

# Social Ecology

## *Integrative Science for a Complex World*

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Daniel Stokols

*Psychology and Social Behavior*  
*Urban Planning and Public Policy*  
*School of Social Ecology*  
*Program in Public Health*  
*College of Health Sciences*  
*University of California, Irvine*

*ISOE Lecture Presented at the Institute for Social Ecological Research,  
Goethe University, Frankfurt am Main, Germany  
February 8, 2018*

# Transitions and Transformations in Societal Relations to Nature

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- *Nomadic*
- *Agrarian*
- *Industrialized*
- *Digitalized*

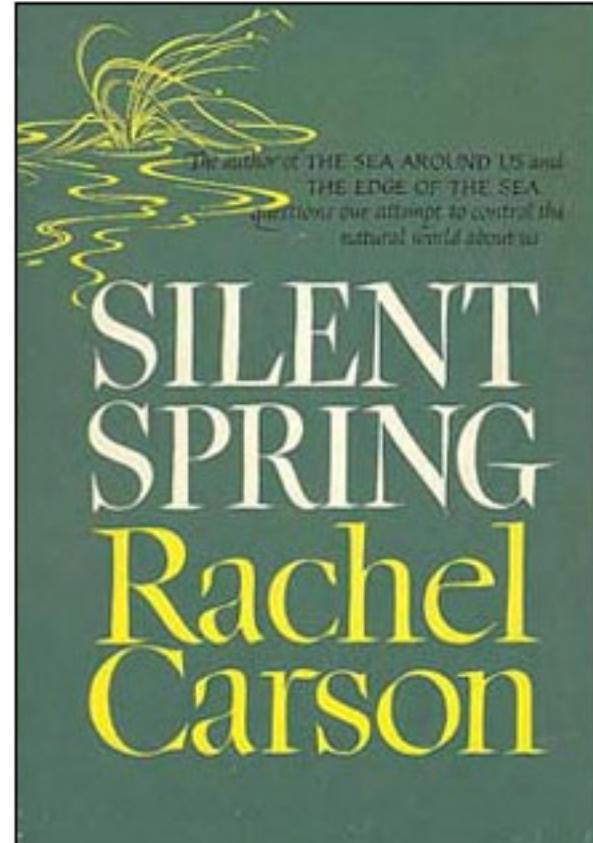
# Karl Mannheim

## *Rational and Irrational Elements in Contemporary Society*



- *“general disproportion in the development of human capacities”*
- *functional rationality – “a series of actions is organized in such a way that it leads to a previously defined goal”*
- *substantial rationality – “the capacity to act intelligently in a given situation on the basis of one’s own insight into the interrelations of events”*
- *“paralyzing effect of functional rationalization on the capacity for rational (and moral) judgment”*

# Unveiling Threats to Environmental Quality in the U.S.

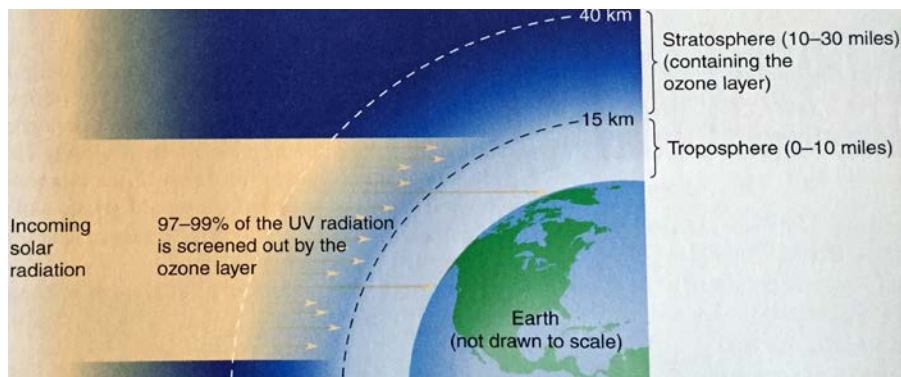


(1962)



# From Studies of Regional Environmental Contamination To Evidence of Global Environmental Change

## *The Case of Atmospheric Ozone Depletion*



## *F. Sherwood Rowland and Mario Molina in their UCI lab*



## Stratospheric sink for chlorofluoromethanes : chlorine atom-catalysed destruction of ozone

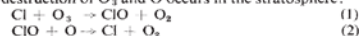
Mario J. Molina & F. S. Rowland

Department of Chemistry, University of California, Irvine, California 92664

*Chlorofluoromethanes are being added to the environment in steadily increasing amounts. These compounds are chemically inert and may remain in the atmosphere for 40–150 years, and concentrations can be expected to reach 10 to 30 times present levels. Photodissociation of the chlorofluoromethanes in the stratosphere produces significant amounts of chlorine atoms, and leads to the destruction of atmospheric ozone.*

HALOGENATED aliphatic hydrocarbons have been added to the natural environment in steadily increasing amounts over several decades as a consequence of their growing use, chiefly as aerosol propellants and as refrigerants<sup>1,2</sup>. Two chlorofluoromethanes,  $\text{CF}_2\text{Cl}_2$  and  $\text{CFCl}_3$ , have been detected throughout the troposphere in amounts (about 10 and 6 parts per  $10^{11}$  by volume, respectively) roughly corresponding to the integrated world industrial production to date<sup>3–5</sup>. The chemical inertness and high volatility which make these materials suitable for technological use also mean that they remain in the atmosphere for a long time. There are no obvious rapid sinks for their removal, and they may be useful as inert tracers of atmospheric motions<sup>6–8</sup>. We have attempted to calculate the probable sinks and lifetimes for these molecules. The most important sink for atmospheric  $\text{CFCl}_3$  and  $\text{CF}_2\text{Cl}_2$  seems to be stratospheric

photolytic dissociation to  $\text{CFCl}_2 + \text{Cl}$  and to  $\text{CF}_2\text{Cl} + \text{Cl}$ , respectively, at altitudes of 20–40 km. Each of the reactions creates two odd-electron species—one Cl atom and one free radical. The dissociated chlorofluoromethanes can be traced to their ultimate sinks. An extensive catalytic chain reaction leading to the net destruction of  $\text{O}_3$  and O occurs in the stratosphere:



This has important chemical consequences. Under most conditions in the Earth's atmospheric ozone layer, (2) is the slower of the reactions because there is a much lower concentration of O than of  $\text{O}_3$ . The odd chlorine chain (Cl, ClO) can be compared with the odd nitrogen chain ( $\text{NO}$ ,  $\text{NO}_2$ ) which is believed to be intimately involved in the regulation of the present level of  $\text{O}_3$  in the atmosphere<sup>9–10</sup>. At stratospheric temperatures, ClO reacts with O six times faster than  $\text{NO}_2$  reacts with O (refs 11, 12). Consequently, the Cl–ClO chain can be considerably more efficient than the NO– $\text{NO}_2$  chain in the catalytic conversion of  $\text{O}_3 + \text{O} \rightarrow 2\text{O}_2$  per unit time per reacting chain<sup>13</sup>.

### Photolytic sink

Both  $\text{CFCl}_3$  and  $\text{CF}_2\text{Cl}_2$  absorb radiation in the far ultraviolet<sup>14</sup>, and stratospheric photolysis will occur mainly in the 'window' at 1,750–2,200 Å between the more intense absorptions of the Schumann–Runge regions of  $\text{O}_2$  and the Hartley bands of  $\text{O}_3$ .



*Rowland and Molina, Awarded the 1995 Nobel Prize  
in Chemistry Along With Paul Crutzen*

# *Destruction of the Earth's Stratospheric Ozone Layer by Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) and Other Ozone-Depleting Substances*

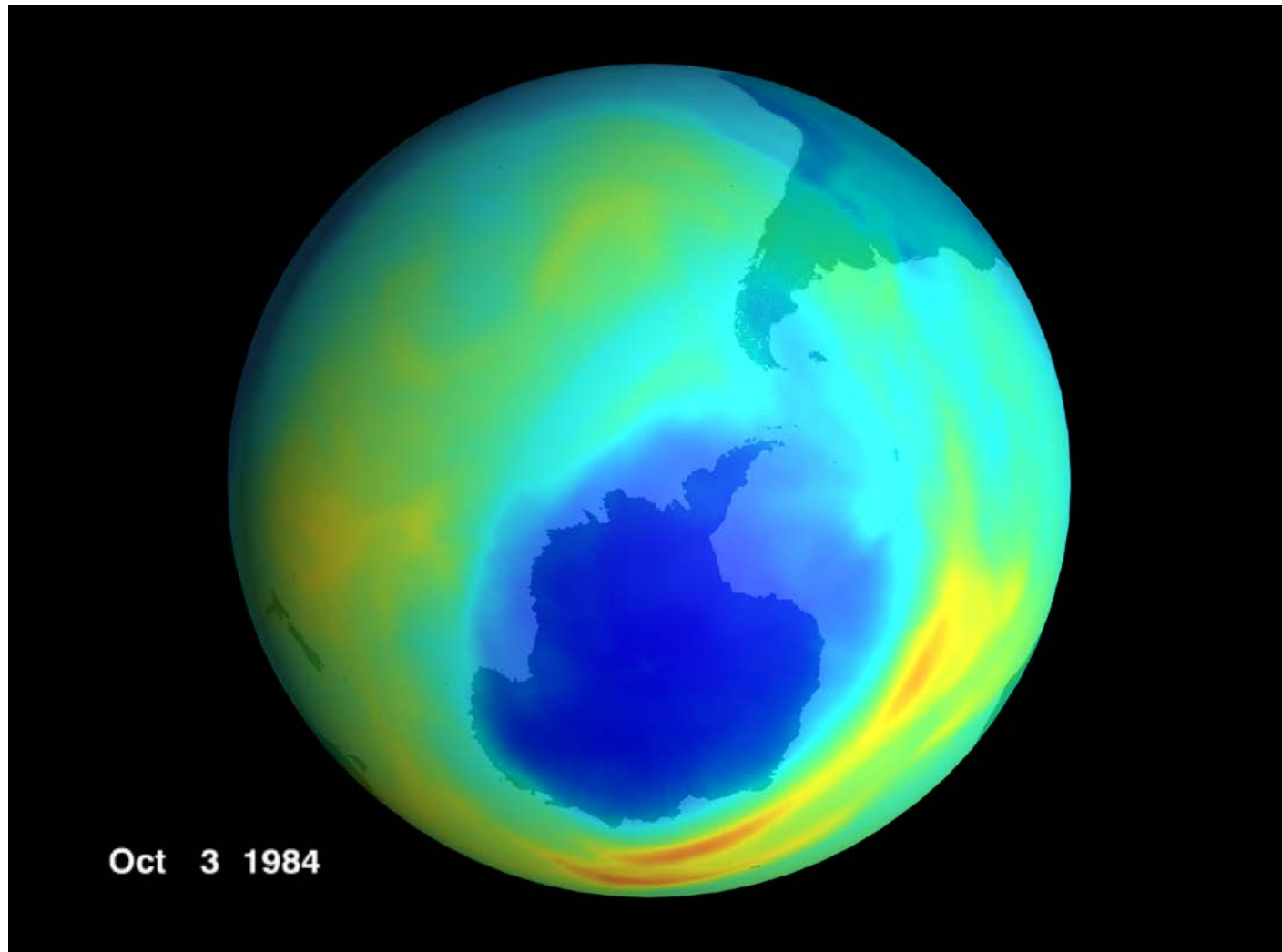



Photo of Antarctic Ozone Hole in 1984, NASA

# The Montreal Protocol

## *Multilateral Intervention to Confront a “Wicked Problem”*

**OZONE SECRETARIAT**

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## THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL ON SUBSTANCES THAT DEplete THE OZONE LAYER

Home / Treaties and Decisions / THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL ON SUBSTANCES THAT DEplete THE OZONE LAYER

HANDBOOK FOR THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL ON SUBSTANCES THAT DEplete THE OZONE LAYER					
INTRODUCTIO	THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL ON SUBSTANCES THAT DEplete THE OZONE LAYER	DECISIONS OF THE MEETINGS OF THE PARTIES TO THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL	RELEVANT ANNEXES TO THE DECISIONS OF THE PARTIES	RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR MEETINGS OF THE PARTIES TO THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL	THE EVOLUTION OF THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL

The Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer was designed to reduce the production and consumption of ozone depleting substances in order to reduce their abundance in the atmosphere, and thereby protect the earth's fragile ozone Layer. The original Montreal Protocol was agreed on 16 September 1987 and entered into force on 1 January 1989.

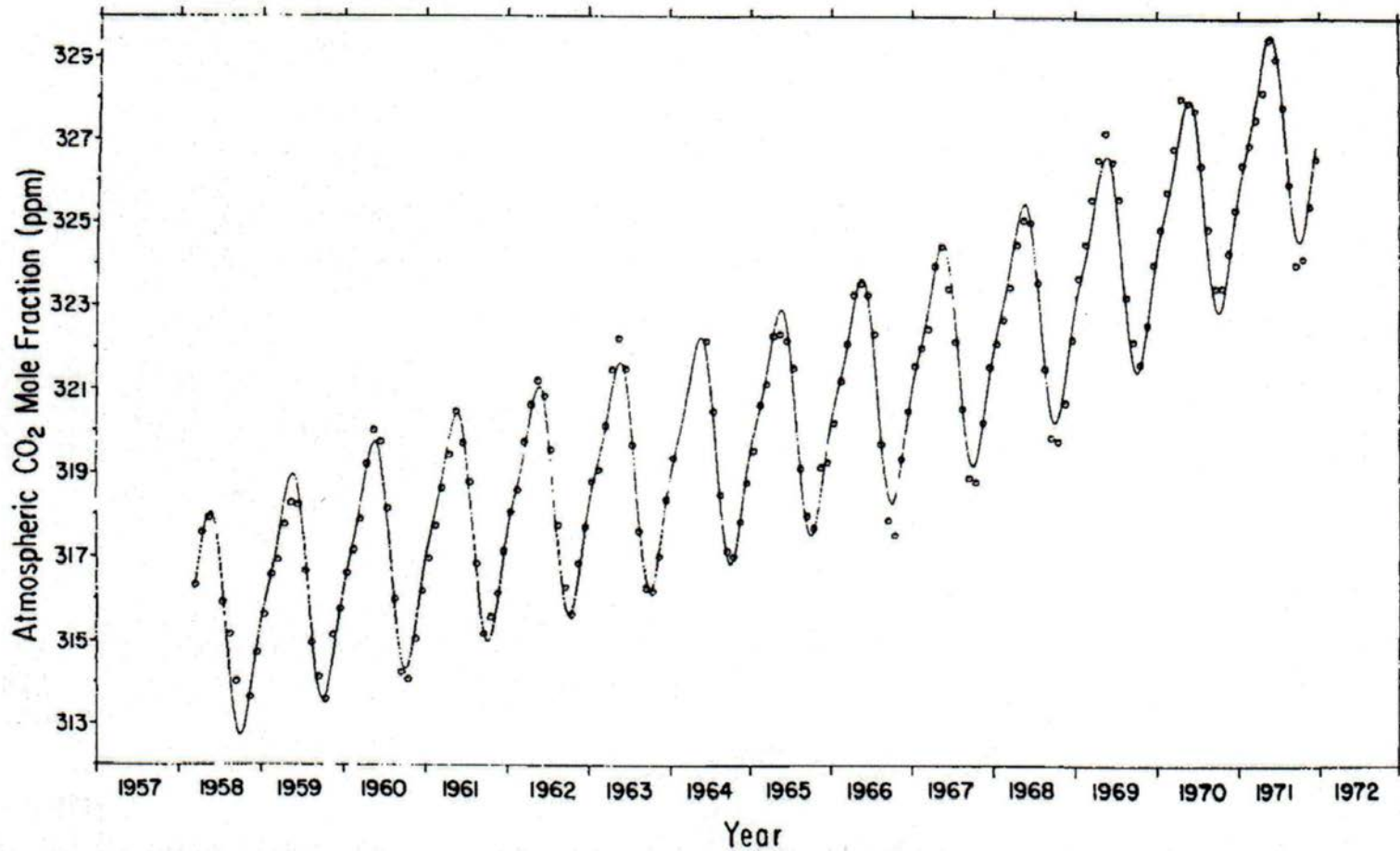
The Montreal Protocol includes a unique adjustment provision that enables the Parties to the Protocol to respond quickly to new scientific information and agree to accelerate the reductions required on chemicals already covered by the Protocol. These adjustments are then automatically applicable to all countries that ratified the Protocol. Since its initial adoption, the Montreal Protocol has been adjusted six times. Specifically, the Second, Fourth, Seventh, Ninth, Eleventh and Nineteenth Meetings of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol adopted, in accordance with the procedure laid down in paragraph 9 of Article 2 of the Montreal Protocol, certain adjustments and reductions of production and consumption of the controlled substances listed in the Annexes of the Protocol. These adjustments entered into force, for all the Parties, on 7 March 1991, 23 September 1993, 5 August 1996, 4 June 1998, 28 July 2000 and 14 May 2008, respectively.

The Parties to the Montreal Protocol have amended the Protocol to enable, among other things, the control of new chemicals and the creation of a financial mechanism to enable developing countries to comply. Specifically, the Second, Fourth, Ninth and Eleventh Meetings of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol adopted, in accordance with the procedure laid down in paragraph 4 of Article 9 of the Vienna Convention, four Amendments to the Protocol – the London Amendment (1990), the Copenhagen Amendment (1992), the Montreal Amendment (1997) and the Beijing Amendment (1999). Unlike adjustments to the Protocol, amendments must be ratified by countries before their requirements are applicable to those countries. The London, Copenhagen, Montreal and Beijing Amendments entered into force on 10 August 1992, 14 June 1994 10 November 1999 and 25 February 2002 respectively, only for those Parties which ratified the particular amendments.

