understand the needs of the environment but also the needs of ourselves. Next, society should adapt certain beliefs to help structure the change that must come, these being spirituality, minimalism and care ethics. By utilizing these beliefs, we can look at the damage that is caused and understand those steps that need to be taken to repair this and prevent this from happening in the future. This is not just a piece of information. This is a call to action for us to hopefully change what we once thought was a destined end.*

## II. Introduction

The world has been experiencing a crisis, this crisis is known by many names, Climate Change, Global Warming, and the Environmental Crisis. The Environmental Crisis, as it will be referred to in the context of this paper, is the result of consistent pollution, deforestation, and adverse effects of technology. Resulting in compounding factors that put pressure on the

environment, slowly breaking down the world. With this breakdown, extreme weather effects, loss in biodiversity, and adverse health effects follow. This paper will focus on one of the symptoms of the crisis, loss of biodiversity. Biodiversity, put simply, is the variety of organisms in the environment and how each of them connect. It shapes the world around society and how people in society live. This is through the various ways the environment contains important resources such as food, medicine, and culturally relevant icons. But, even with the significance that biodiversity has in society, it is falling apart. It is for humans to decide how and if society should step in to repair the losses that have been incurred. This may require a specific mind set with a need for more education. This paper will address that, it will explain what the environmental crisis and biodiversity is and why it is important. Technology is a major part of the ensuing crisis so what technology is will be explained. How we are losing biodiversity will be discussed, such as politics, culture, economics and science from the lens of technology. Finally, what should be done as society moves forward will be answered with current efforts to help the ever shrinking biodiversity. As a society, the understanding of biodiversity and its impact on us is an important lesson to learn. By getting this understanding humanity can move forward with never foreseen benefits.

## **II. Environmental Crisis**

Over the past 50 plus years, researchers have been noticing a steady change in our environment. This change is not similar to a more natural change that could be seen in archaeological records or past environmental records. What is being seen today is a rapid warming of our environments, an increased acidification of the ocean, increased frequency of severe weathered patterns, shifting of climates, and a loss of biodiversity. These factors are compounding on one another to cause steady damage to human health and the abilities of human society. It is known as the environmental crisis. To understand the environmental crisis as a whole, it is important to understand each one of the parts of said crisis.

The rapid warming of our environments is visible in the changes of seasons. In New England, winter has seemed to almost disappear as snow has turned into slush and has become less frequent and less thick. The average temperature has been increasing 1 to 2 degrees

fahrenheit over the past couple years. The increase in acidification is very visible as whole reefs are being completely bleached white due to the increased acid breaking down the reef life. Most commonly seen in the Great barrier reef with much of the coral life there dying over the past 20 years. The acidification is destroying sources of fish, causing decline in the fishing industry. This decline also damages the food sources of people who may rely on fish as their source of food for cultural or health reasons. The acidification is also seen to potentially reduce storm breaks, increasing damage done by storms. Severe weather patterns have become more visible as over the past decade, frequency of wildfires in California and more arid environments have been seeing wildfires at an astounding rate. But it is not just limited to wildfires, tornadoes and hurricanes have also increased in frequency and severity, some taking hundreds of lives and, at the bare minimum, ruining thousands of livelihoods. But once again they don't stop at just natural disasters, everyday rainstorms are getting more frequent in some regions, droughts are becoming more frequent in some areas. Even wind storms are becoming more frequent and more dangerous. The shifting of climates is very visible as many areas have seen an increase in desert area, but we've also seen tree ranges shifting due to climate changes and animal habitats also changing. Some birds are not going as far for migration and some not even leaving for migration. There has even been environmental emigration, the migration of people or animals out of an area, as regions around the equator have been getting more severe environmental effects that are requiring people to leave their regions.

The final major part of the environmental crisis that will be talked about is the loss of biodiversity. The loss of biodiversity is something that is often forgotten about. Every year we've been losing one to two species of plants or animals. This may not seem like a lot, but the predicted Extinction rate is one every five years. The loss of biodiversity is affecting us in many ways, whether that be linked to agriculture or simply the change in the environment. The symptoms of the environmental crisis can be linked to many things, but the overarching cause of this disease is technology and how it is used today. As society has begun to rely on technology in the late 1800s with industrialization, our rate at which we put out pollutants has increased exponentially. Through various forms of research and simple observations, it is shown that pollutants have been causing disastrous effects on the world around us, not just stopping at the environment but targeting humans and their health as well. Technology itself is also a cause, not

