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REASONS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CARE

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Critical Reflection: Why Do You Care About The Environment?

The fundamental question in the field of environmental ethics is simply, why do we care about the environment? Different people have different views pertaining their obligations towards the environment. Rolston (2012, p. 12) states that most of the environmental ethics philosophies emphasize that human actions towards the environment have either a positive or negative impact on the environment. The environment is regarded as the nature around us. Environment holds the nature, creatures and living entities found within the earth. These components are crucial for meeting basic human needs and natural processes. With regards to environmental significance, human beings are obligated to protect and care about the environment. Accordingly, several environmental philosophies support the basis for caring about the environment. From an environmental advocate point of view, I will formulate my opinions on why I care about the environment. My personal attitudes, practices, values and motivations in this essay are reinforced by the different views adopted by economics such as Taylor and Callicott.

There are several reasons why human beings take care of the environment. These ideas are drawn from the different views on what encompasses the environment. Human beings, animals, microorganisms, and plants are components of the environment that should be protected and preserved. First, my reason for environmental care is adopted from Paul Taylor's biocentrism view of environmental entires. Taylor (1981, p. 199) argues that individuals ought to be concerned about the environment for the benefits of individual well-being. He further claims his concern for environment care for the intrinsic and extrinsic value of organism attaining their benefits. Based on Taylor's view that, "every living creature existing in the environment-whether an animal, a plant, or a microorganism — is an essential part of nature having its well-being which can be causaged or enhanced, thus all individuals existing in nature have inherent worth which envites them the to the moral respect of nature." (Taylor 1981, p. 206)

Additionally, Taylor identifies that the solution to the dilemma of environmental and animal protection is in comprehending that human beings are a part of a bigger entity that comprises of the earth's living creatures (Taylor 1981, p. 216).

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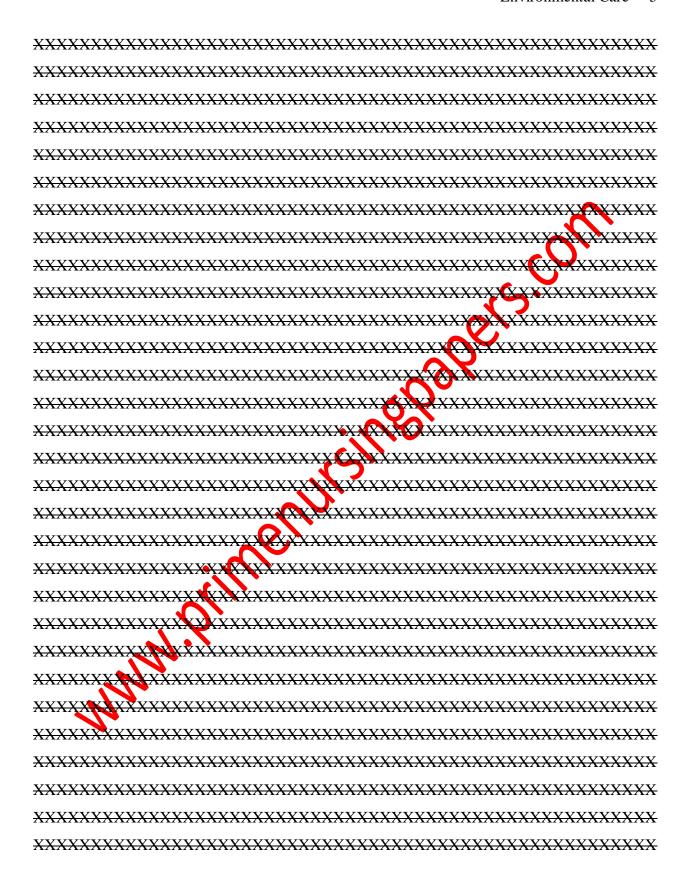
From a personal perspective, I also feel obligated to care about the environment through protection, care and sustainable improvement of the environment and its resources for the benefits of future generations. My quest for environmental care is realized from the key benefits the environment offers and that these benefits should be enjoyed sustainably for generations to come. According to Maier (2012, p. 10) biodiversity is important since it provides necessities such as air to breathe, food to eat, water to drink, materials for shelter, and other necessities. Sustainable environmental protection can be realized through minimizing the risks on the environment such as pollution and overexploitation of environmental resources. The environment offers numerous benefits to the present generations; it is important to preserve the nature for generations to come to enjoy the same benefits. For instance, I enjoy the pristine beauty of the nature ranging from plants to animals, and I would wish my future kids to enjoy the same value in their eyes.

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According to Pearce, Barbier & Markandya (2013, p. 100), sustainable environment is essential for the human welfare of both the present and future generations. Anthropogenic philosophies identify that some human activities cause environmental devastation and

degradation. Environmental degradation and devastation attribute to destruction to the well-being of the present and future generations, since human well-being is dependent on a sustainable environment. Having a sense of the future, I support environmental sustainability efforts at large. Consequently, I am optimistic about the future thus an advocate of sustainable environmental development. The notion of a sustainable environment for future generations provides equity in environmental opportunities for both the present and future human beings. Ultimately, sustainable environmental development ensures that the needs of the present are met without compromising the potential of future generations to fulfill their needs (Pearce, Barbier & Markandya 2013).

Currently, there is too much development that has had negative infracts on the environment through pollution and environmental destruction. The offsets gradually result in global warming and climate change (Nanda 2011, p. 15). We assuments are responsible for the current changes in the atmospheric temperature. For the sake of the future generations, we must be accountable for our activities to combat climate change and global warming. It is necessary that environmental advocates look into the issue-by-controlling the developments that may have impacts on the environment. Developing respect for nature, we need to maintain the environment clean and protect it to reduce the effects of environmental destruction. Realizing the effects that human activities have on the environment drives the urge for practicing healthy habits that help protect the environment. Remarkably, environmentalists, should advocate for environmentally friendly developments. Essentially, the young generation should be nurtured on environmental appreciation, maintenance, and protection.



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