In addition to adjustments and amendments to the Montreal Protocol, the Parties to the Protocol meet annually and take a variety of decisions aimed at enabling effective implementation of this important legal instrument. Through the 22nd Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol, the Parties have taken over 720 decisions. The decisions adopted by the Parties are included in the reports of the Meetings of the Parties and, along with other documents considered during the meetings, can be accessed under the meetings' links

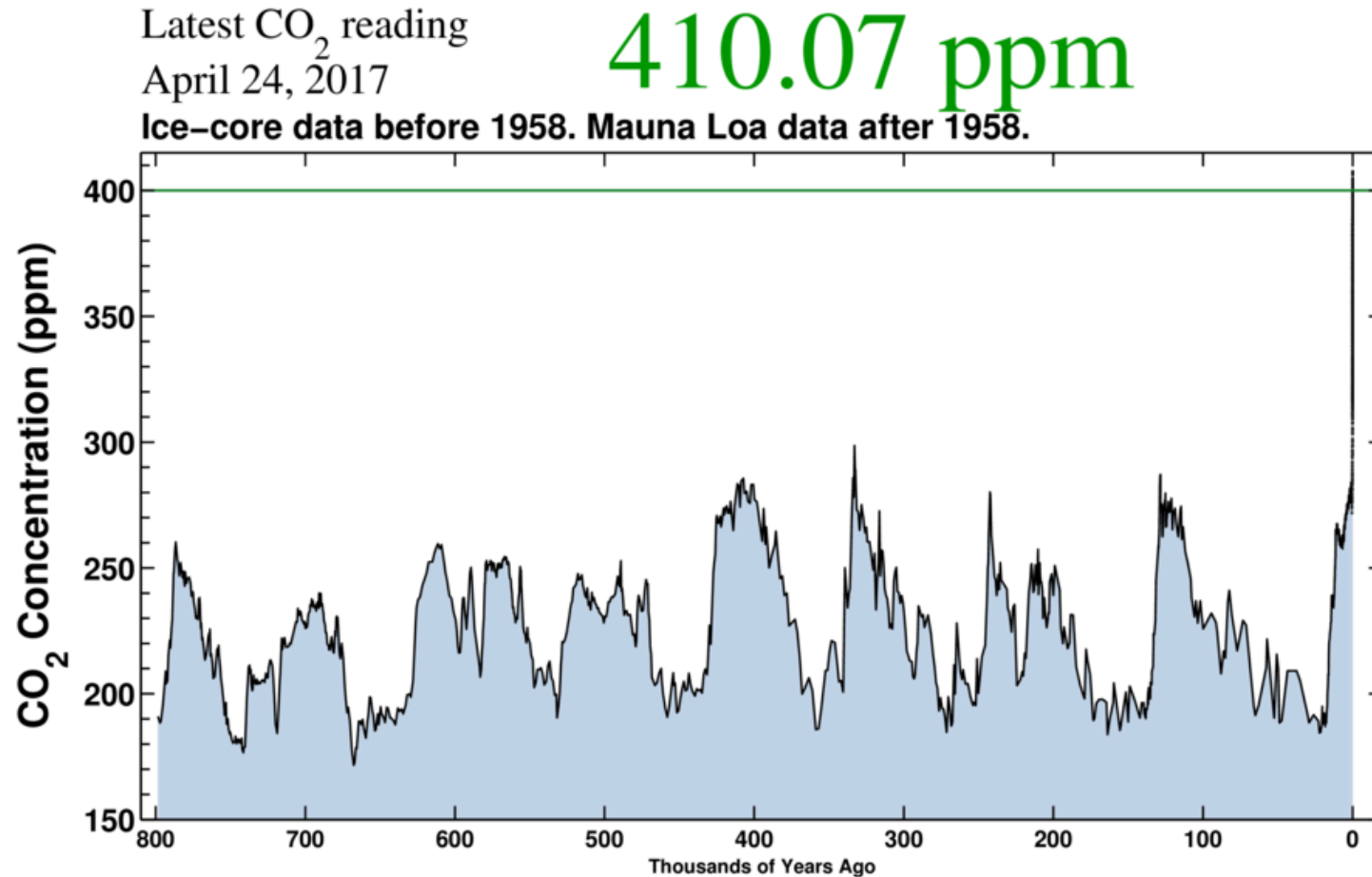


# The Keeling Curve – Tracking Atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> Levels 1958-1972



(<https://scripps.ucsd.edu/programs/keelingcurve>)

# Changes in Atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> Over 800,000 years



(<https://scripps.ucsd.edu/programs/keelingcurve>)



*The geological period marked by  
the substantial impact of human  
activities on the earth system*

(Crutzen & Stoermer, 2000)

## RESEARCH ARTICLE SUMMARY

### SUSTAINABILITY

# Planetary boundaries: Guiding human development on a changing planet

Will Steffen,\* Katherine Richardson, Johan Rockström, Sarah E. Cornell, Ingo Fetzer, Elena M. Bennett, Reinette Biggs, Stephen R. Carpenter, Wim de Vries, Cynthia A. de Wit, Carl Folke, Dieter Gerten, Jens Heinke, Georgina M. Mace, Linn M. Persson, Veerabhadran Ramanathan, Belinda Reyers, Sverker Sörlin

(2015)

## REVIEW SUMMARY

### EARTH HISTORY

# The Anthropocene is functionally and stratigraphically distinct from the Holocene

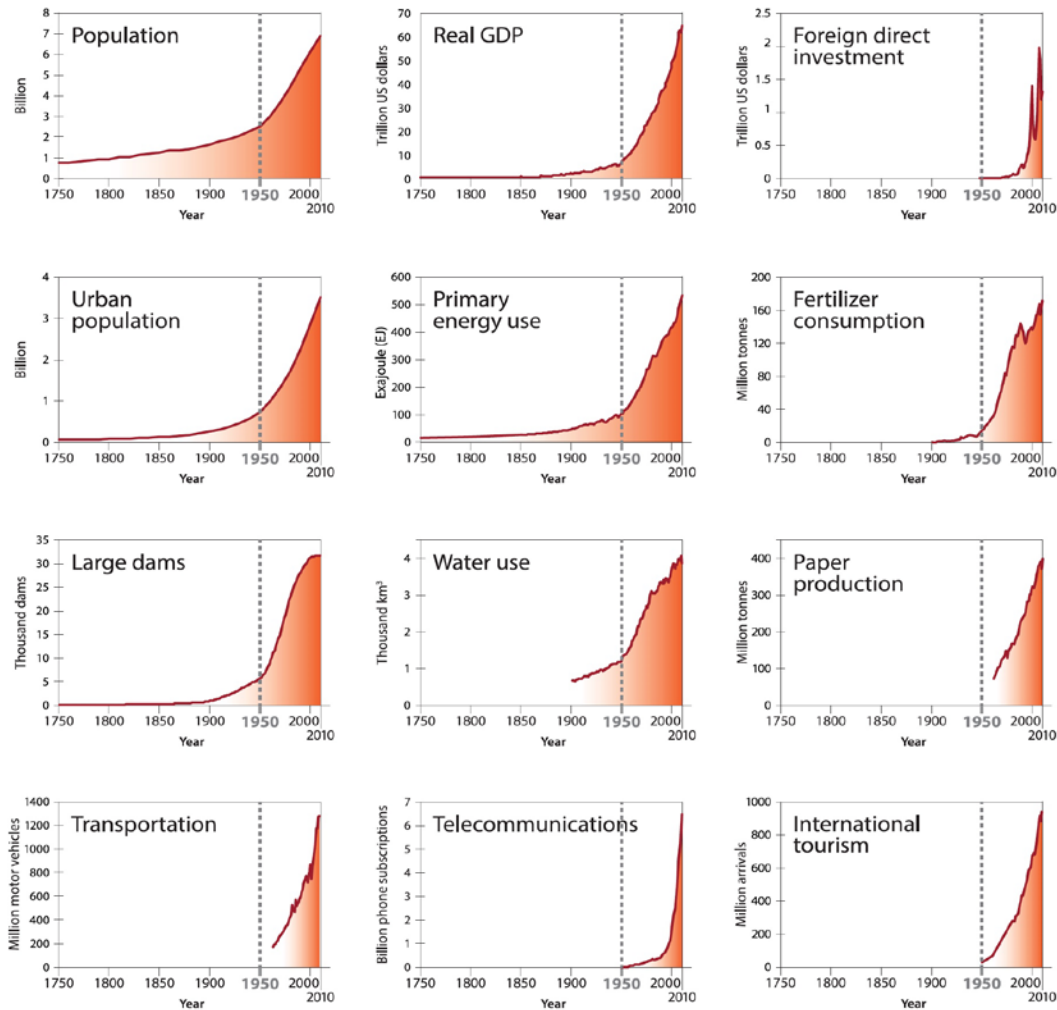
Colin N. Waters,\* Jan Zalasiewicz, Colin Summerhayes, Anthony D. Barnosky, Clément Poirier, Agnieszka Gałuszka, Alejandro Cearreta, Matt Edgeworth, Erle C. Ellis, Michael Ellis, Catherine Jeandel, Reinhold Leinfelder, J. R. McNeill, Daniel deB. Richter, Will Steffen, James Syvitski, Davor Vidas, Michael Wagreich, Mark Williams, An Zhisheng, Jacques Grinevald, Eric Odada, Naomi Oreskes, Alexander P. Wolfe

(2016)

# Trajectory of the Anthropocene

## *The Great Acceleration, 1950-2010*

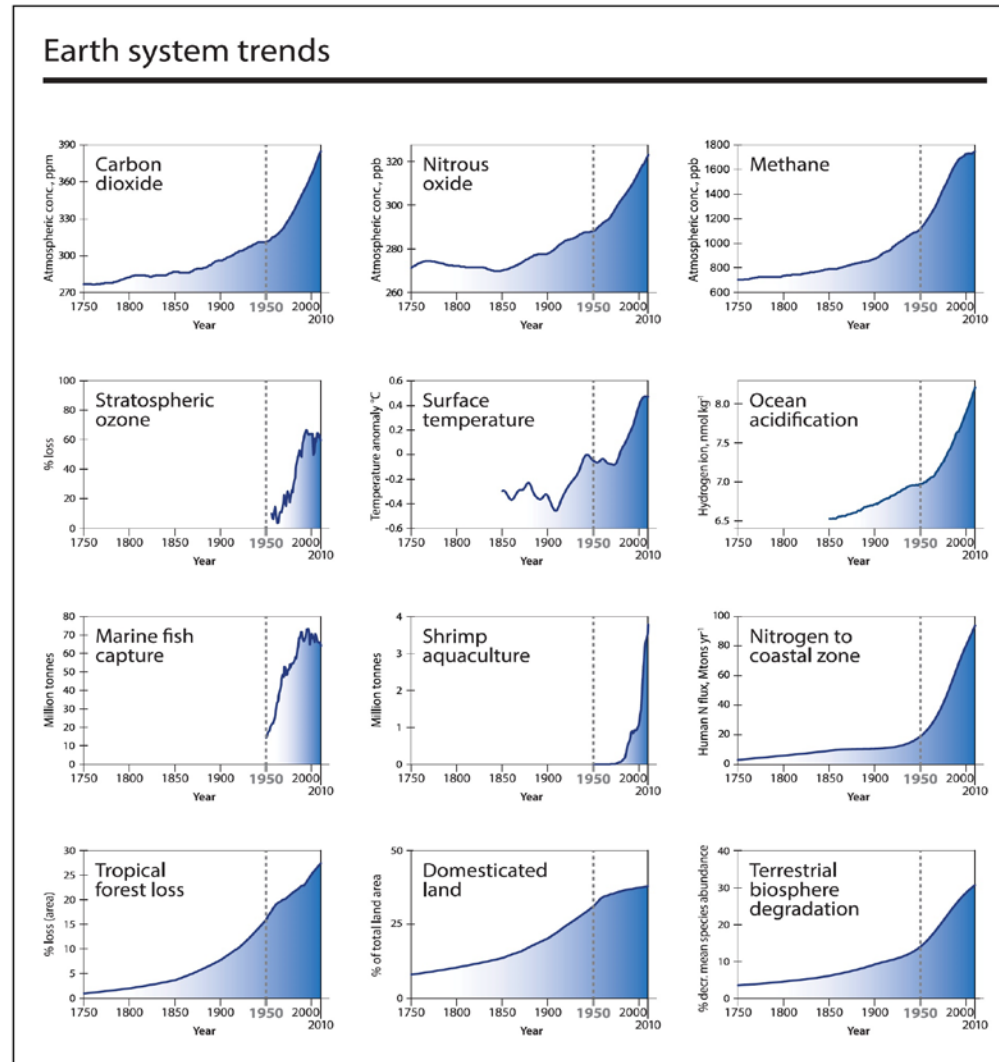
### Socio-economic trends



(Steffen et al., 2015)

# Trajectory of the Anthropocene

## *Aftermath of the Great Acceleration, 1950-2010*



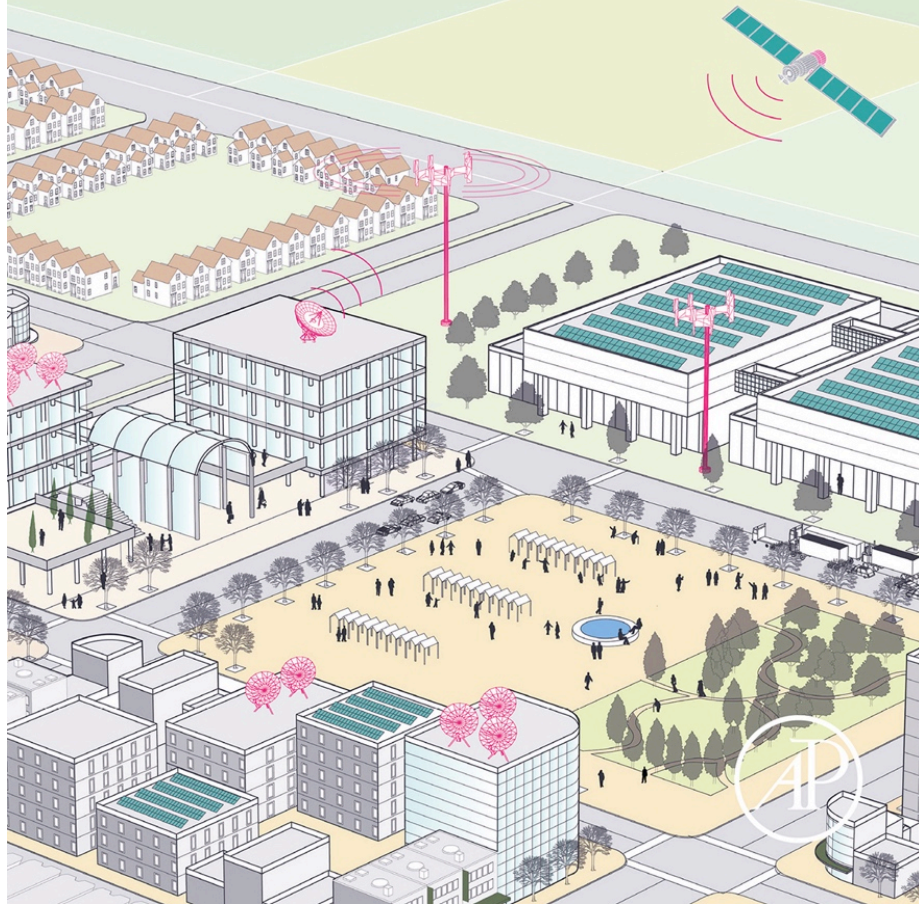
*“Of all the candidates for a start date for the Anthropocene, the beginning of the Great Acceleration is by far the most convincing from an earth system science perspective (p.81).”*  
(Steffen et al., 2015)



# Social Ecology in the Digital Age:

*Solving Complex Problems in a Globalized World*

Daniel Stokols



# Social Ecology in the Digital Age

**Solving Complex Problems  
in a Globalized World**

***Daniel Stokols***

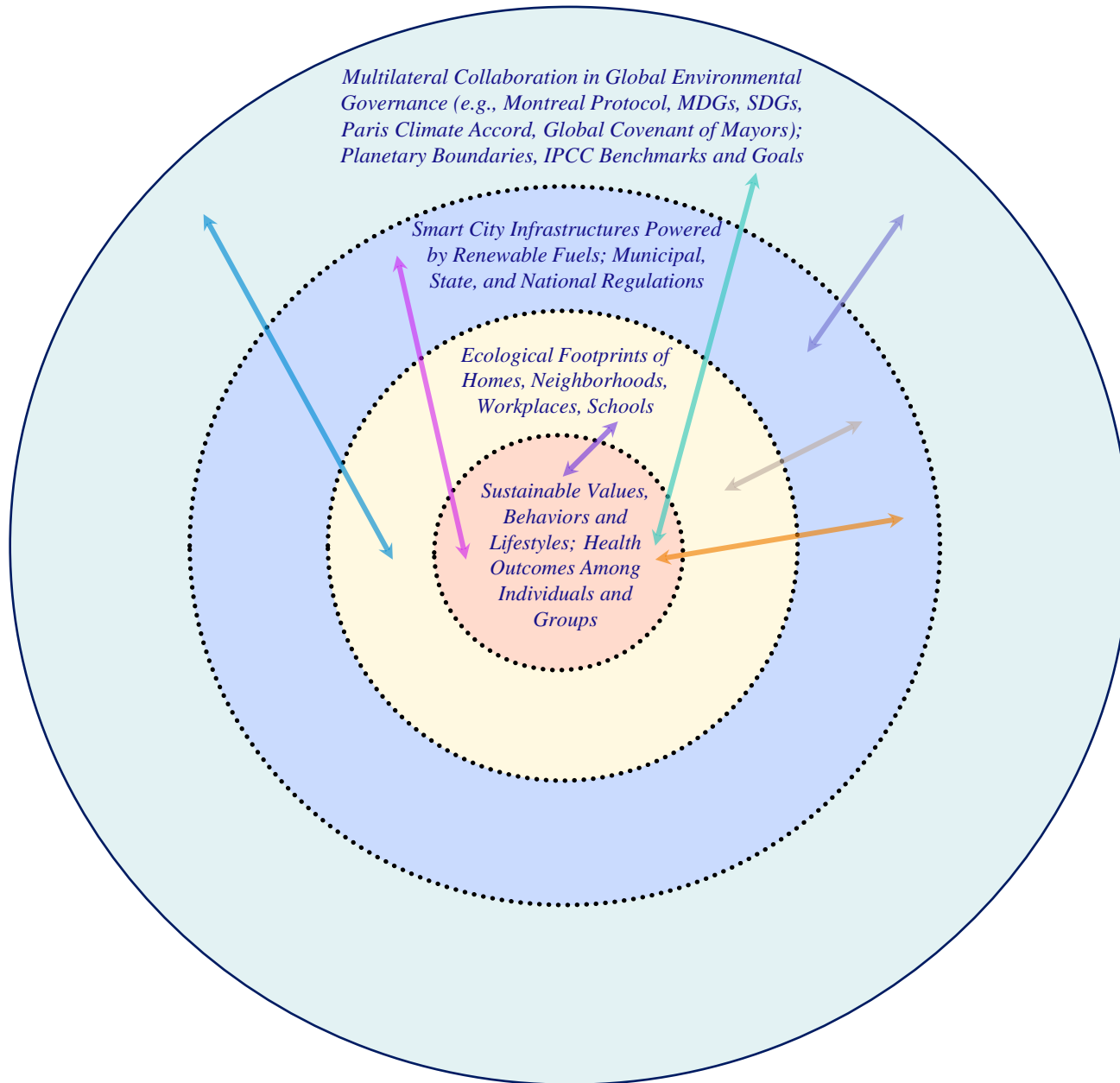
*University of California, Irvine*



**ACADEMIC PRESS**

An imprint of Elsevier

# Linking Multi-Scale Influences on Resilience and Sustainability



(Stokols, 2018)

# Coupling Centralized Infrastructures With Localized Sustainable Technologies for Greater Resilience

*Energy Sector*



[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fossil-fuel\\_power\\_station](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fossil-fuel_power_station)

*Agribusiness*



<http://www.templetonco.com/Agribusiness>

*Water Sector*



<http://bit.ly/1ro83WX>

*Residential Solar*



<http://bit.ly/WjEj0I>

*Urban Farming*



<http://www.shareable.net/blog/12-agrihoods-taking-farm-to-table-living-mainstream>

*Home Water Capture*



<http://www.rwh.in/>



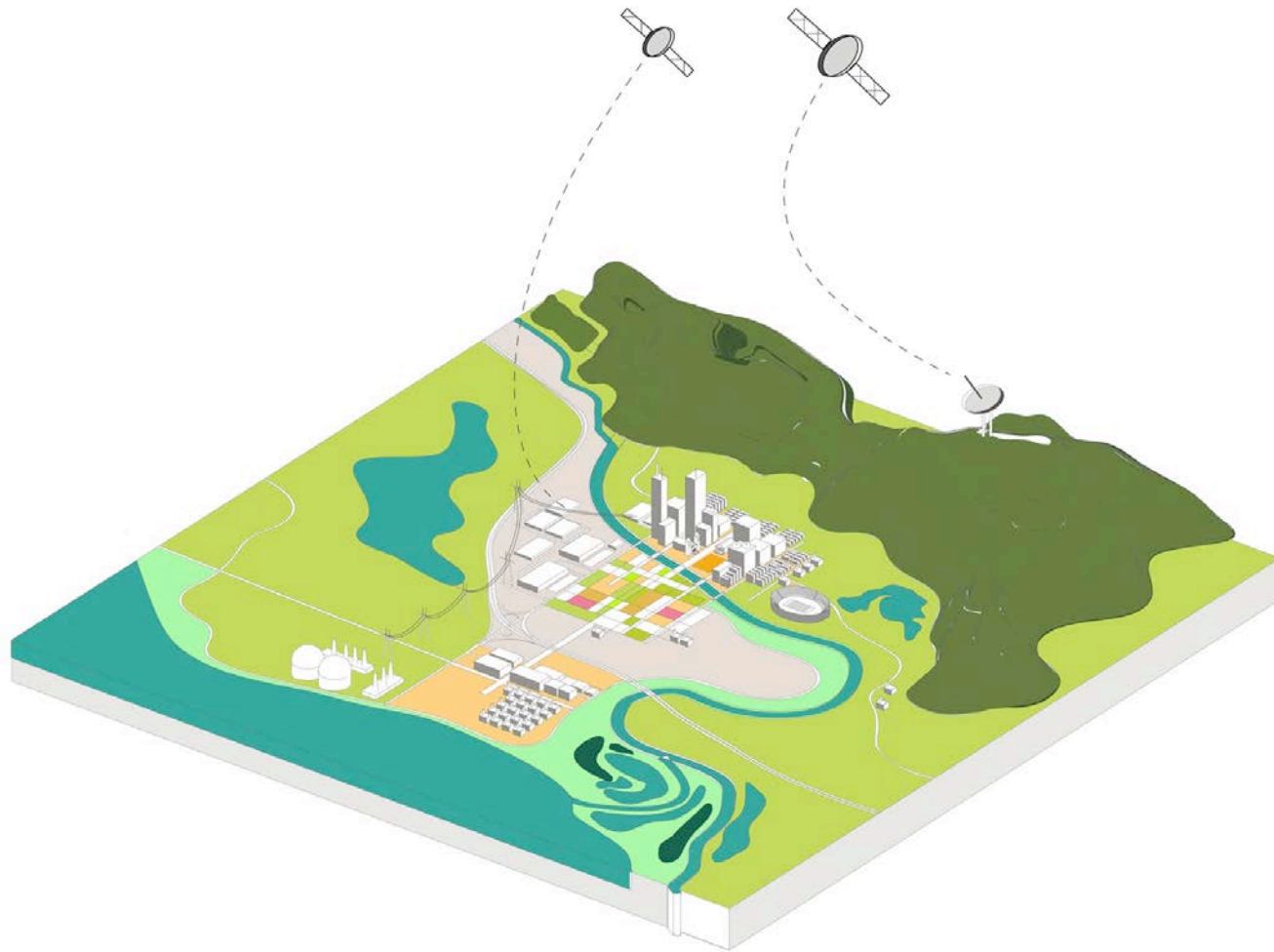


Figure 1. A human community  
Composite of natural, built, sociocultural, and cyber  
spheres of the environment