just its byproducts, by utilizing technology. Society has destroyed forests, ripped up the Earth, displaced people and animals and ruined the Earth's natural defense against alterations within the environment. Over the past 50 years, the understanding of this crisis has grown dramatically as we slowly put out more and more research and make more observations. It can be seen how truly terrifying this crisis is. As a society, we've taken small steps to actually address the crisis, but these steps are minuscule when compared to the size of this crisis. The goal of this paper is to explain every part of the current crisis revolving around biodiversity, with this people will begin to take steps to change and improve the world around them. Our understanding of the environment and our relationship to it plays a massive role as we have a massive reliance on technology and idolize technology itself. Overall, technology has shifted society to target the environment in terrifying ways. Through this paper, the understanding of how technology has physically harmed the environment, put out byproducts that affect the environment, and has shifted our mentality that has also resulted in environmental damage will be shown.

### **III. Technology**

Society utilizes tools and systems as its foundation, these tools are known as technology. Technology is defined as the application of science for practical application. With this definition a wide variety of concepts that are destroying the environment are forms of technology. Tools like phones, oil rigs, cars, and conveyor belts are all pieces of technology used with the idea that they have practical applications. Systems like industrial farming vs normal farming, healthcare, and mining/drilling are technological systems that are utilized. These technologies are the root for the ensuing environmental crisis thanks to human hubris. The goal of technology is always to further society with the development of tools such as AI, as human needs are fulfilled with technology, more small minor needs are found. How can I eat this messy food without getting my hands dirty, introducing the trongs. Tools like this have hyper specific uses that result in the waste of material just to produce a waste product. Technology is advancing not just in the way of making better products but in the way of making too many useless and necessary products.

Technology isn't just a tool to better society, it is the very foundation that our modern society is built on. Ever since the first tool was made, humanity has approached the point of total

reliance on the very tools we made. Our politics are based on our bettering technology and how we utilize it, questions like how to use this new missile, how should the internet be regulated, and how much money should we give to corporations to make sure they don't fail. Every political issue today revolves around technology itself or using technology to fix some perceived issue. Plus with the political system being completely funded by technology companies, our political system is a technological system. You can not do a single task without using technology. Our solutions for the current issues of the environment crisis rely on technology, the very cause of the problem. Our cultural systems today are also based around technology, with the sharing of information being completely through technological means. The ways to communicate now rely on TikTok, Facebook, Instagram, or some other social media app. This has connected humanity in many ways that has never been seen before, but it also caused culture to shift into digital formatting. Religions practice through technology/media, traditions/holidays are practiced digitally, and the cultural symbols that are used in society are ingrained in pieces of media. Technology is no longer an outlet of cultural exchange but it is our society's culture.

For the paper, technologies based around politics, economics, culture, and science will be discussed. When it comes to politics, it is hard to understand how it is a form of technology, but as it is derived from social science it is a form of social technology. With this in mind, politics has a few focuses that can be pointed to for negative effects on the environment. One such focus is the global weakness, there is a split of focus when it comes to funding, this is a weakness that prevents the restoration of the environment while worsening the issue.

The second topic in politics is national competence, this is the idea of how resources are being spent. Many nations do not focus resources on bettering each other, thus focusing on themselves. The final political topic is the overarching governmental structure. This structure favors industrial buyers and the ultrawealthy, leading to bills that actively destroy the land instead of building it back up.

Next technology category is economics, in this category financial gain is everything. This results in the motto "the means justifies the ends," economists real focus isn't how the environment should be protected or how what is being done is destroying our environment. Instead the environment is a land filled with dollar signs, products to be sold.

The third category is culture, like politics, this is a social technology that may have a basis in the destruction of the balance of nature. This is through the “sports” that are key pieces in culture today, one such sport is hunting. Hunting is a massive problem when it comes to the loss of biodiversity. Culture also provides religion, which has influenced the minds of believers to feel as if they are the rulers of the world and thus can treat nature as they see fit.

The final category of technology to be discussed is science. Science is the big villain when it comes to technology, thanks to the dominating ego that it gives to its users. By simply wielding the blade of science, society believes it can control and use the world as it sees fit. As will be discussed later, technology as a double sided blade that could heal the world while providing for each and everyone of its inhabitants, but on the other side, what is being seen now, technology can eradicate the life on the planet while hoarding resources for those who can afford it in the made up system of finances.