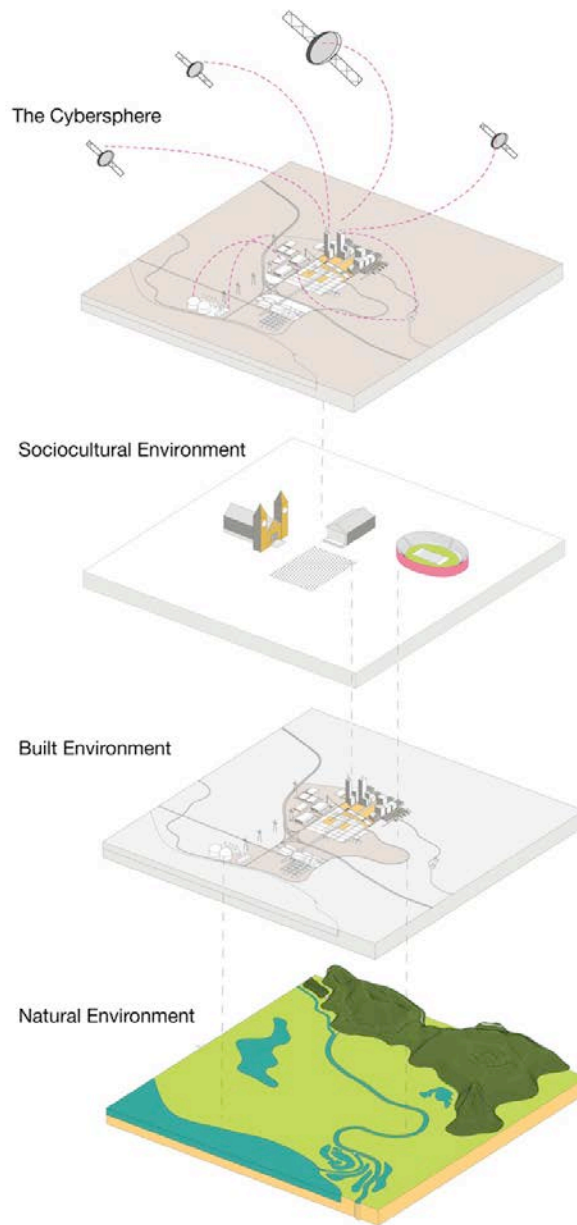


Figure 2. Interconnections between the natural, built, sociocultural, and cyber spheres of environmental influence in human communities



SOCIETY

## Chinese village builds giant QR code in field in effort to connect with visitors

Tourism campaign uses 130,000 juniper trees to create scannable pattern that can be seen from the air



Sarah Zheng

UPDATED : Friday, 15 Sep 2017, 2:54PM



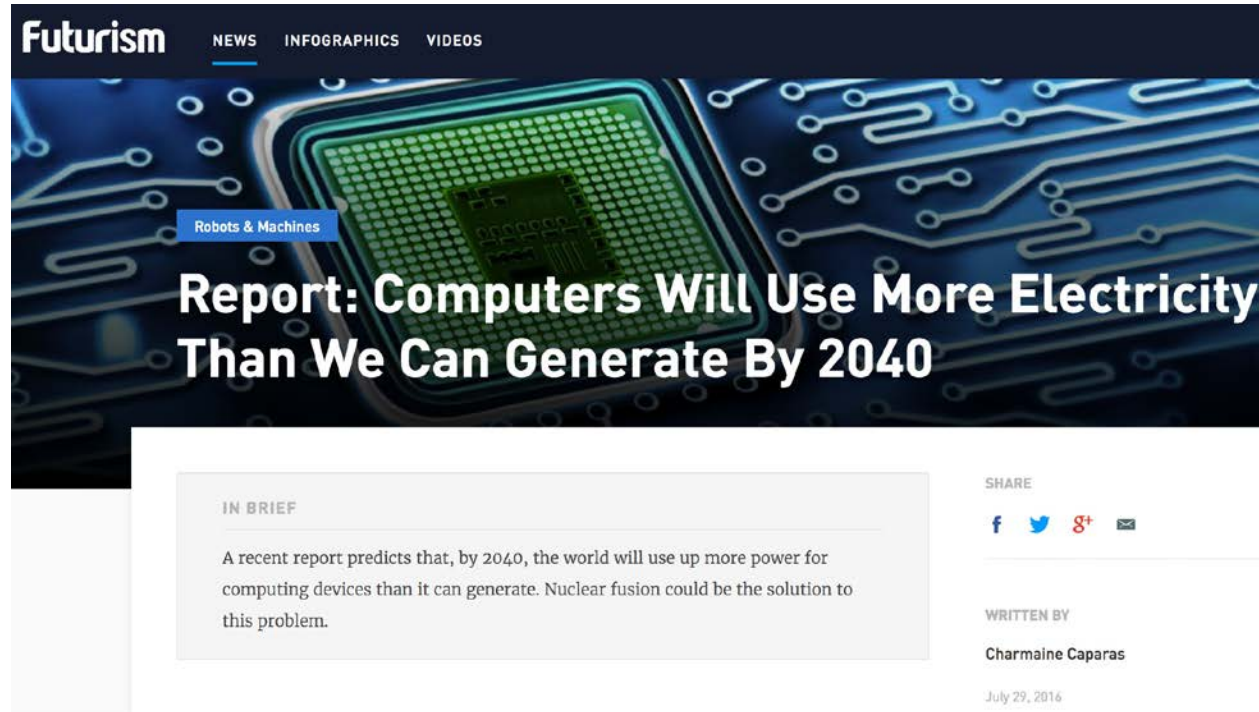
Article

# On Global Electricity Usage of Communication Technology: Trends to 2030

Anders S. G. Andrae \* and Tomas Edler

Huawei Technologies Sweden AB, Skalholtsgatan 9, 16494 Kista, Sweden

*“CT could use as much as 51% of global electricity in 2030...and contribute up to 23% of the globally released greenhouse gas emissions in 2030 (p.117).”*

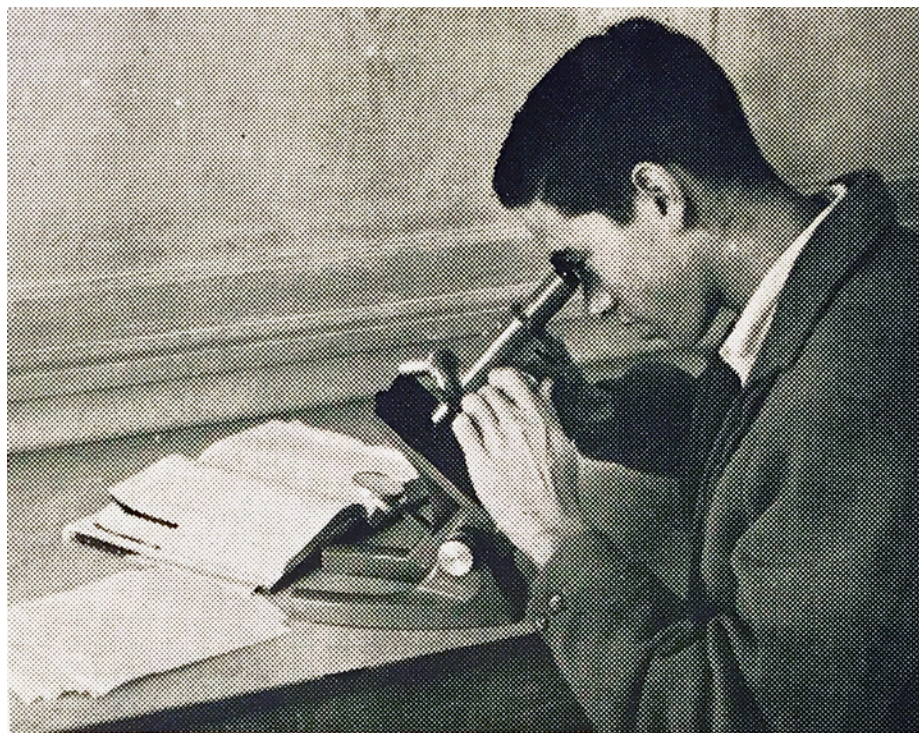


# Overview

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1. *Personal background and evolution as a social ecologist*
2. *Historical developments in American perspectives on human and social ecology and their links to European and other conceptions of the field*
3. *Epistemic challenges facing social ecologists in the Anthropocene*

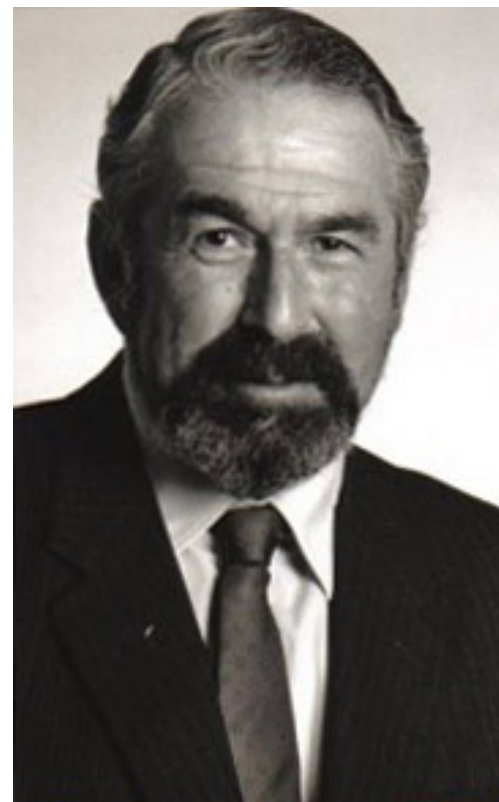




**Danny looks at sea anemone.**

## *Stokols Studies Chemistry*

*Palmetto High School, Miami, Florida, 1965*



*Professor Howard Lenhoff, my high school mentor at the Laboratory for Quantitative Biology, University of Miami, Florida; later, my colleague at UC Irvine*

# *Settings That Shaped My Interest in Transdisciplinary Ecological Research*

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## College



*Main Quad  
University of Chicago 1965-  
69*

## Graduate School



*Psychology Department  
University of North Carolina  
1969-73*

## Post-Graduate



*Program in and School of  
Social Ecology, UC Irvine  
1973-present*



# *Undergraduate Years at the University of Chicago*

*Courses on Political Science, Sociology, Anthropology, Psychology,  
and History of Western Civilization*

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*Professor Hans Morganthau*



*Professor Karl Weintraub*



*Christian Mackauer*

# *Social Psychology Course at the University of Chicago*

*Co-Taught by Professors Richard Flacks and Thomas Crawford*

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*Professor Richard Flacks  
Marxist Sociology and Student  
Protest Movements*

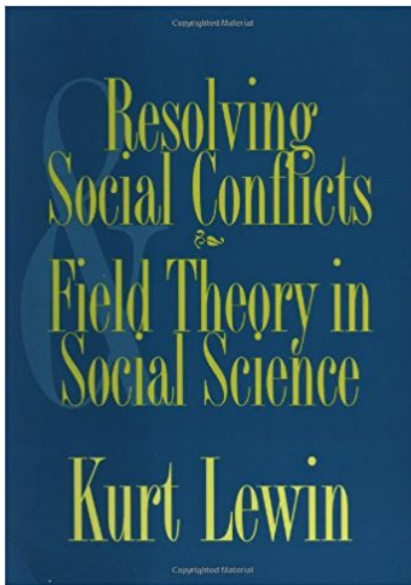


*Professor Thomas Crawford  
Attitude Change and  
Interpersonal Influence*

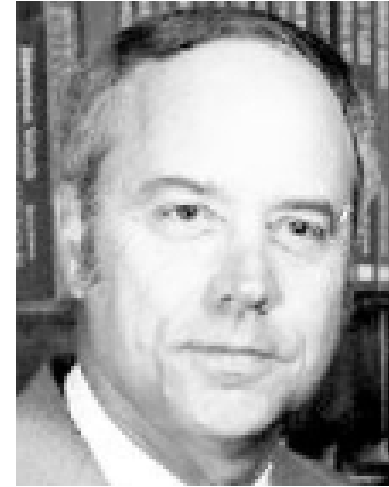
# Graduate Studies, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill



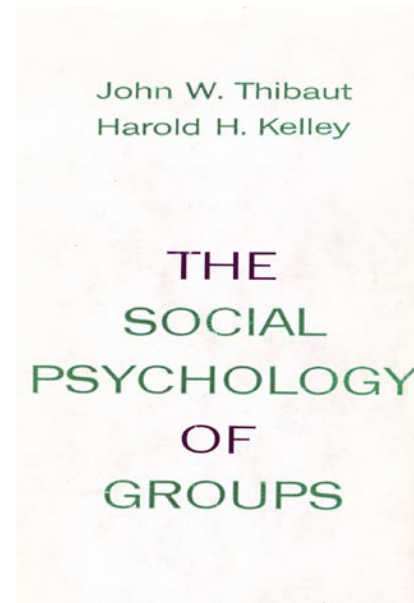
*Professor Kurt Lewin, MIT*



(1948)



*Professor John Thibaut,  
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill*



(1959)

# Psychological Lifespace

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The perceived situation or environment that is relevant to an individual at a given point in time; the totality of perceived facts that determine an individual's behavior at a certain moment:

$$\text{Behavior} = f \{ \text{Person} \times \text{Environment} \}$$

# Diagrammatic Representation of the Life Space

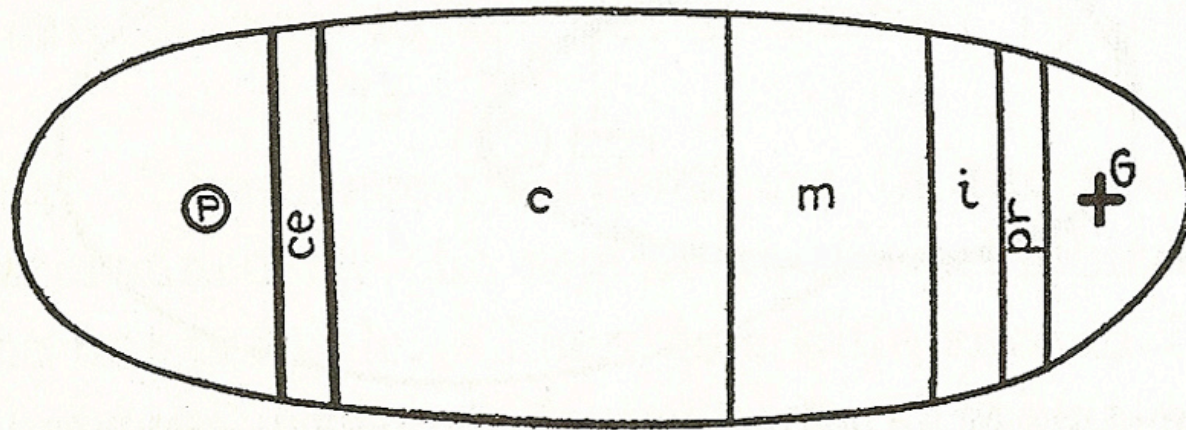


FIG. 4.—Situation of a boy who wants to become a physician. *P*, person; *G*, goal; *ce*, college entrance examinations; *c*, college; *m*, medical school; *i*, internship; *pr*, establishing a practice.

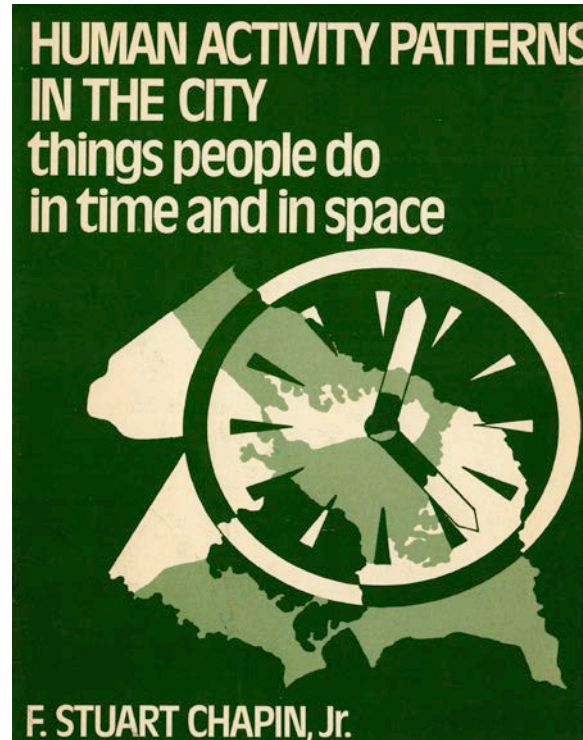
(From Lewin, 1936, p.48)



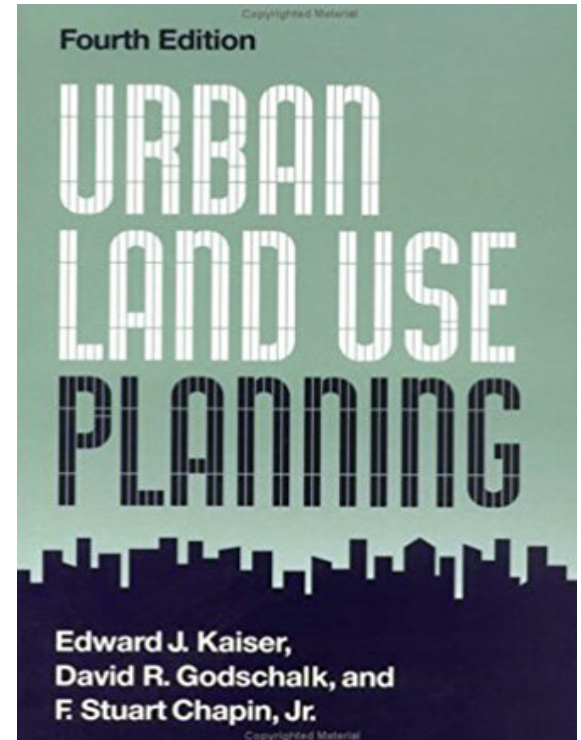
# Mapping Human Activity Patterns Within the Macro Urban Landscape



*Professor F. Stuart Chapin, Jr.,  
University of North Carolina,  
Chapel Hill*



*(1974)*

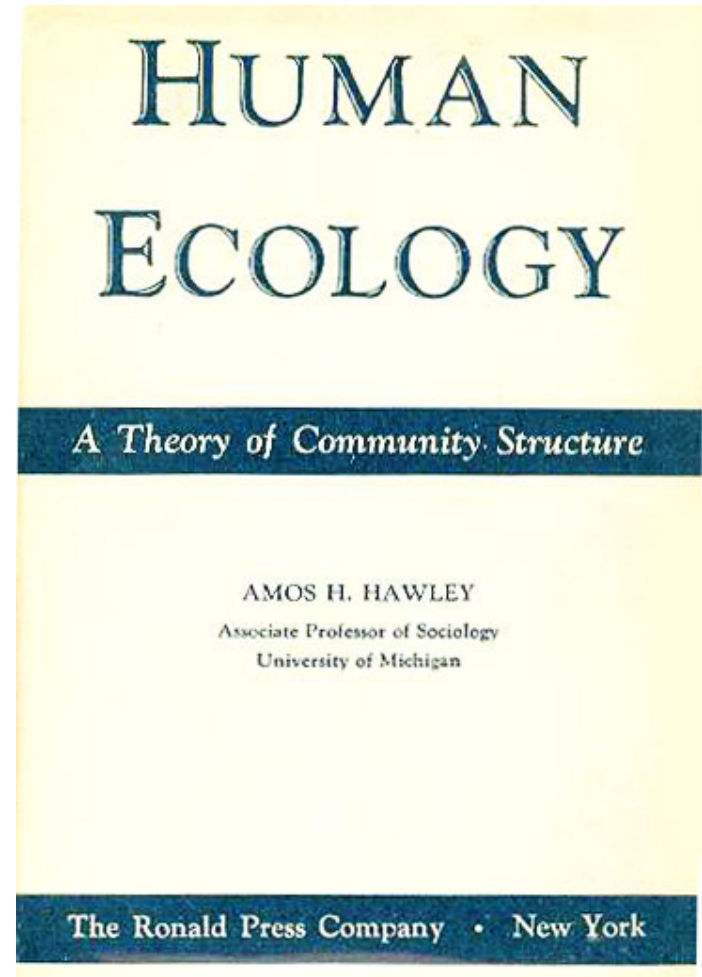


*First edition originally  
published by F. Stuart  
Chapin, Jr., 1957*



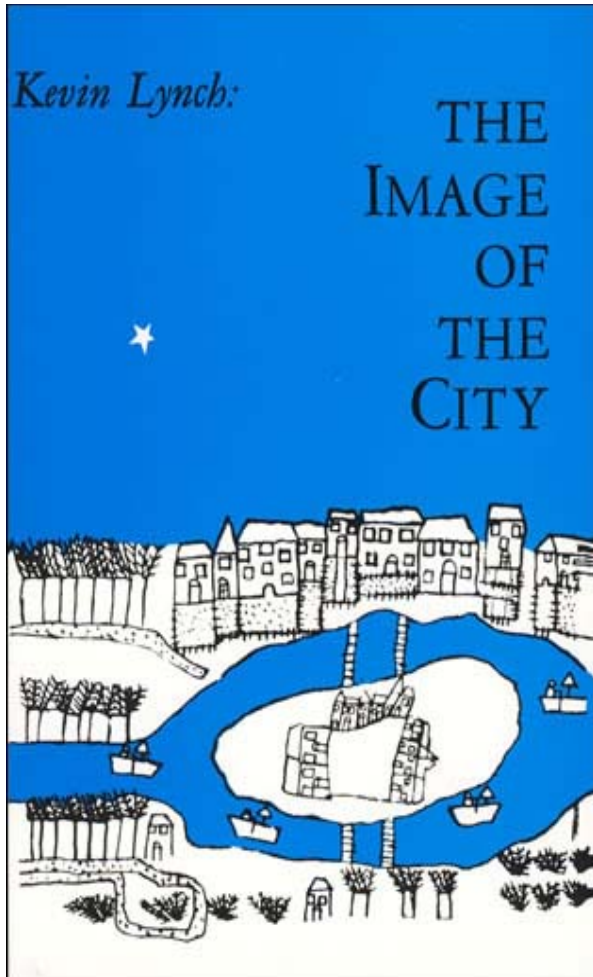


*Professor Amos Hawley, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill; student of Roderick McKenzie*

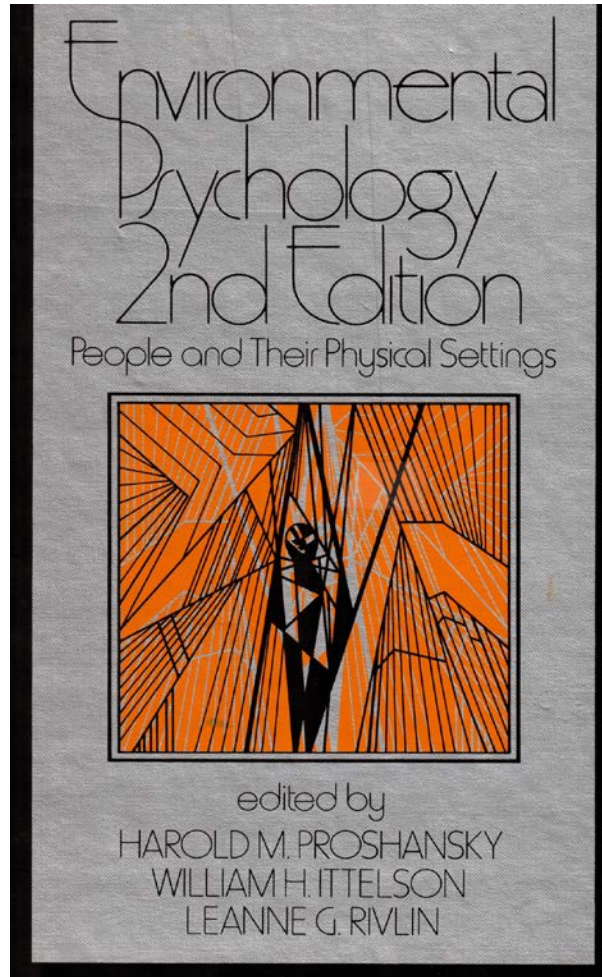


*(1950)*

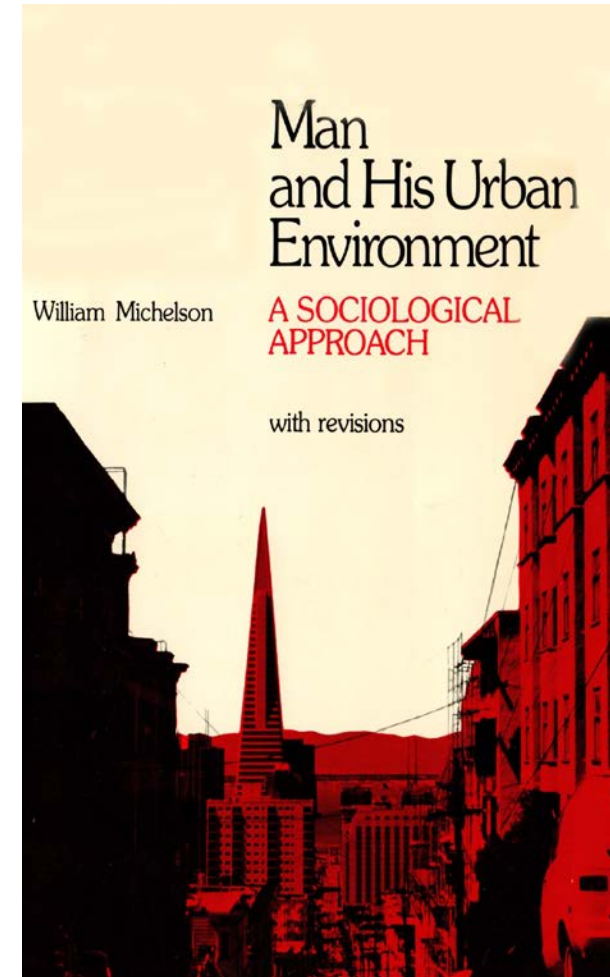
# Growing Interest in Environmental Psychology And Urban Sociology While at North Carolina



(1960)



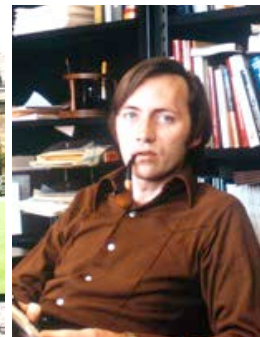
(1970)



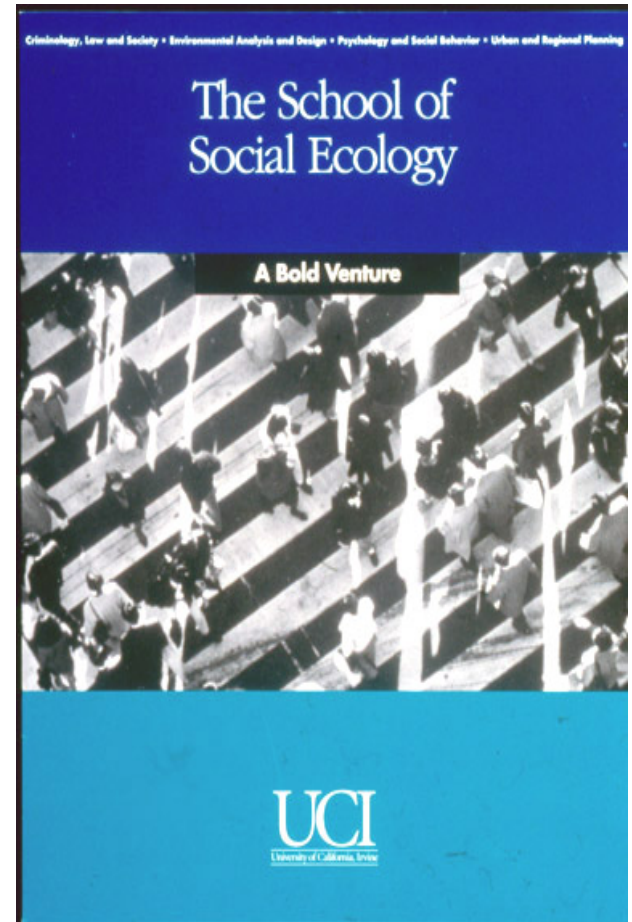
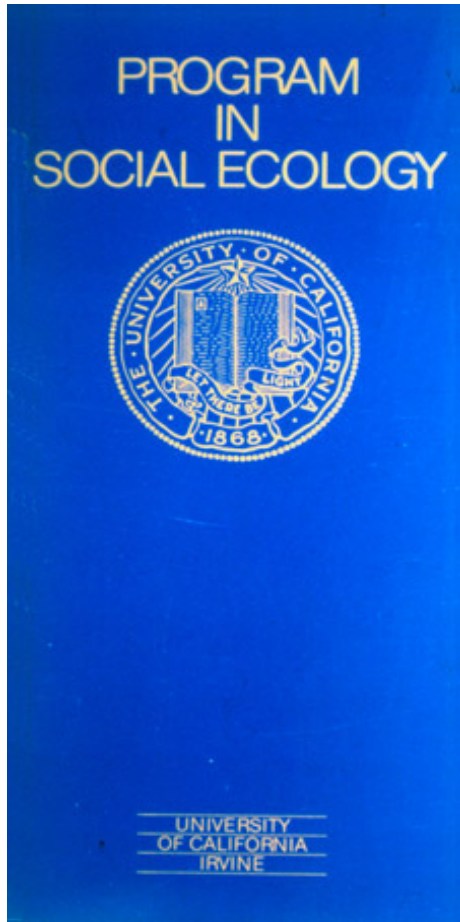
(1970)



# The Program in Social Ecology 1970-1992



# From a Program to a School of Social Ecology



1970 - Present



# School of Social Ecology

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## *Academic Mission*

- Train students to analyze research and policy questions from a broad, *ecological perspective* that *integrates multiple disciplines* and links basic theory and research with *community problem solving*

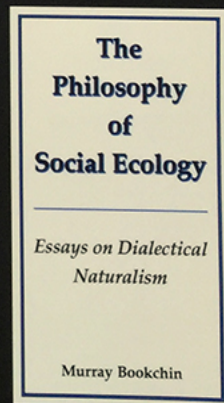
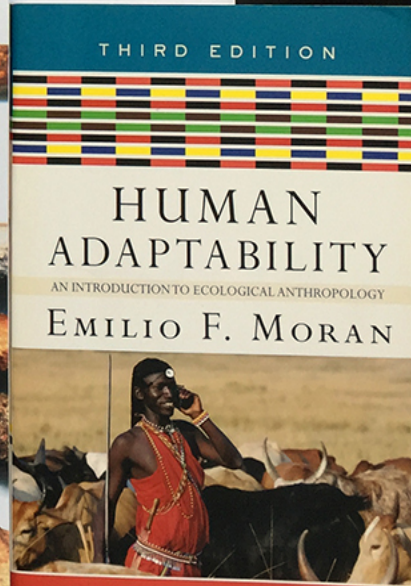
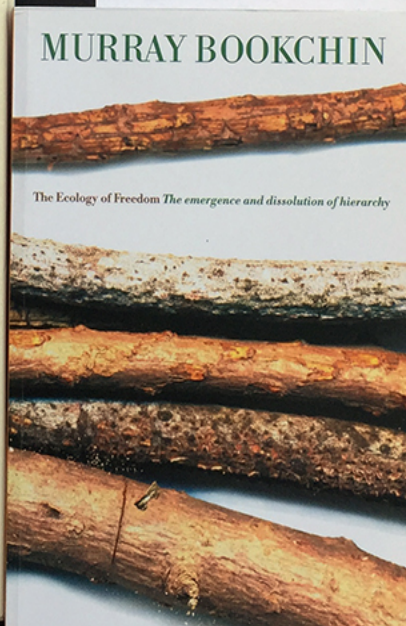
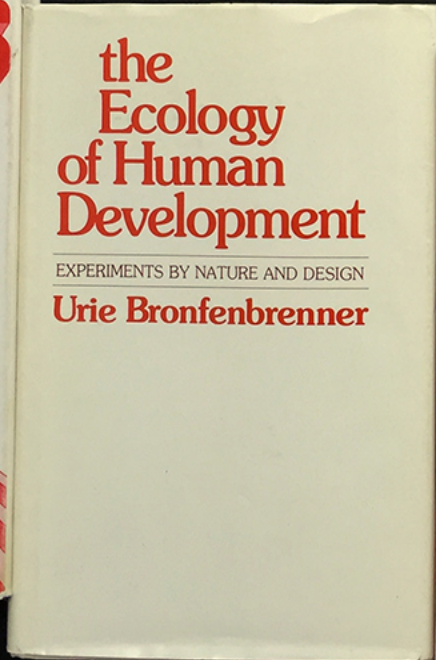
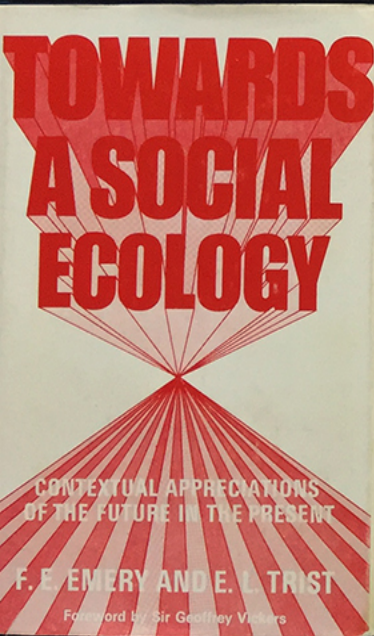
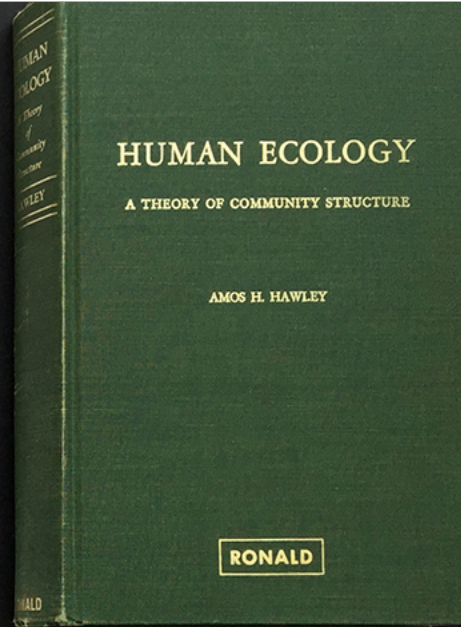
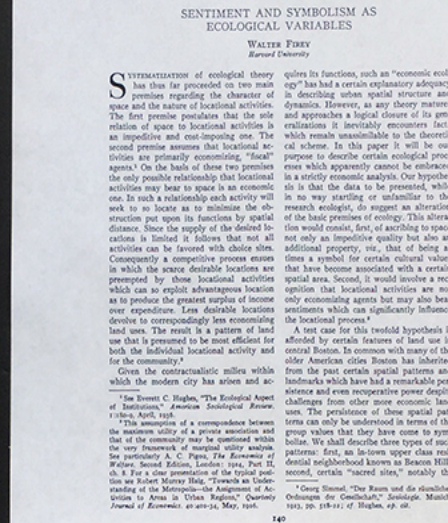
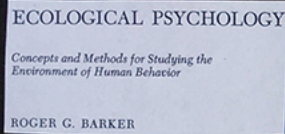
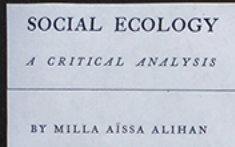
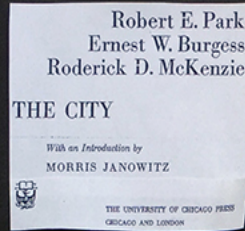
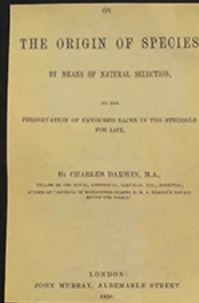
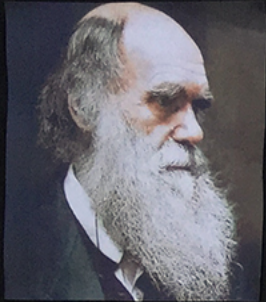
# UCI's Graduate Seminar in Social Ecology

## *From Multiple Disciplines To Transdisciplinary Research*





# Historical and Conceptual Foundations of Social Ecology



# Origins of Biological Ecology

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*Ernst Haeckel –biologist who in 1866 introduced the term **ecology** defined as “the study of interactions among organisms and their environment”*

*Haekel’s research focused on the adaptations of plant and animal species to their surroundings over time*

*Haekel’s basic unit of ecological analysis was the **biome**—a geographically bounded region consisting of biotic (living) and abiotic (non-living) components*



# Theoretical Foundations of Biological Ecology

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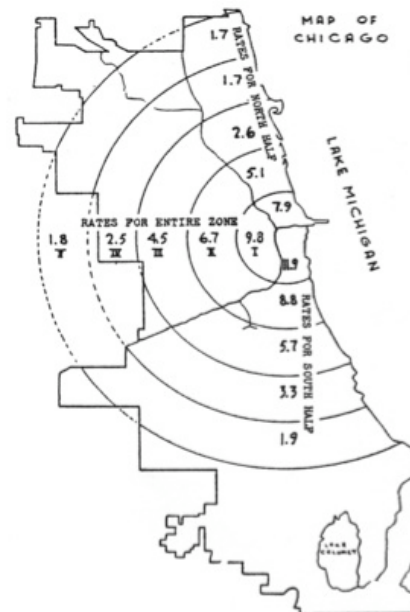
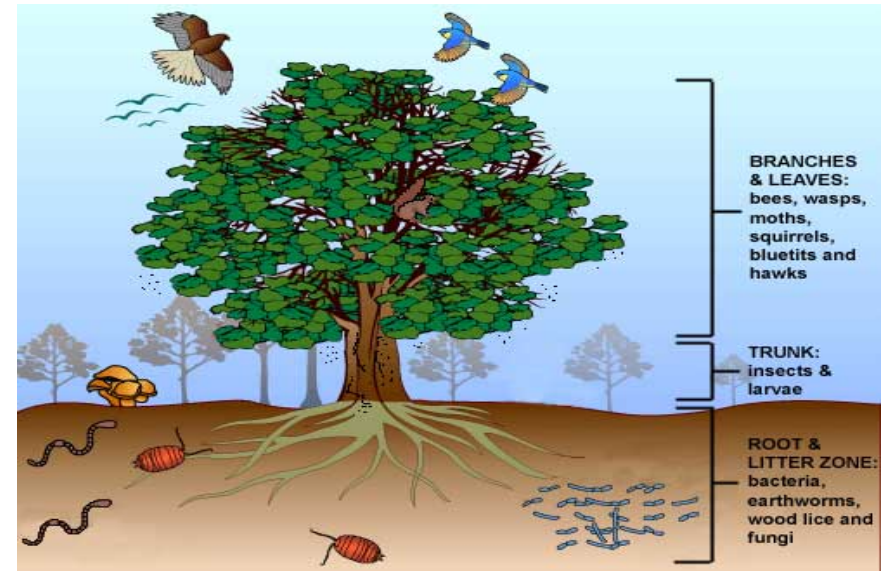
*Charles Darwin*— English biologist and ecologist who introduced several catalytic ideas about how plants and animals adapt to their environments, in his landmark books, *Origin of Species* (1859) and *the Descent of Man* (1871)

*Key ecological concepts introduced by Darwin include:*

- *the web of life*
- *the struggle for existence*
- *natural selection as the basis for species evolution*

# From Bioecology to Social Ecology

- Bio Ecology--study of the relations between organisms and their environments; field studies of plant and animal biomes over extended periods
- Human Ecology--study of the relations between people and their urban ecosystems with an emphasis on biological and economic processes of adaptation, and the spatial distribution of health and behavioral problems
- Social Ecology--study of the relations between people and their environments from a broad, interdisciplinary perspective that gives greater attention to the social, psychological, institutional, and cultural contexts of people-environment relations than did earlier human ecology research



Robert E. Park  
Ernest W. Burgess  
Roderick D. McKenzie

# THE CITY

*With an Introduction by*

MORRIS JANOWITZ



THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS  
CHICAGO AND LONDON  
1925

# THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF SOCIOLOGY

VOLUME XLII

JULY 1936

NUMBER 1

## HUMAN ECOLOGY

ROBERT EZRA PARK

### ABSTRACT

Human ecology is an attempt to apply to the interrelations of human beings a type of analysis previously applied to the interrelations of plants and animals. The term "symbiosis" describes a type of social relationship that is biotic rather than cultural. This biotic social order comes into existence and is maintained by competition. In plant and animal societies competition is unrestricted by an institutional or moral order. Human society is a consequence and effect of this limitation of the symbiotic social order by the cultural. Different social sciences are concerned with the forms which this limitation of the natural or ecological social order assumes on (1) the economic, (2) the political, and (3) the moral level.