## **IV. Biodiversity**

Biodiversity is the vast range of organisms in the world around us, including plants, animals, and bacteria. However, it extends beyond biotic life around us, going as far as including cultural and behavioral connections in the environment, the genetic variation in the life around us, the ecosystem, and the environmental evolution that is seen as stated by the United States Museum of Natural History. Take a meadow for example, biodiversity in this area will include carnivores, herbivores, and flora. One could see groups of insects that work to pollinate the area, spreading genetic information to various flowers. One could see rabbits and other small rodents feeding on grasses and flowers, keeping them from overgrowing. Birds would also be flying over, occasionally flying down to eat insects or seeds from the flowers. Small animals that are carnivorous like foxes could be seen roaming the area hunting and eating the rabbits and birds. The ecosystem seen here has many moving parts, with each piece relying on the next. In many cases there is what is known as a keystone species, a species that plays a major role in stabilizing the ecosystem. In this system a keystone species may be the bird, as this bird helps keep the

bugs' population at a reasonable level and acts as a food source for the small carnivores. If they were to disappear the rabbits would be over hunted and pushed to extinction. We see ecosystems like this one all around us, in cities, forests, beaches, and in other locations across the world, they play a major role in the way we live, connect, and our specific cultural experience. This can be seen in oceanside towns that have specific traditions and practices with the ocean and the specific animals at their disposal.

The cultural aspect of biodiversity is also known as biocultural relationships. Biocultural refers to the dynamic relationship between person and place. In essence, this originates from communities and their spiritual, physical, and emotional connection to the environment, the use of certain plants and animals in ceremonies or in certain holidays as symbols, and the use of certain foods in traditional feasts. By utilizing the various animals and plants, the communities show a certain level of respect and appreciation of nature, in certain cultures that connection to nature is important and has evolved the very understanding of how one should interact with the environment, This helps us maintain an appreciation of nature. As biodiversity thrives, the cultural appreciation for the environment continues to grow, as new and current beliefs and practices change around the evolving environment. This connection to the environment via culture has even led to a very deep spiritual connection to the environment in some groups, helping to develop a rich connection to the environment. With a strong bond to the environment and the world around you, comes improved mental health and deep bonds. We may also see a form of cultural relationship between animals. Biologists have seen various practices in animal relationships that may be considered a cultural relationship, some may be forms of communication, learning from one another, mating rituals, and relationships with other species.

Every plant, animal, and human benefit from genetic variation, as threats come and go this simple biological tool protects the species from various threats that could very well make them go extinct. Looking between any two individuals in any given species one could see some variation. The simple variation in the physical attributes could be massive when talking about how it evolved. The variation in physicality means a lot in the wild, better weather protection, better muscle development for different tasks, or simply for better chances of finding a mate.. This variation is very important for how we can function and evolve as a species. Genetic

variation also alters the way evolution functions and how evolution will develop within the environment. Evolution is a major driving force of biodiversity. As biodiversity increases within the environment there's greater chance for animals to fit uniquely new niches, the way species interact with one another and how a species fits within the ecosystem. As an environment may change, evolution will kick in and help keep biodiversity alive with the help of adapting animals to the changes. Whether it be shifting of climate or slow forms of desertification, you may experience certain animals and plants evolving or adapting to live in their new environments. A prominent example of adaptation would be in the 1800s during the industrial revolution in Great Britain. Due to the coal powered factories there was a lot of smog pushed into the air. In a particular area lived a white moth that was common, the smog in the air made it easy for prey to hunt them. Over time this moth species adapted to become darker and blend in with a smog reducing a prey's ability to hunt them in the smog. Epigenetics also plays a major role with adaptation, this being genes that don't activate until certain environmental factors place stress on the body resulting in these factors to activate. We can see this in humans, some groups of people who have ancestors that were part of severe famines now have a gene that can lead to building of weight when exposed to certain levels of carbohydrates and variation in diet. This is due to a certain form of insulin resistance so the body can store energy in sugars to be used later on out of fear of not getting enough food later. This gene that would have been dormant now affects the person, for what the body sees as the better, due to the change in certain environmental factors. Another example of this is in smokers, when comparing smokers to non-smokers, it is seen that a smoker has less DNA methylation in certain genes. Simply put methylation is adding a specific chemical group onto DNA. The gene most this occurs in is a tumor suppressing gene, meaning it gets activated more than in non-smokers. This is a genetic change that helps protect the body.