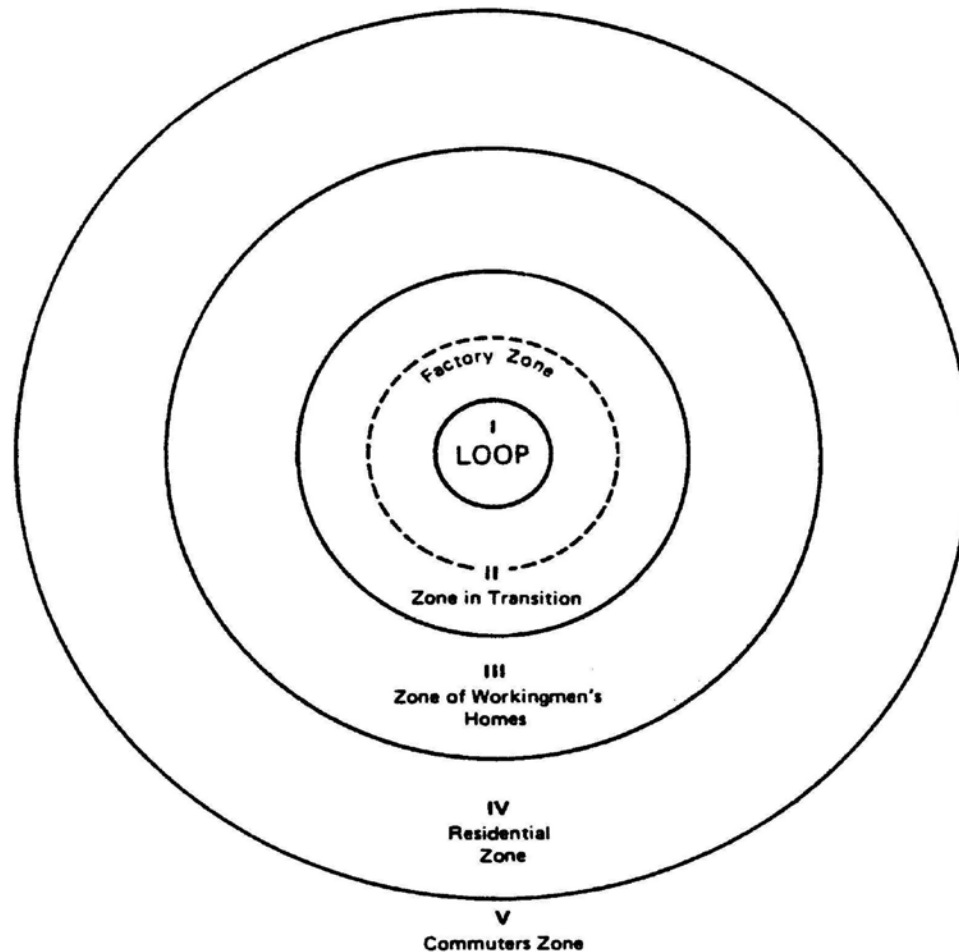
### I. THE WEB OF LIFE

Naturalists of the last century were greatly intrigued by their observation of the interrelations and co-ordinations, within the realm of animate nature, of the numerous, divergent, and widely scattered species. Their successors, the botanists, and zoölogists of the present day, have turned their attention to more specific inquiries, and the "realm of nature," like the concept of evolution, has come to be for them a notion remote and speculative.

The "web of life," in which all living organisms, plants and animals alike, are bound together in a vast system of interlinked and interdependent lives, is nevertheless, as J. Arthur Thompson puts it, "one of the fundamental biological concepts" and is "as characteristically Darwinian as the struggle for existence."<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *The System of Animate Nature* (Gifford Lectures, 1915-16), II (New York, 1920), 58.

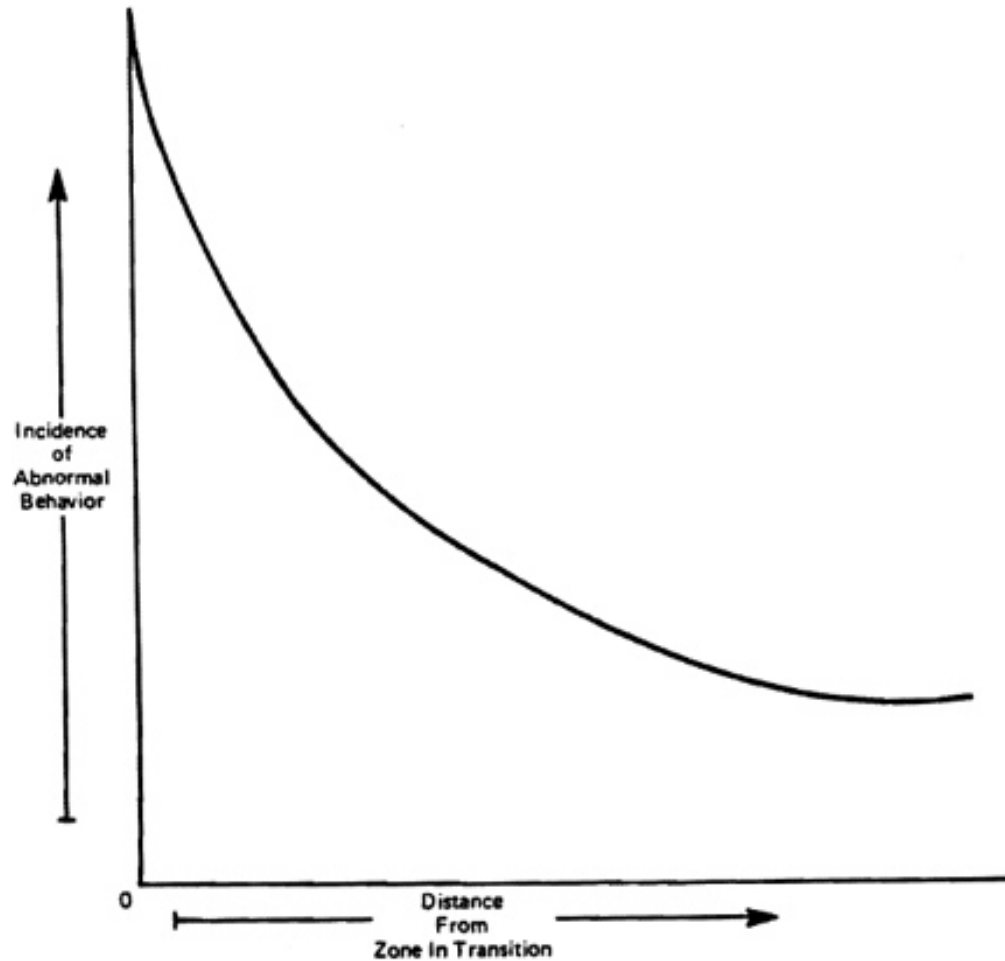
# The Chicago School's Concentric Zone Model of Urban Disorder



**Fig. 4-1. Burgess' concentric zone model. (From Park & Burgess, 1926. Reproduced by permission.)**

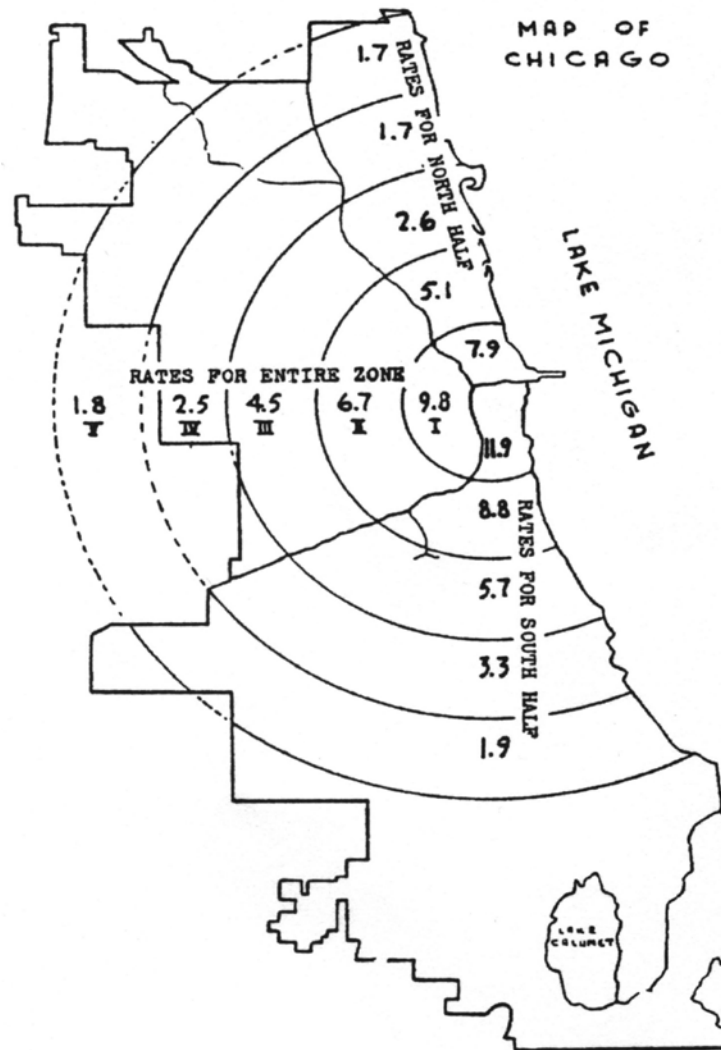


# Relationship Between the Incidence of Abnormal Behavior and Residential Distance from the Zone in Transition



*(Catalano, 1979, p. 80)*

# Zone Map of Male Delinquents in Chicago 1925-1933



Shaw, C., & McKay, H. (1972). *Juvenile delinquency in urban areas*. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press. Copyright © by the University of Chicago Press.

# Key Limitations of the Chicago School of Human Ecology

---

- *Over-emphasis on economic, geographic, and biological determinants of behavior and well-being, while ignoring psychological, architectural, societal and cultural influences (Alihan, 1938; Michelson, 1970)*
- *Neglect of symbolic place meanings, which are sometimes more powerful than economic interests (Firey, 1948)*
- *Failure to address the externalized costs of economic production and concerns about environmental injustice (Bookchin, 1995; Catalano, 1979)*



# Congruence

---

*-- the degree of fit or compatibility between people's goals, needs, cultural norms and activities, and the physical and social conditions present in their environments*

(Michelson, 1970)

# SENTIMENT AND SYMBOLISM AS ECOLOGICAL VARIABLES

WALTER FIREY  
*Harvard University*

SYSTEMATIZATION of ecological theory has thus far proceeded on two main premises regarding the character of space and the nature of locational activities. The first premise postulates that the sole relation of space to locational activities is an impeditive and cost-imposing one. The second premise assumes that locational activities are primarily economizing, "fiscal" agents.<sup>1</sup> On the basis of these two premises the only possible relationship that locational activities may bear to space is an economic one. In such a relationship each activity will seek to so locate as to minimize the obstruction put upon its functions by spatial distance. Since the supply of the desired locations is limited it follows that not all activities can be favored with choice sites. Consequently a competitive process ensues in which the scarce desirable locations are preempted by those locational activities which can so exploit advantageous location as to produce the greatest surplus of income over expenditure. Less desirable locations devolve to correspondingly less economizing land uses. The result is a pattern of land use that is presumed to be most efficient for both the individual locational activity and for the community.<sup>2</sup>

Given the contractualistic milieu within which the modern city has arisen and ac-

quires its functions, such an "economic ecology" has had a certain explanatory adequacy in describing urban spatial structure and dynamics. However, as any theory matures and approaches a logical closure of its generalizations it inevitably encounters facts which remain unassimilable to the theoretical scheme. In this paper it will be our purpose to describe certain ecological processes which apparently cannot be embraced in a strictly economic analysis. Our hypothesis is that the data to be presented, while in no way startling or unfamiliar to the research ecologist, do suggest an alteration of the basic premises of ecology. This alteration would consist, first, of ascribing to space not only an impeditive quality but also an additional property, *viz.*, that of being at times a symbol for certain cultural values that have become associated with a certain spatial area. Second, it would involve a recognition that locational activities are not only economizing agents but may also bear sentiments which can significantly influence the locational process.<sup>3</sup>

A test case for this twofold hypothesis is afforded by certain features of land use in central Boston. In common with many of the older American cities Boston has inherited from the past certain spatial patterns and landmarks which have had a remarkable persistence and even recuperative power despite challenges from other more economic land uses. The persistence of these spatial patterns can only be understood in terms of the group values that they have come to symbolize. We shall describe three types of such patterns: first, an in-town upper class residential neighborhood known as Beacon Hill; second, certain "sacred sites," notably the

<sup>1</sup> See Everett C. Hughes, "The Ecological Aspect of Institutions," *American Sociological Review*, 1:180-9, April, 1936.

<sup>2</sup> This assumption of a correspondence between the maximum utility of a private association and that of the community may be questioned within the very framework of marginal utility analysis. See particularly A. C. Pigou, *The Economics of Welfare*. Second Edition, London: 1924, Part II, ch. 8. For a clear presentation of the typical position see Robert Murray Haig, "Towards an Understanding of the Metropolis—the Assignment of Activities to Areas in Urban Regions," *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 40:402-34, May, 1926.

<sup>3</sup> Georg Simmel, "Der Raum und die räumlichen Ordnungen der Gesellschaft," *Soziologie*. Munich: 1923, pp. 518-22; *cf.* Hughes, *op. cit.*

# Intersystem Congruence vs. Economic Determinism In Firey's Analysis of Boston Neighborhoods

## •Beacon Hill



## •Boston Common



## •The North End



*-emphasis on the symbolic and sentimental  
vs. solely economic functions of space*

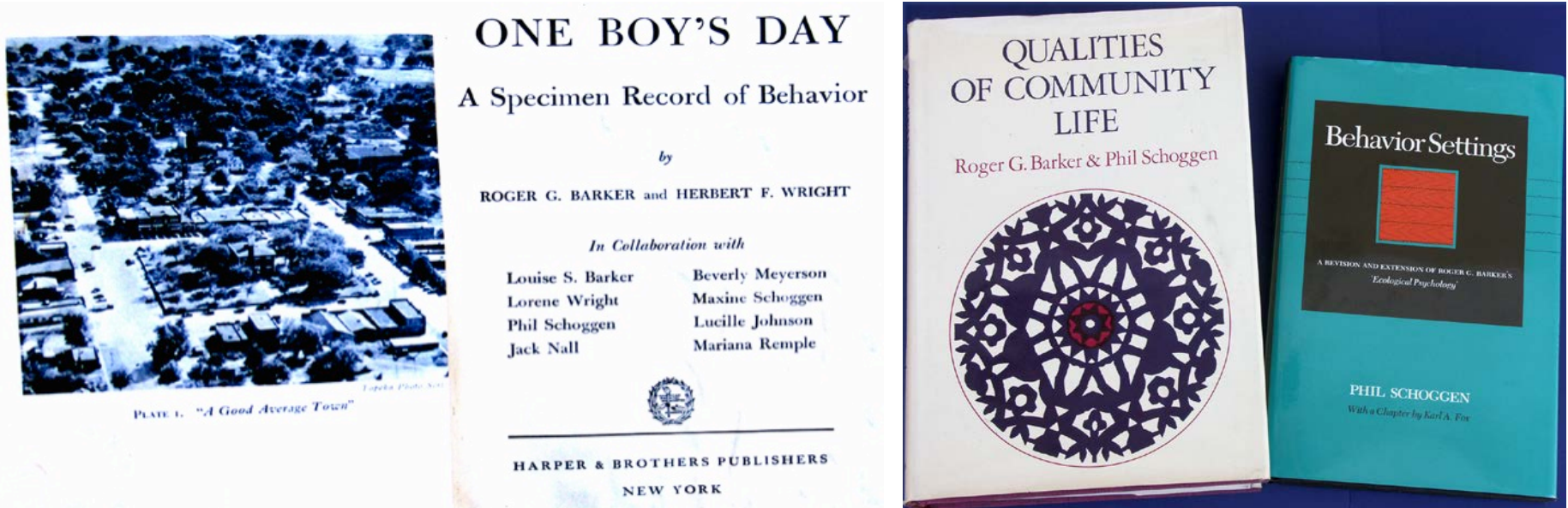


# The Power of Environmental Symbolism





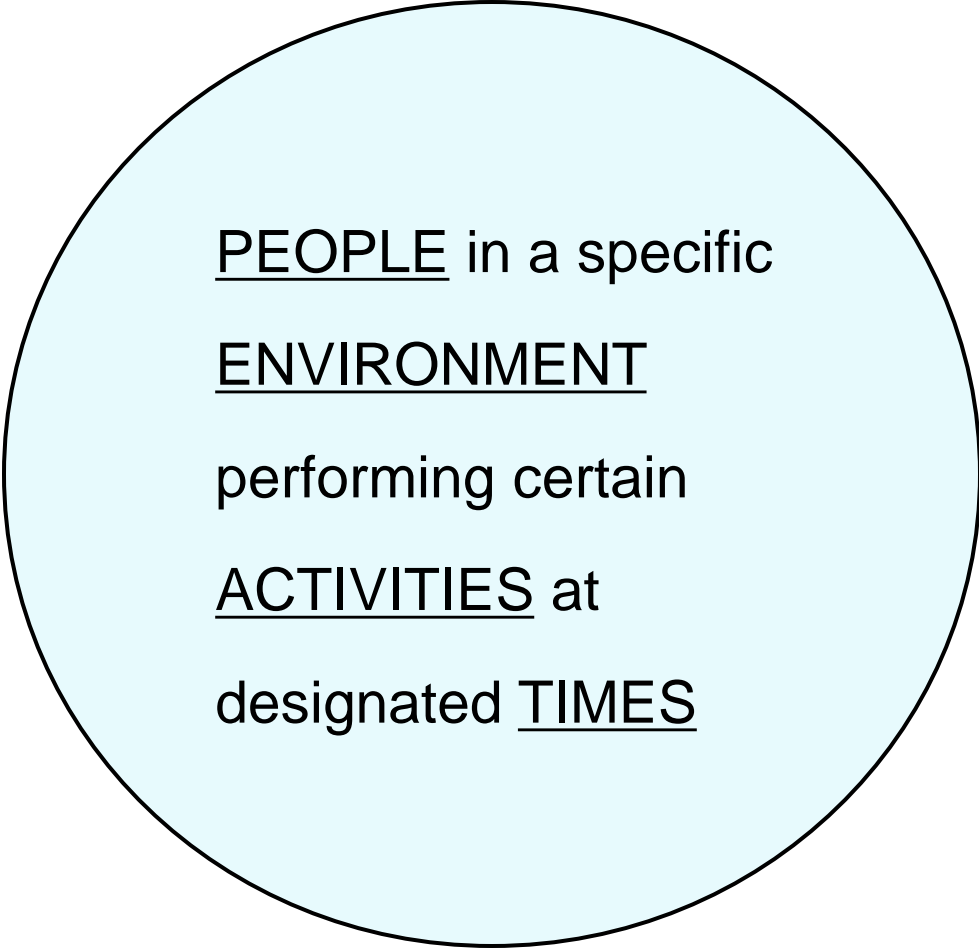
# Barker's Conceptualization of Behavior Settings as the *Foreign Hull* of the Life Space



*Roger Barker was a student of Kurt Lewin in the Group Dynamics Laboratory at MIT. Barker viewed Lewin's conceptualization of the perceived environment (the "life space") as an incomplete representation of people-environment relations as it neglected the influence of objective, non-perceived aspects of environments on behavior and well-being. Barker's theory of behavior settings offered an objectivist alternative to Lewin's subjectivist representation of the environment.*

# Behavior Setting

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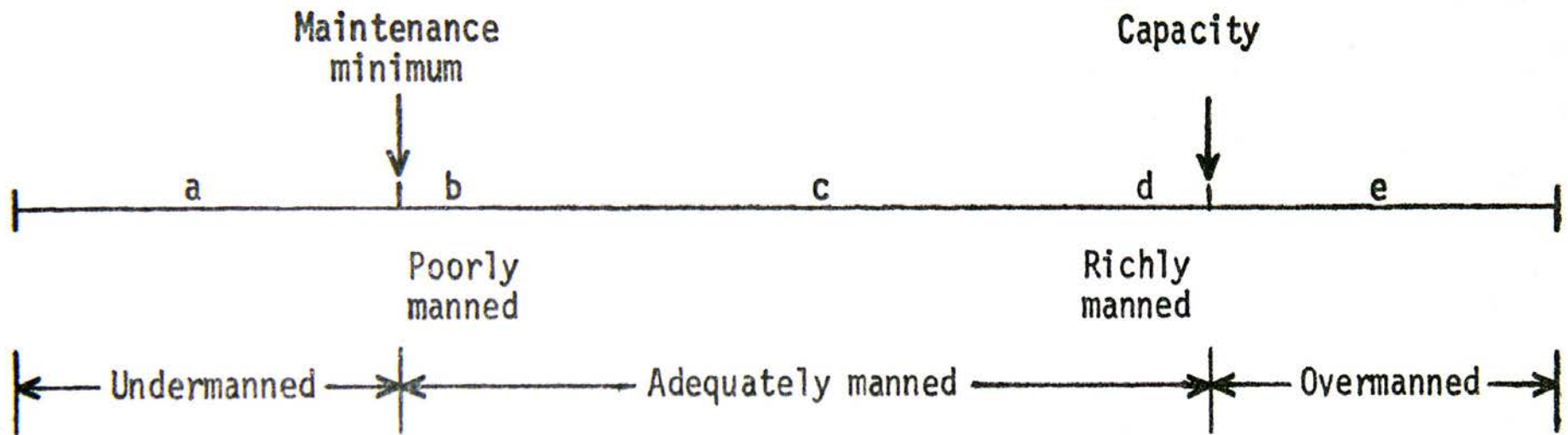


PEOPLE in a specific  
ENVIRONMENT  
performing certain  
ACTIVITIES at  
designated TIMES

*...an eco-behavioral system (Barker, 1968)*



# Continuum from Under- to Over-Staffing in Behavior Settings

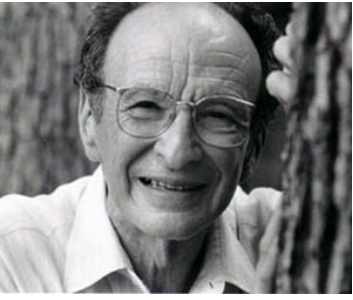


(Wicker, 1973)

# High School Students' Participation in Extra-Curricular Activities

<i>Participation measure</i>	<i>Small-school average</i>	<i>Large-school average</i>
Extracurricular settings entered	19.4	18.4
Number of different kinds of settings entered	6.5	5.4
Number of settings in which respondents had responsible positions	8.7	3.5
Number of settings in which respondents had central positions	3.6	0.6
Number of different kinds of settings in which respondents had responsible positions	3.7	1.6

(Barker, 1968)



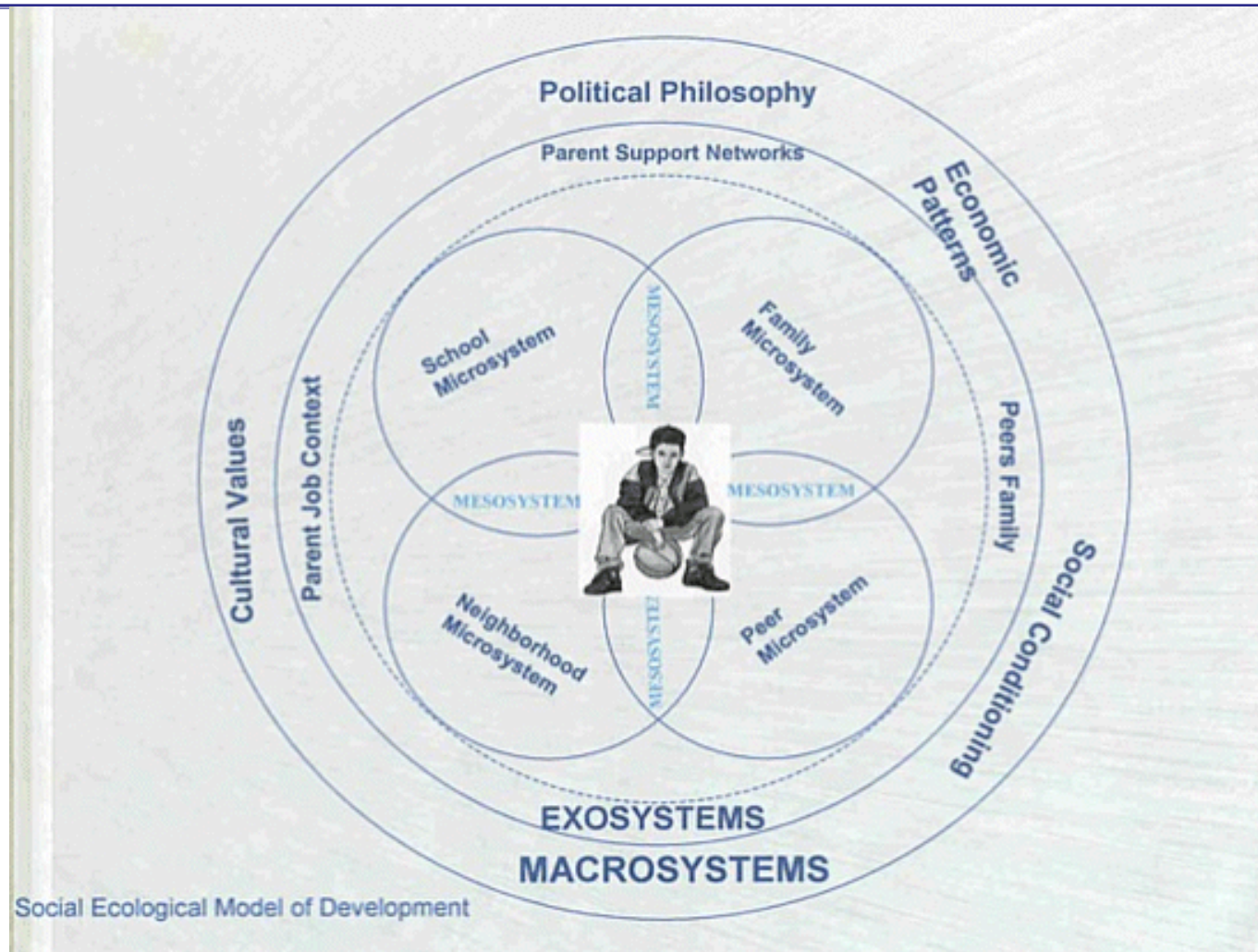
# Bronfenbrenner's Ecological Contexts of Development

*Microsystem*

*Mesosystem*

*Exosystem*

*Macrosystem*



# Real-Real and Real-Virtual Mesosystems

*{r-r} units - span two or more real settings*

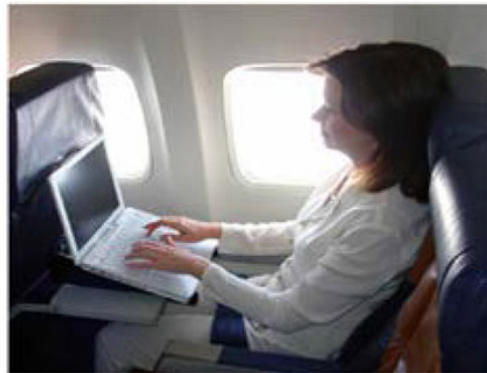


*Author's Childhood Home in Miami*



*Author's Elementary School in Miami*

*{r-v} units - encompass one or more real settings  
and at least one virtual environment*



*Checking Social Media from an Airplane*

(Stokols, 2018)



# Barton's Map of the Settlement as an Ecosystem in its Context

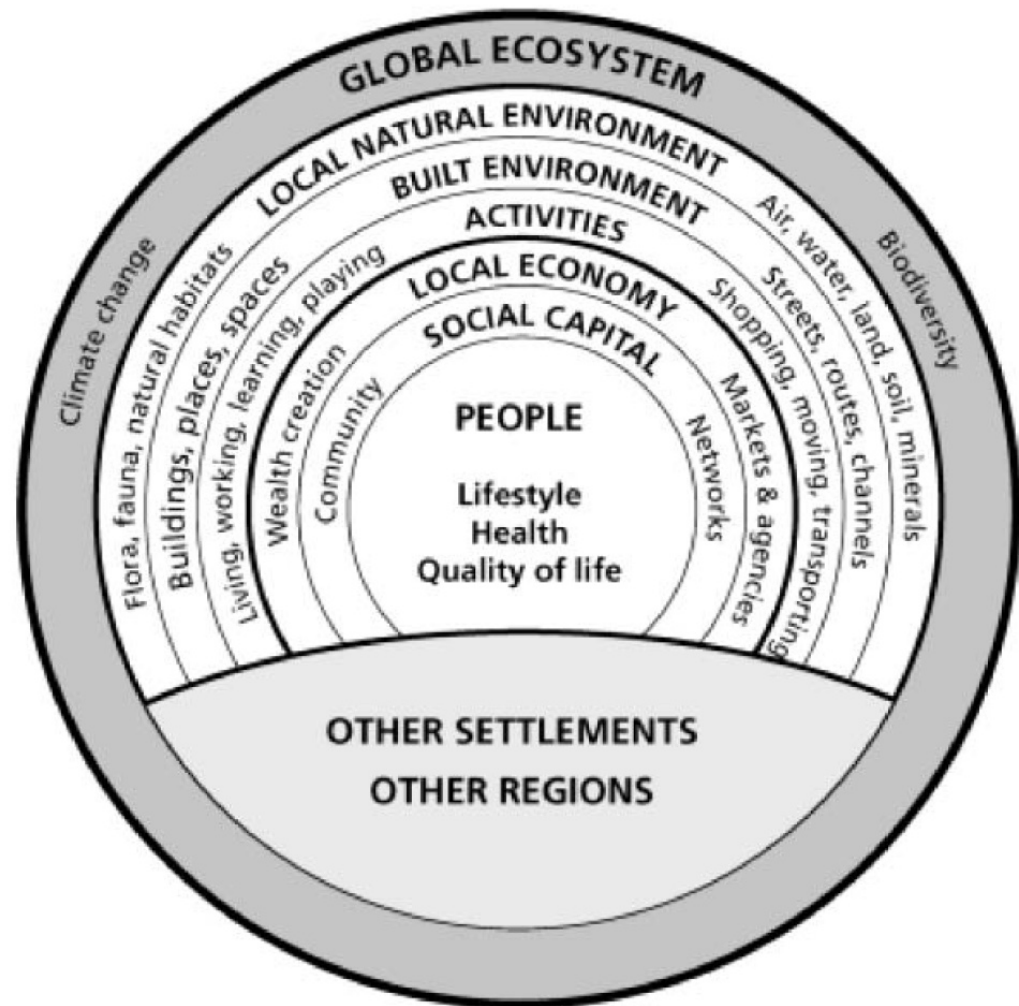


Figure 3. A conceptual model of the settlement as ecosystem, in its context. The settlement ecosystem health map.

# Expansion of social-ecological systems science

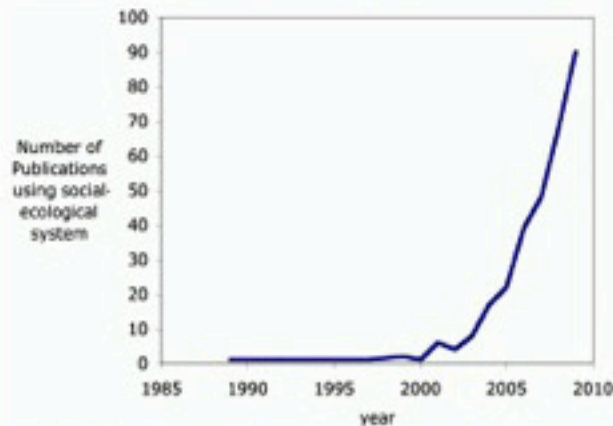
2010 APRIL 16

by Garry Peterson

tags: bibliometrics, Carl Folke, Fikret Berkes, ISI, Marty Anderies, Per Olsson, social-ecological systems, Steve Carpenter

The concept of social-ecological systems has been gaining increased interest in science. Below is a graph showing papers whose topic includes social-ecological systems. During the 1990s there were a few publications and then a rapid rise during the 2000s. Two influential books articulated social-ecological ideas:

- ★ Linking social and ecological systems: Practices and Social Mechanisms for Building Resilience in 2000 and
- ★ Navigating social-ecological systems: building resilience for complexity and change in 2003 .



*Papers from ISI - social-ecological or social ecological and Systems*

<http://rs.resalliance.org/2010/04/16/expansion-of-social-ecological-systems-science/>

## LAUDATO SI'

ON THE CARE OF  
OUR COMMON HOME



POPE FRANCIS



ENCYCLICAL LETTER

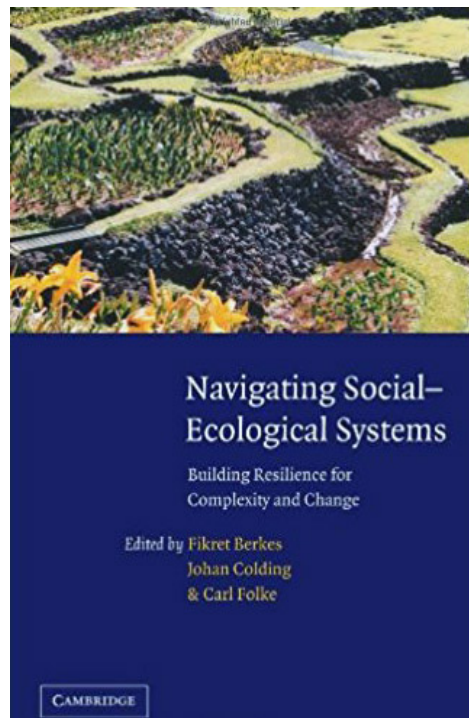
ENCYCLICAL LETTER  
ON THE ENVIRONMENT  
BY POPE FRANCIS, 2015

(see section 137 on social ecology)

[http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco\\_20150524\\_enciclica-laudato-si.html](http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20150524_enciclica-laudato-si.html)

# *Stockholm, Frankfurt, and Vienna Schools of Social Ecology*

## *Global, Regional, and Societal-Level Analyses of Social-Ecological Systems, Strongly Influenced by Sustainability Concerns*



(2003)

Egon Becker and Thomas Jahn

### **Societal Relations to Nature**

**Outline of a Critical Theory in the ecological crisis**

(2005)

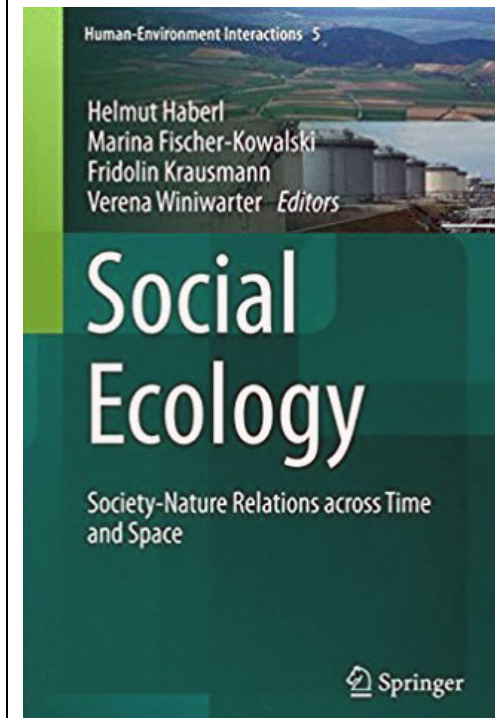


Article

### **Social Ecology as Critical, Transdisciplinary Science—Conceptualizing, Analyzing and Shaping Societal Relations to Nature**

Diana Hummel <sup>1,2</sup>, Thomas Jahn <sup>1,2,\*</sup>, Florian Keil <sup>3</sup>, Stefan Liehr <sup>1,2</sup> and Immanuel Stieß <sup>1</sup>

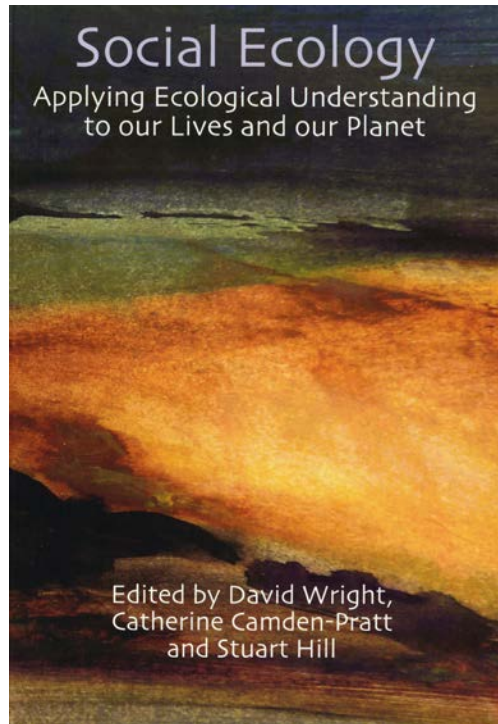
(2017)



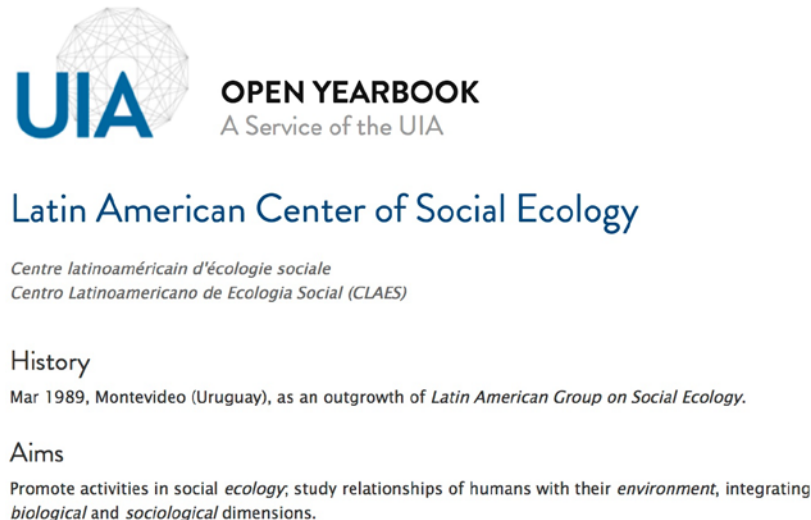
(2016)



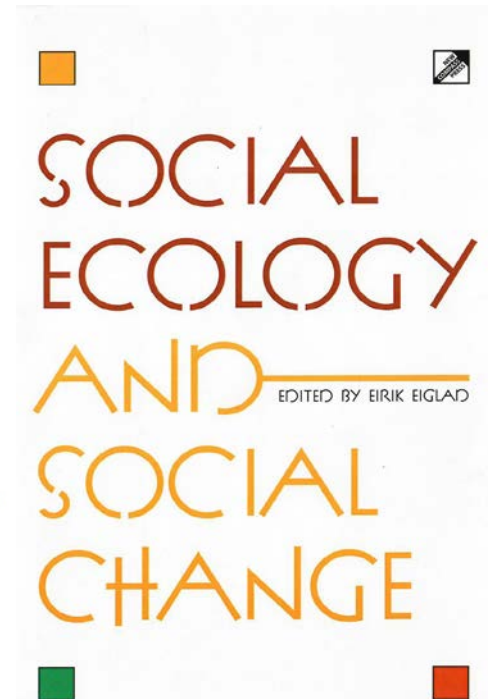
# Social Ecology in Australia, Latin America, and Beyond



(University of Western Sydney,  
2011)



(Friends of the Earth International,  
Montivideo, 2018)



(Institute of Social Ecology,  
Vermont, 2015)