## **Perspective**

Biocentrism is a philosophical perspective in which all life has some intrinsic value. This concept calls on people to value all of life regardless of whether it is human or not. It pushes us to look at nature as more of a partner, where we may give and take in equal ways. We as humans in modern society have lost a level of appreciation of the natural world as we idolize the



materialistic and technological world. This has led to us disrespecting and destroying nature. To change this view of nature we must begin to value the interconnectedness of nature to humans. We use nature for everything we have and rely on it for our health. A shift towards a biocentric view, allows us to understand the need to protect nature. Arne Naess, a Scandinavian thinker, talks about the individualistic and human centered view of atomistic individualism. A view that isolates humans from the world around them, this view is the one that has been pushed thanks to technology. The very isolation that is prevalent between us society and the environment is also prevalent between humans. The understanding of nature with isolation has led society into playing into the domination of nature. Deep Ecology, a biocentric philosophy, aims for a more pluralistic view. Pluralistic views would be shown in a perspective that shares care and respect to everyone, people and the environment included. To truly understand the foundation of this view would mean to understand the concept of interconnectedness, the world relies on each and every part and works together to make a cohesive system. The final part of biocentrism is holistic mentality, this is also built on interconnectedness. To address the crisis, biocentrism will examine all points of illness to address the whole issue, this can then be used to make sure that the solutions address the whole system in a way that benefits everyone. The goal is to bring the most overarching good to everyone and every organism. although this view is very subjective and changes from person to person, resulting in many arguments on how to actively address the issues at hand.

The biocentric framework encompasses several crucial core concepts that facilitate biodiversity restoration, yet also harbors certain blind spots. Central to this framework is the recognition of interconnectedness, which underpins environmental stewardship by advocating for a balance between human and non-human needs. This emphasis on balance is rooted in the emotional and spiritual connection individuals can cultivate with their environment, driving a collective desire to restore and protect it. However, this commitment to environmental restoration sometimes results in rigidity, a primary critique of biocentrism. This rigidity can lead to a neglect of human needs, as the framework treats all life as equally valuable and may prioritize certain projects over others due to limited resources. While this approach is valid in principle, it raises concerns that marginalized communities, such as those living in heavily polluted areas, may be overlooked in favor of conservation efforts targeting less immediate

human concerns. This potential prioritization dilemma can polarize individuals' views on environmental protection. Another significant issue is the reliance on technology, which can exacerbate problems and undermine confidence in the system. Some advocate for non-technological solutions like regulatory measures. Additionally, the pluralistic nature of biocentrism can lead to conflicting priorities within groups, sometimes disregarding cultural beliefs. For instance, the use of genetic engineering to conserve species like the American Chestnut clashes with the beliefs of certain communities, such as the Catholic Church.

To shift focus to the opposite end of biocentrism, Anthropocentrism is the perspective in which humans are the focus above all else. This means that instead of actually dealing with the environmental crisis to help nature to help humanity, this is something like protecting bison to have more food sources or protecting a plant like American Ginseng for its use in medicine. A core value that can be clearly seen is the instrumental value that nature has in the minds of anthropocentrists, plants are simply tools. With this focus on instrumental value, the need for technology tends to be reinforced and pushed as it provides for humanity. Technology is the way to improve human life, in their minds, it provides ways to automate and ways to guide people, technology is the foundation of modern anthropocentrists.. Dualism is embraced in anthropocentrism, with human and nature being isolated. The goal of the isolation is to dominate the environment and utilize it for their own means.

Anthropocentrism has limited applications in the fight to help the environment. With many negatives that actively fight against the protections in place. But, one can see some benefits. Under anthropocentrism, humanity is not just in the spotlight, they are the spotlight, controlling what has value and what is worthy of living. This pushes a divide through nature making it split between useful to human need and unnecessary to human need. This is the purest form of human's domination of nature. The focus on value leads to all that "valuable" being harvested and used while all else is left to waste away and be forgotten. The domination of nature is what has caused a split between human and nonhuman, since nothing has anything more than instrumental value, exploitation is the norm. Many industries use this to harvest regions of their natural resources and pollute into that same region, destroying the chances of repair. If there was a turn to address the crisis, humanity would focus on methods that help

themselves and rely on technology which in many cases will just make the problem worse. Finally there is severe racial and sex based biases in this perspective. Many of those who control the narrative are white, rich, cis men who use their perspective and no one else's to push for their wants. This issue is reflected in the region of 'Cancer Alley,' an area in Louisiana that has a 40% black population that suffers greatly from severe illnesses. This is thanks to the extreme pollution that occurs here everyday. But, many people who advocate for anthropocentrism push for issues like this to be fixed and want people to receive more care than other places, a major blindspot in biocentrism.