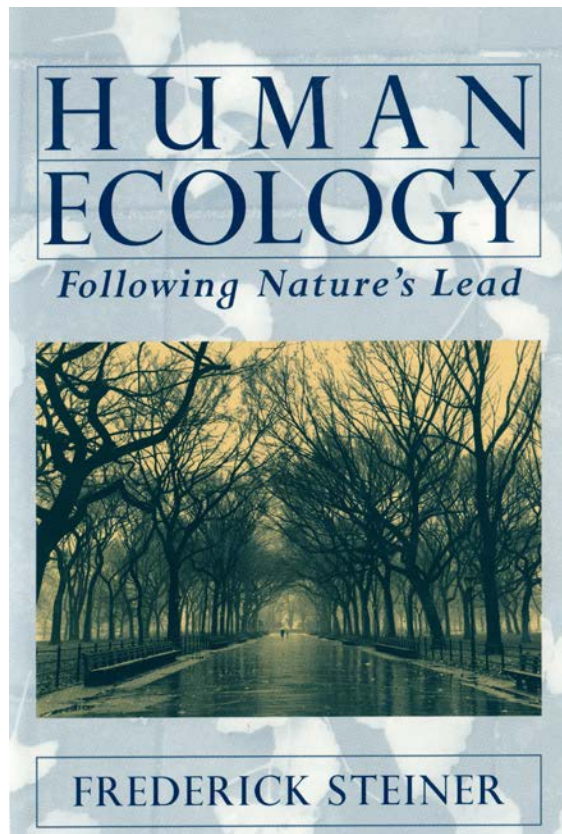




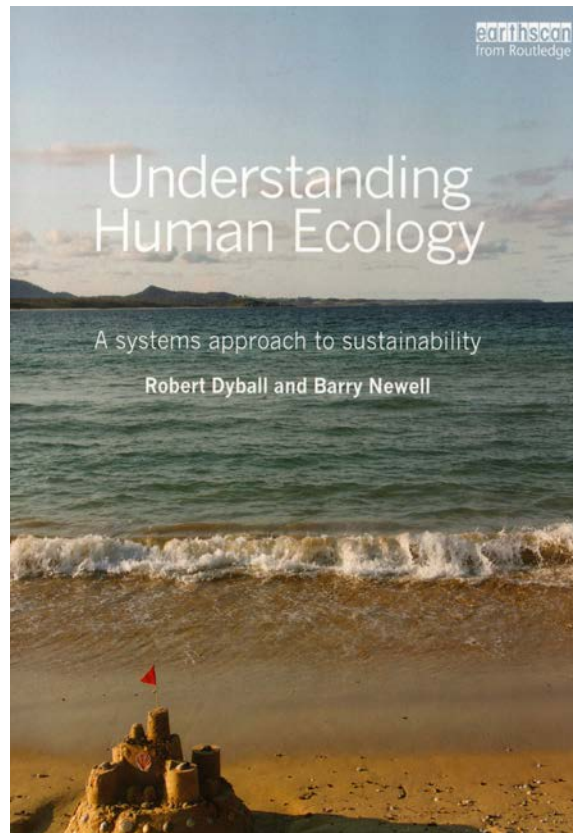
# Society for Human Ecology

## Human Ecology Programs and Institutions

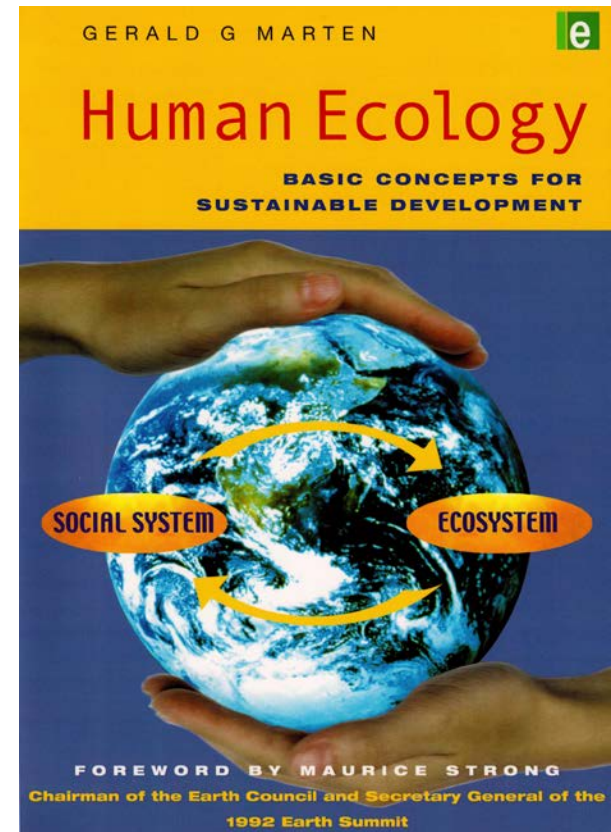
<https://societyforhumanecology.org/human-ecology-programs-and-institutions/>



(2002)



(2015)



(2001)

# Epistemic Challenges for a Social Ecology of the Anthropocene

---

- *Conceptualizing and delimiting boundaries of social-ecological systems (SES)*
- *Identifying and countering pressures toward unsustainability at local, regional, societal, and global levels*
- *Developing new SES typologies that account for cyber influences on place-based settings and people-environment transactions*

# Delimiting Social-Ecological System Boundaries

---

“A *social-ecological system* consists of a bio-geo-physical unit and its associated social actors and institutions. Social-ecological systems are complex and adaptive and delimited by spatial or functional boundaries surrounding particular ecosystems and their problem context.”

(Glaser et al., 2008, Glaser, 2012)

---

## **Social-ecological systems as epistemic objects**

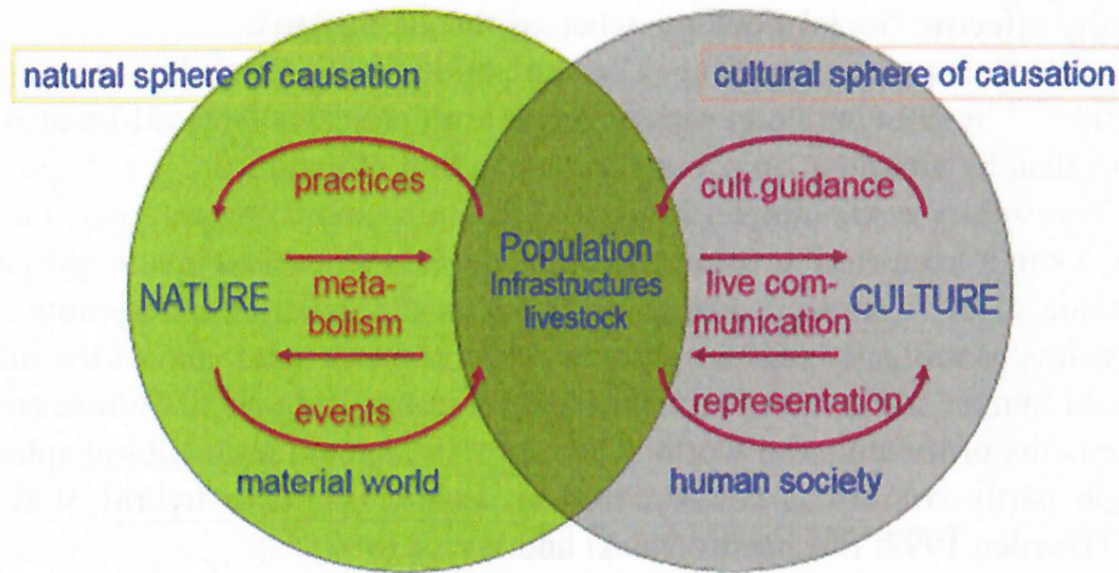
Egon Becker

Institute for Social-Ecological Research (ISOE), Frankfurt/Main

“The dynamics of social-ecological systems (SES) depend strongly on their boundary conditions and their problem context...Here it is crucial whether the boundary is created and maintained by internal system activities, or is just a demarcation made for the convenience of analysis. In any case, the definition of a spatial or functional boundary introduces empirical conditions into formal systems analysis.’

(Becker, 2012)

# Social-Ecological Model of Society-Nature Interaction

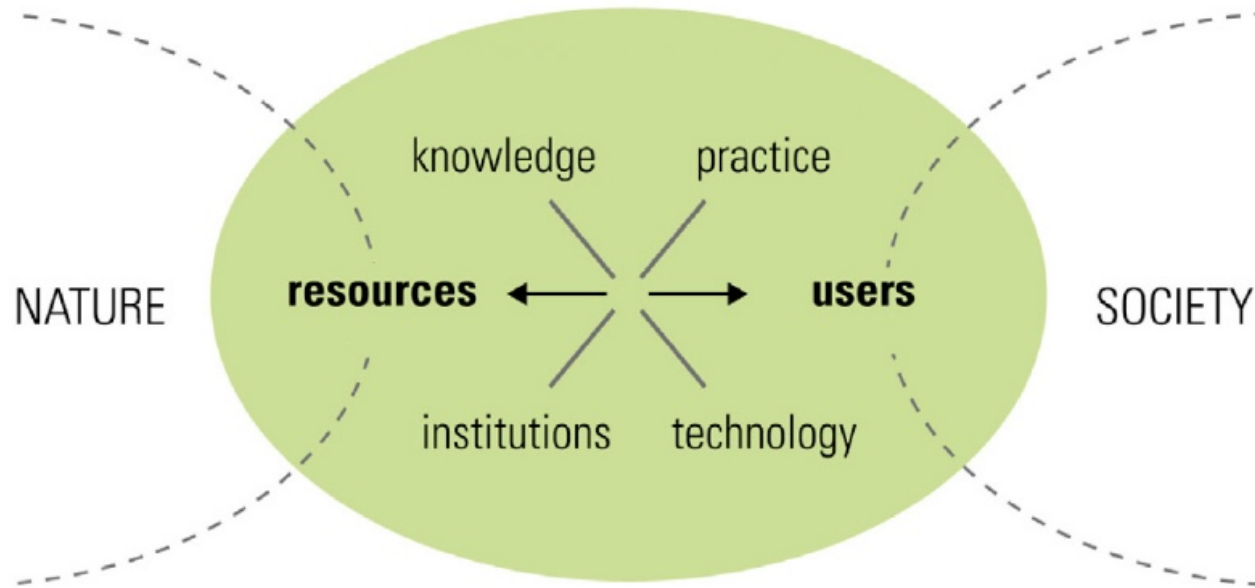


**Fig. 1.3** The conceptual model of society-nature interaction developed by the Vienna Social Ecology School. (Elaborated after Fischer-Kowalski and Haberl 2007, p. 13; Fischer-Kowalski and Weisz 1999)

(from Haberl et al., 2016, p.21)



# Social-Ecological Systems as Provisioning Systems



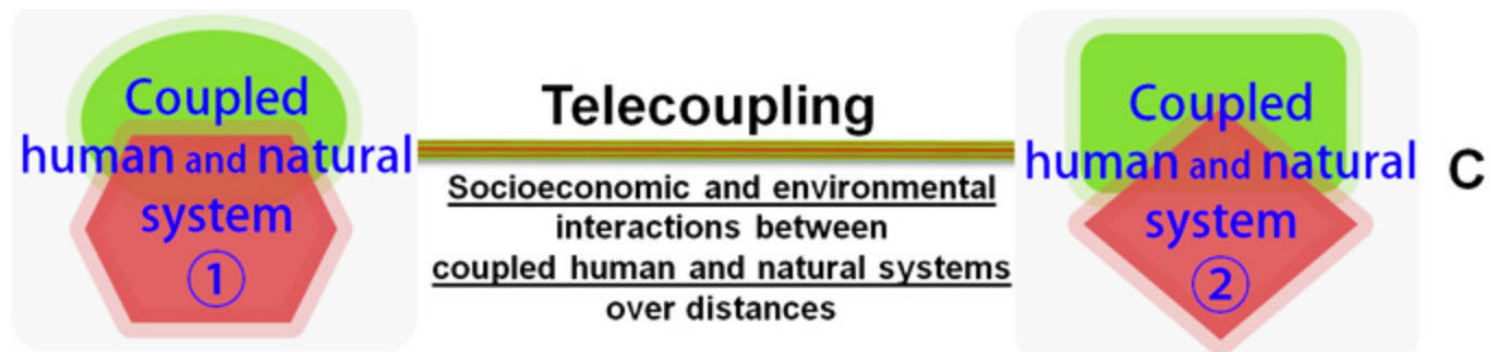
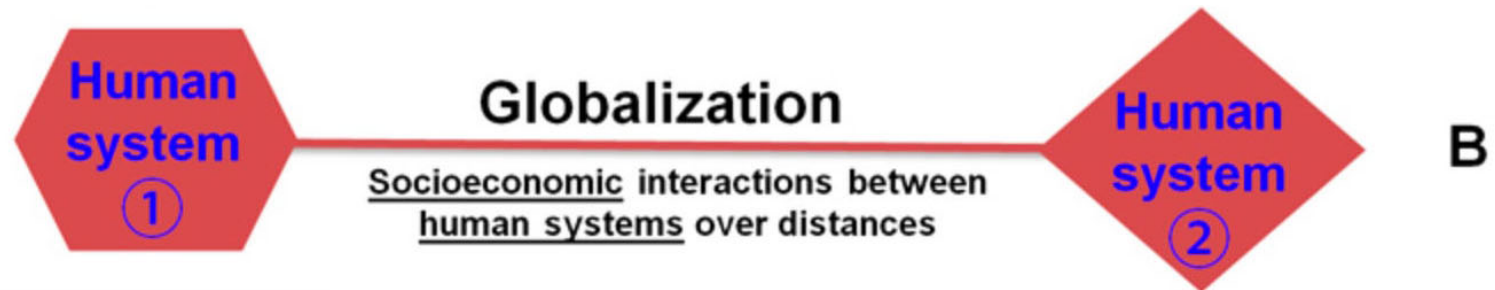
(Hummel, Jahn, Keil, Liehr, & StieB, 2017 p.10)

*The Anthropocene has made the task of delimiting social-ecological system boundaries more complex owing to new realities of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century:*

1. Environmental interactions among remote natural systems (Liu et al, 2015)
1. The rise of the cybersphere and the transition from industrial to digital regimes (Stokols, 2018)
1. Telecoupling between remote societal-nature systems; transboundary effects on public health and ecological footprints through atmospheric and marine pollution, international trade (Liu et al, 2015, Qiang et al., 2017, Seto, 2015)

# Definitions of Teleconnections, Globalization, and Telecoupling

*Proposed by Liu et al., Ecology and Society (2013)*



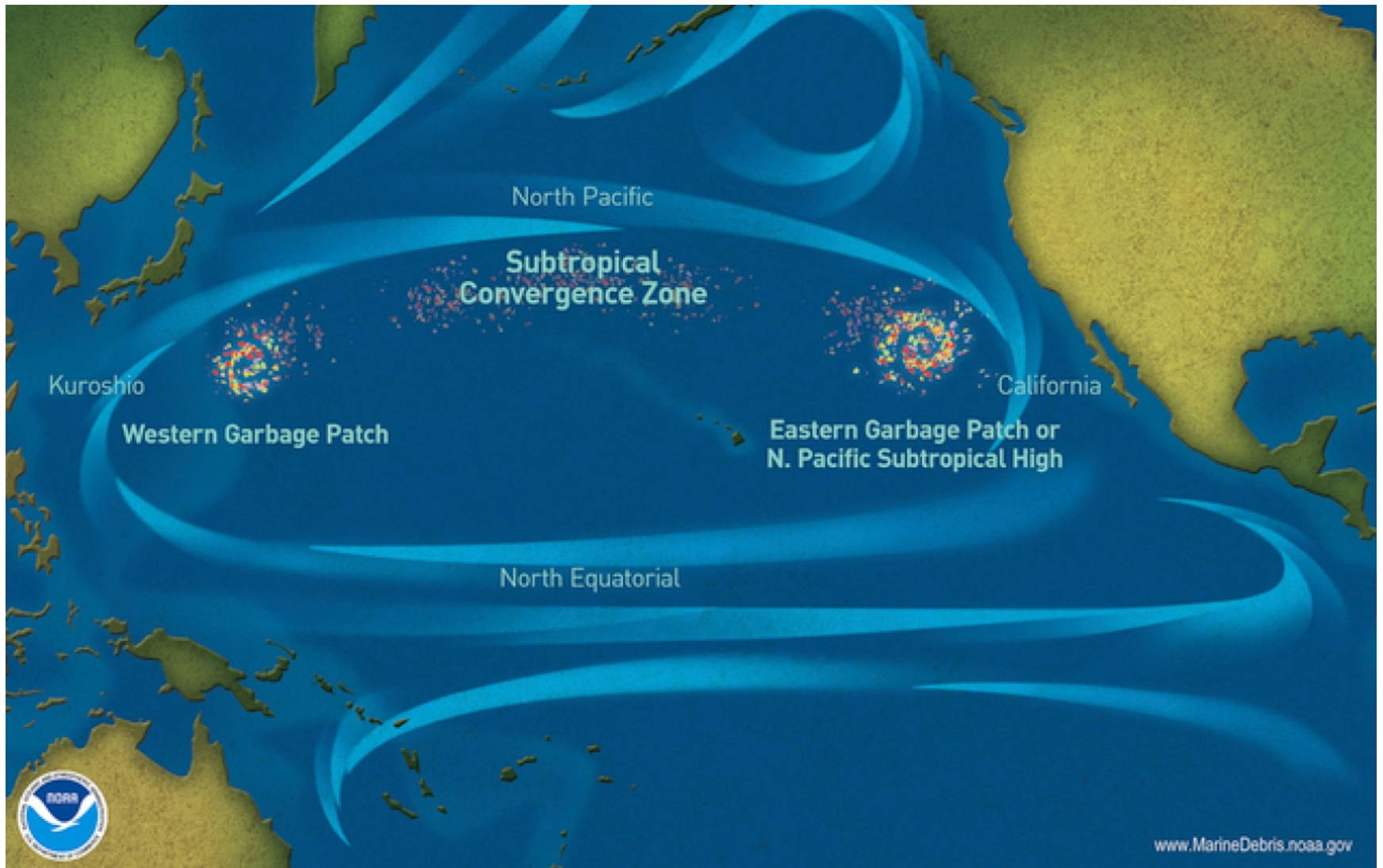


# Crystal Cove State Park, Newport Coast, California





# Pacific Ocean Trash Vortex





*Article*

# **Challenges for Social-Ecological Transformations: Contributions from Social and Political Ecology**

Christoph Görg <sup>1,\*</sup>, Ulrich Brand <sup>2</sup>, Helmut Haberl <sup>1</sup>, Diana Hummel <sup>3</sup>, Thomas Jahn <sup>3</sup> and Stefan Liehr <sup>3</sup>

---

Transformational pressures toward unsustainability vs. sustainability due to:

1. Regressive, anti-science political ideologies (including climate change denial)
2. Hegemonic economic systems that privilege surplus vs. use value at the expense of natural capital and sustainability (e.g., extractivism and neo-extractivism)
3. Deviation-amplifying earth system cycles - positive feedback loops that accelerate adverse global environmental changes



# Principles of Contextual Analysis

---

A key idea in contextual research is the concept of *embeddedness*. A particular phenomenon is thought to be embedded in (and influenced by) a surrounding set of events.

The first task of contextual research is to identify the *target problem* to be examined.

The next step is to identify a set of situational or *contextual variables* that are thought to exert an important influence on the form and occurrence of the target problem.