When comparing the two perspectives, biocentrism would be the best from a more well rounded point of view, but has blind spots in human needs. Many would ask, "what about areas like Cancer Alley?" Some biocentrist are more focused on the overall picture and that may mean repairing regions that can provide more benefits than just helping some people, the goal is everyone not a few. In turn Cancer Alley is forgotten by many for the focus to be shifted to something like the Amazon Rainforest, where millions live, food is produced, and many important resources are. To address this blindspot, there is the environmental pragmatic view. The benefit of this view is that it balances the needs of everyone and looks for practical solutions for all major and life threatening issues. There is no throwing certain people to the waist side for others to be focused. The view prides itself on flexible thinking and realizing that everything has intrinsic and instrumental value. In terms of biodiversity, every plant and animal doesn't just give value based on the fruits or pelts they provide. But, they have value for being living things with emotions and their own independent functions. With this to determine how to help the surrounding environment, dialogue is constantly occurring to determine needs and reasonable methods to help. This is shown in pluralism, the idea that there is no one solution or important idea. To put this into practice there are more moral discussions on how something may be positive and bring a bigger change, this is ethical pragmatism. With this comes more environmental stewardship and environmental justice, just to name a few. Overall the perspective is focused on problem solving, there is no invalid concern, all concerns are given air time so that all voices can be heard so a solution that is made can provide more for the area and world. With the problem solving comes a change in the relationship with technology as eco-friendly solutions are heard more often and the voices of nature can be heard through the dialogue. Finally, the best

part of the pragmatic view is the adaptability. A solution is not rigid, there is constant change in a plan that encourages change from the community and flexibility with the change in the environment occurs. This also means experimentation is valid, more solutions end up being tried so that a better success rate can occur. This allows an overall more successful project that is built on the voices of the many, that truly addresses the root problems. There is a focus on people directly affected by the problem, in the case of Cancer Alley, the people living there will have their voices heard and the plan will be built so that their lives will not be uprooted and they can achieve the protection they need. Overall the solutions built with this view are more equitable and share ideas from everyone.

Just because our perspective has changed to look at the world differently doesn't mean change will occur. Perspective lacks form, it does not help guide people towards a better way of working with the environment. So along with the overall perspective there are some beliefs that are important that could play a big role in the way we should look at the environment and how we will interact with it. These such beliefs are spirituality, minimalism, and care ethics.

Spirituality is the glue to help connect the environment to society, the concept of spirituality revolves around the connection that humans have with the environment on a spiritual level. There is a more intrinsic connection to nature, it is not a simple relationship in which we use it for materials, but it's one where we give and take and gain more emotional and mental wellness from it. The goal with this belief is to foster a deeper appreciation for the environment and not to look at it for dollar signs. It is important to recognize the environment for its sacredness, it has stood for hundreds of billions of years without the touch of humans. Yet it has developed into a gorgeous interconnected web of plants and animals that rely on one another. This beauty shows the value that nature has, it is an inspiration for humans. From nature comes art and wisdom, the very foundation of technology stands on the shoulders of observations within nature. Nature provides a template for designs and medicines with many bio inspirations helping forge the world that we rely on. To look at this and appreciate it helps people understand the value that nature has and brings. The belief brings values for one to hold on to, that forges the way that they may look at life. One such value is stewardship with nature, this is the responsibility we have to ensure the wellness of the environment. The environment is not a toy in this belief, it is something to be admired and enjoyed for future generations. We must protect it

for what it is and guarantee that everyone has a chance to enjoy it. Another value may be the mindfulness one must have, with this there is a level of living in the moment, take your time to enjoy the present and the grace of nature. This teaches the idea that the environment is sacred and is nothing to abuse or take advantage of. The last value is the interconnectedness to nature and humans. We are much closer to nature than it seems, nature dictates our very lives. As the weather changes and animals move from place to place, our way of life changes with it. We build around nature, but as we destroy it our architecture changes and our health becomes impacted. By understanding the impact nature has on us, we learn the importance of nature. These are not foreign topics, they have manifested in other cultures and have formed their way of life. One such group is shamanism of the east, in this religion spirituality is the form of communing with the environment itself. Shamans can communicate with the environment and have a deep understanding of its needs and desires, they focus on ways to repair the relationship of nature and the people of the community. They have learned to heal illness with the use of nature and when a community is ill they can find the problem within nature that must be fixed and fix it. They have a deep interconnectedness to nature and wield it as a tool. This is the value of spirituality for the shaman, as they embrace this tradition, the community can flourish with good health and all their needs meet. Another group that has environmental spirituality built into their faith is the indigenous peoples of America. There is a deep understanding for ecological balance in native american beliefs, this is practiced in the form of taking what they need and not more and using all of an animal as a form of respect. By embracing this balance in the ecosystem and understanding it allows for people to find their place in the environment so that they can provide and protect while having their needs met. By following in the footsteps of people who have built the ground work, a greater appreciation and understanding of the environment can be developed.

Minimalism is the concept that less is more. To embrace this means that we as people will only take and have what is necessary for us. The pursuit of material possessions for pleasure have left many greedy for more than what is needed and caused the draining of resources beyond the current need. Having this abundance of possessions only makes the world a worse place, these objects only end up in landfills or in piles in the environment. By understanding the importance of an object within a person's life can lead to the understanding that not everything is needed to live life to fullest can help a person reach a level of mental clarity. By following

specific principles a person may find inner peace and in turn help better the environment. One principle may be intentionality, this is the thought that an object must provide some value to the user. This can simply be looking at a sword that you find at a renaissance fair and compare it to a teddy bear that was given to you by your parents. One has sentimental value and provides meaning to one's life, while the other is an ornament that brings no value to one's life except the one time they get to say "wow, a sword!" Life is beyond the simple pleasures and one must realize that the things around them should have a level of intentionality for the most gain in their life. The next principle is simplicity, complexity in the world around oneself brings more pain than good. By inserting this value into your life and making routines more simple, the idea is that you will have more time to "smell the roses." Giving yourself more time to enjoy the world around you brings appreciation for that world. Another principle to follow is decluttering, this is the concept of getting rid of excess items that one may have. This principle, in the case of environmentalism, does not mean to simply throw away everything, but to donate and recycle. Give excess clothes to those who need more, give random appliances to people who may need them, and recycle the random unneeded objects. By following this those around you may gain greater quality of life and you will gain more space. This principle is built on helping a person be free of excess and connect to oneself in understanding their needs. The final principle, similar to spirituality, is mindfulness. It is important to be connected to oneself and understand their needs. By developing this trait, allows an individual to take care of themselves in the best manner while developing a greater empathy for those around them. This belief fights against consumerism, the overproduction and the overspending that people do has caused damage to the world around them. Putting this to an end helps put less stress on them and the world around them. A Buddhist tradition of renunciation puts some of this to practice.

The final belief that will be discussed is Care Ethics. This belief is a specific approach to moral philosophy that emphasizes caring relationships, empathy, and interconnectedness in decision making. The foundation of movements to repair the environment are built on this concept. Nowadays, thanks to technology, people are severely isolated, some saying their only social interaction is through a screen. This applies to the environment as many only see green on their screens. This isolation has led to isolation for the world around us and people developing a level of apathy towards others. The only real empathy that we show others is if they are someone

in a close circle to us. The environment is practically a foreign concept to people thanks to the technological isolation, people don't care for it due to the distance. With care ethics, there is a base level of empathy and care that we give to others, regardless of who they are. By looking at the interconnectedness of society and the environment, there is a focus of a holistic approach in analyzing situations to make approaches that may address the human experience. This has the goal of closing the emotional gap between people. As a person from India may not be related to you, does not mean that they don't have a level of empathy and respect. After learning this belief it can be applied to the environmental crisis, by bridging the gap between humans and the environment on an emotional level. In turn, the understanding of the importance of the environment and how to help it in a humane and caring manner may be determined. Care ethics has its foundation in feminist thought, through the work of Carl Gilligan, two perspectives were highlighted, one of justice and one of care. The "perspective of justice" was a perspective common in men in which values of autonomy, rights, and independence were pushed. While women also showed the "perspective of justices" they also demonstrated values that focused on interpersonal relationships and basic empathy, the "perspective of care." This was pushed to be brought to others attention as a focus on interpersonal relationships that bring care are more valuable than those of distance relationships. Other feminist thinkers pushed the thought farther, saying that this belief is more than just limited to relationships but is applicable to the society and politics at large. Understanding the importance of simply caring for one another, can bring about big change not just socially but environmentally.