# Enhancing Parsimony and Power in Ecological Research

---

- *Identify high-leverage variables, or those that exert greatest influence on behavior and health across multiple levels of analysis*
- *Target problems that are most prevalent and severe in a community, especially among vulnerable sub-groups of the population.*

# Effective Context

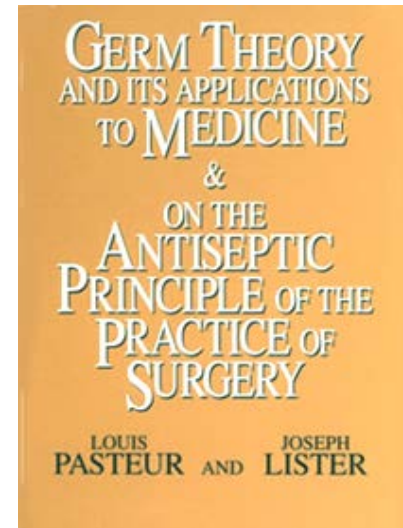
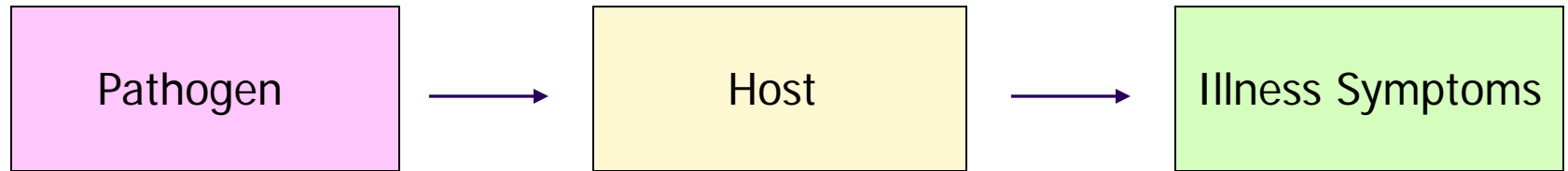
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*...situational factors that are most crucial for understanding the form and occurrence of the target problem*

(Stokols, 1987)



# Germ Theory of Infectious Disease



(1878)

# Psychological Stress

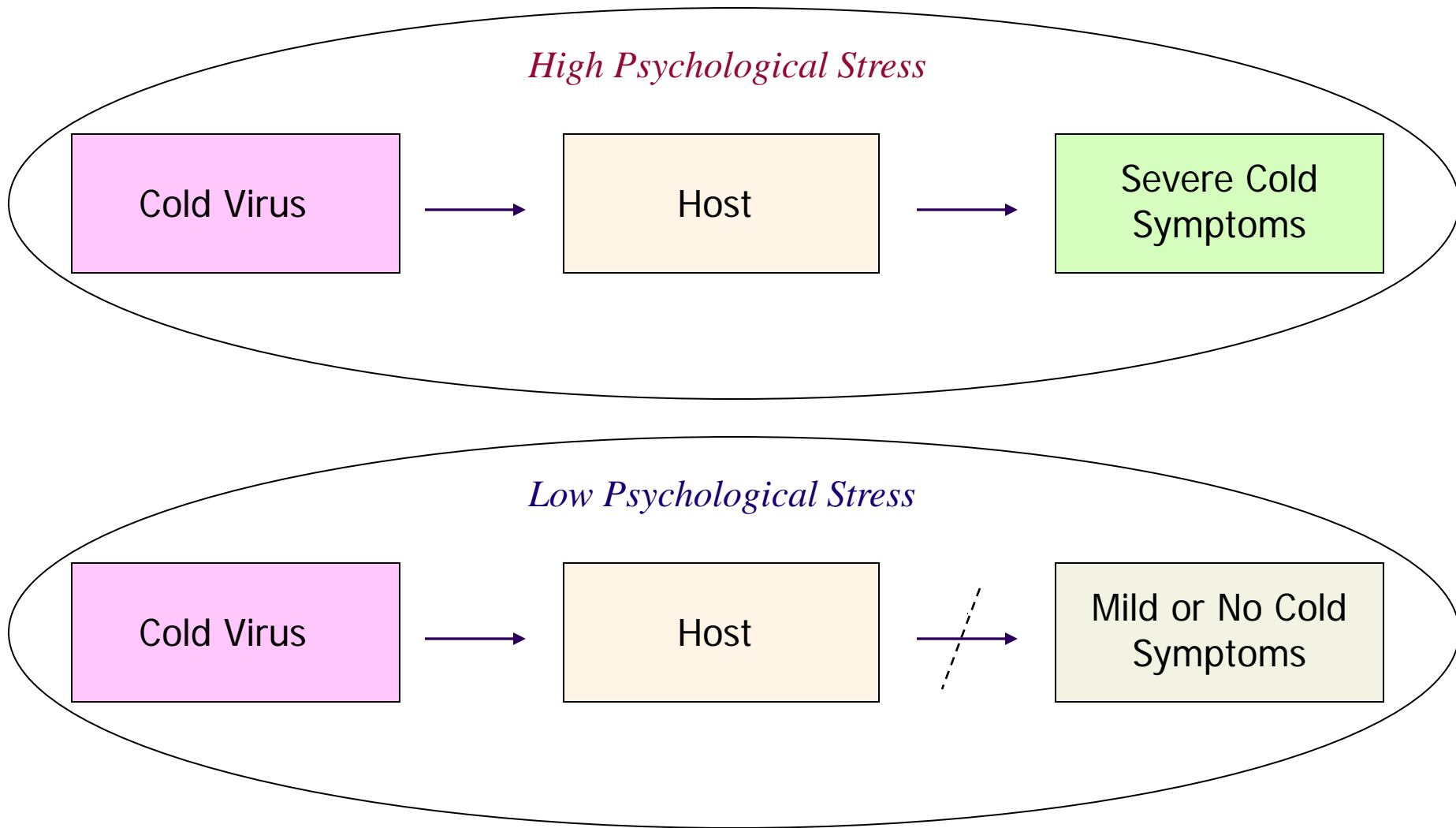
Perceived *environmental demands*

exceed the individual's

Perceived *capacity to cope with those demands*

(Lazarus, 1966)

# Biopsychosocial Model of Susceptibility to Colds



(Cohen, Tyrell, & Smith, 1991)

# Contextual Theory

---

*...one that specifies and explains  
a pattern of cross-situational  
variation in the relationships  
between a specified set of  
variables*

(Stokols, 1987)



# Paradigms for Understanding Health and Illness

---

- Biomedical Model
- Biopsychosocial Model
- Social Ecological Model

# The Ecology of Obesity



# Modeling the Effective Context of a Target Problem

---

- Spatial, sociocultural, temporal, and virtual SCOPE
- Individual or Aggregate FOCUS
- Objectivist or Subjectivist PERSPECTIVE
- Partitive or Composite STRUCTURE

*(Stokols, 2018, Chapter 4)*

# Spatial Scope

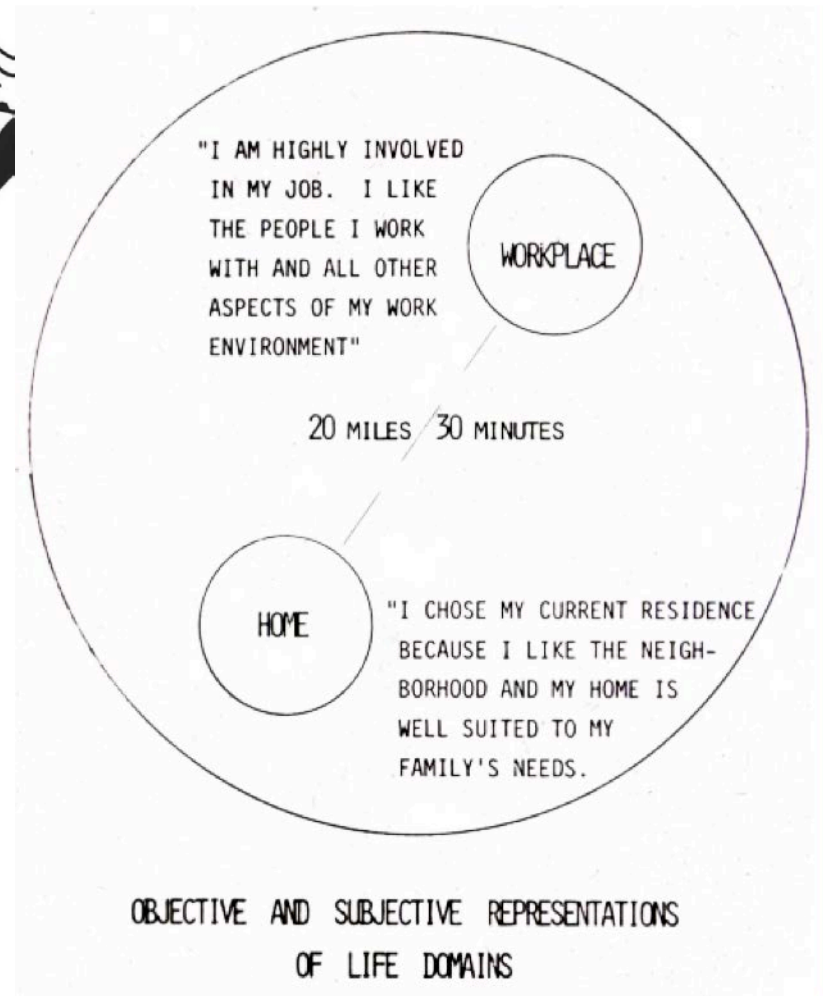
- *Spatial scope of an analysis* – increases to the extent that it represents places, processes, and events occurring within a broad rather than narrow region of the individual's or group's geographical environment



*Settings Within an Individual's Daily Activity System (Lenntorp, 1978)*



# Mapping Objective and Subjective Facets of Commuting Between Home and Work



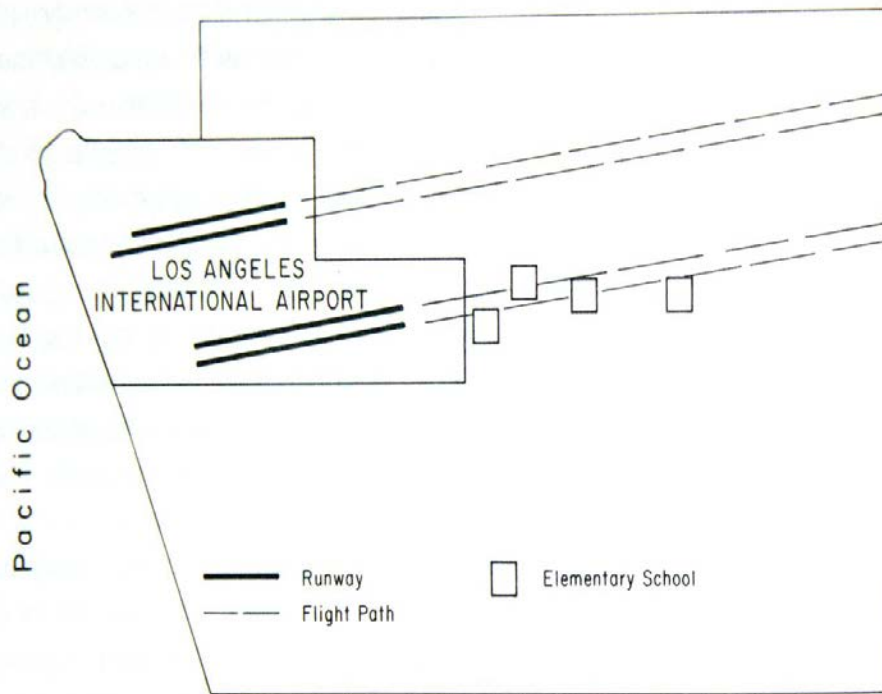
(Stokols, Novaco, Stokols, & Campbell, 1978)

# Airplane Viewed From Elementary School in the Flight Path of LAX Airport

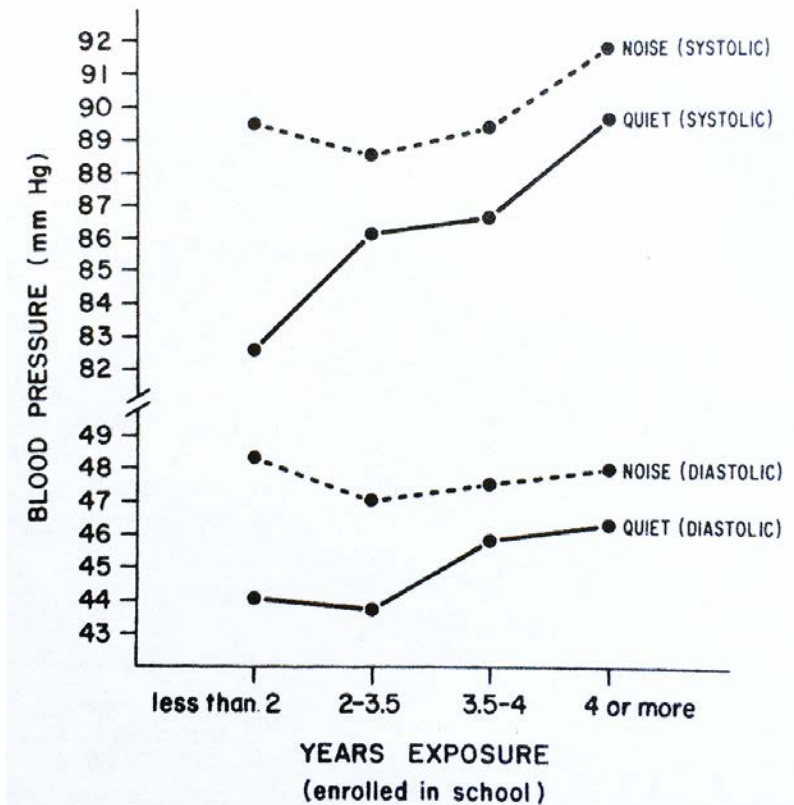


*(Cohen, Evans, Stokols, & Krantz, 1986)*

# Effects of Aircraft Noise on Elementary School Children in LA



**Figure 1.** Location of noise-impacted elementary schools in relation to Los Angeles International Airport.



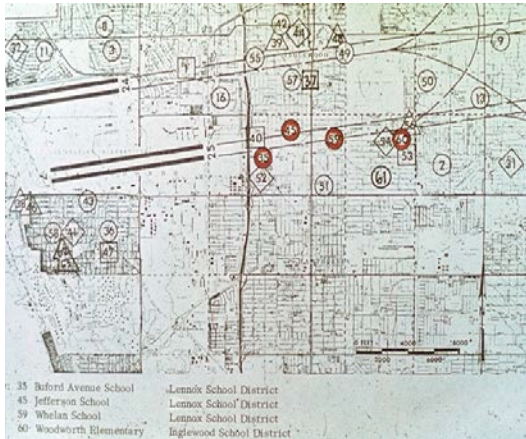
(Cohen, Evans, Stokols, & Krantz, 1986)



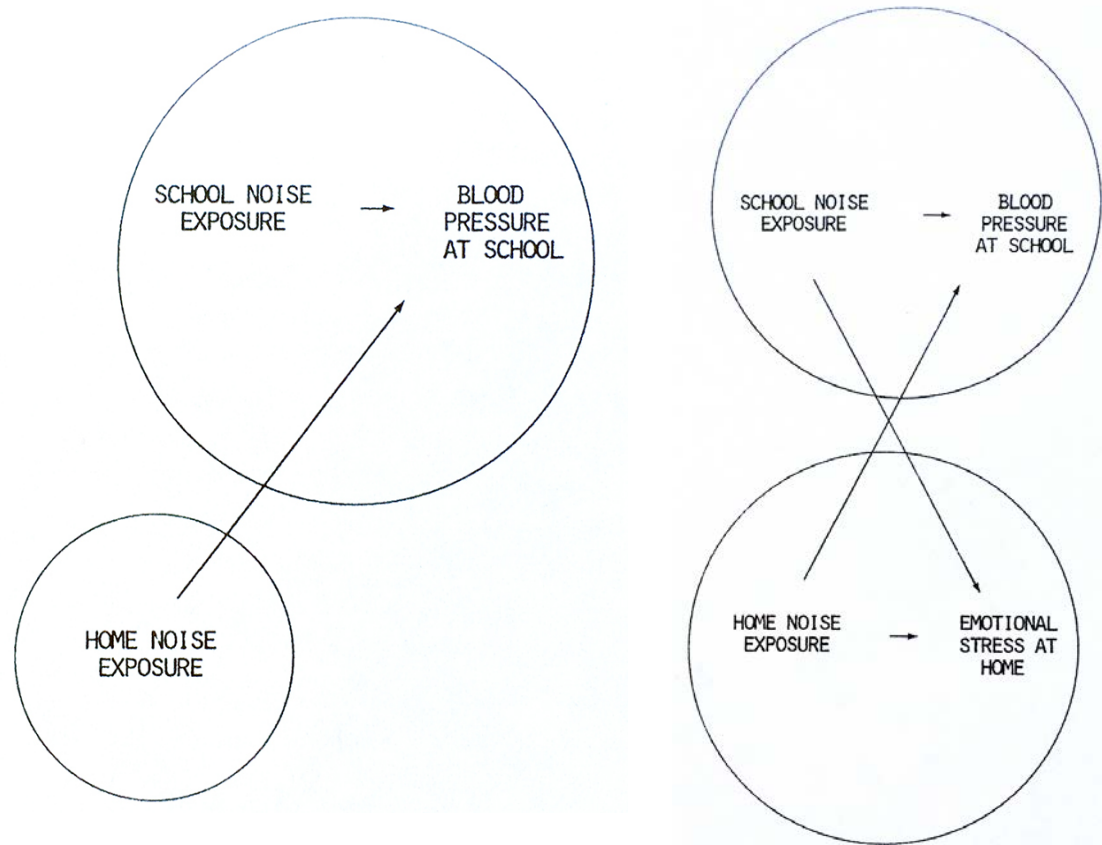
# Expanding the Spatial Scope of Research on Airplane Noise at School and Children's Blood Pressure



*View of Aircraft from  
Elementary School Playground*



*Location of Four Elementary  
Schools in the Flight Path of Los  
Angeles International Airport*



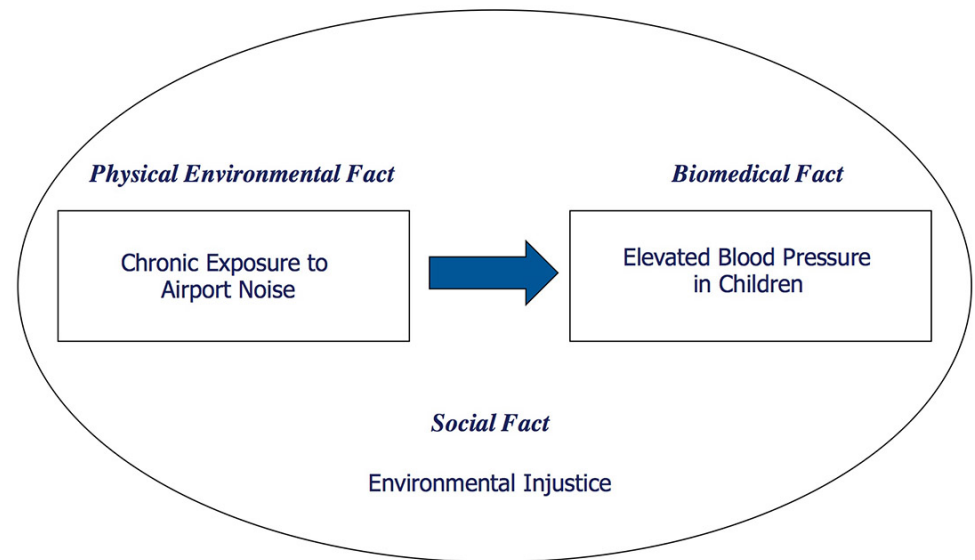
*Alternative Research Designs in Which Residential Noise Exposure is Added as a Contextual Moderator of the Relationship Between School Noise and Children's Blood Pressure*

*(Cohen, Evans, Stokols, & Krantz, 1986)*



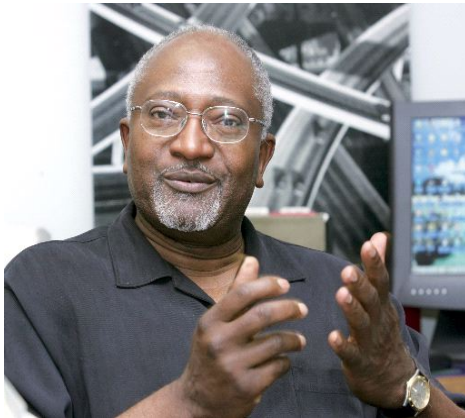
# Sociocultural Scope

- *Sociocultural scope of an analysis* – increases to the extent that it describes behaviorally relevant dimensions of an individual's or group's sociocultural environment

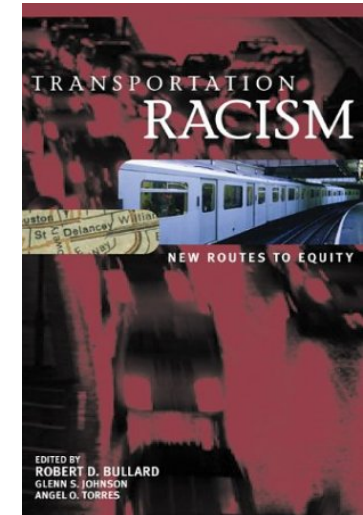
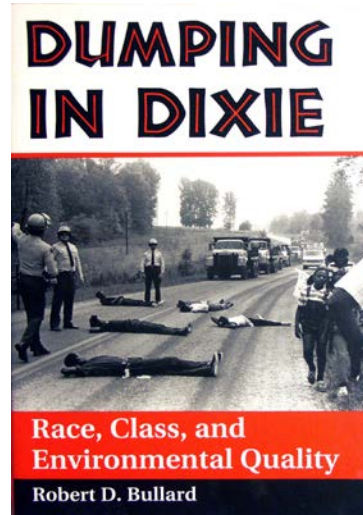


*Environmental Injustice--a contextual factor that may help account for the uneven spatial distribution of airport noise and children's blood pressure in urban areas*

# Research on Environmental Racism



*Professor Robert Bullard  
Texas Southern University*



Neighborhood	Location	Incinerator	Landfill	Target Area	Ethnicity of Neighborhood
Fourth Ward	Southwest	1	1	Yes	Black
Cottage Grove	Northwest	1	-	Yes	Black
Kashmere Gardens	Northeast	2	-	Yes	Black
Sunnyside	Southeast	1	2	Yes	Black
Navigation	Southeast	1	-	Yes	Hispanic
Larchmont	Southwest	1	-	No	White
Carverdale	Northwest	1	-	Yes	Black
Trinity Gardens	Northeast	-	1	Yes	Black
Acres Homes	Northwest	-	1	Yes	Black

*City of Houston Garbage Incinerators and Municipal Landfills*

# Scientific and Social Validity

---

## Scientific

*Methodological  
rigor and theoretical  
adequacy of the  
research or  
intervention*

## Social

*Societal value  
and practical  
significance of  
the research or  
intervention*

# Cervical Cancer Prevention

## *The Importance of Integrating Biomedical Research With Behavioral and Social Science*



### HPV Vaccine Information For Young Women



There is now a vaccine that prevents the types of genital human papillomavirus (HPV) that cause most cases of cervical cancer and genital warts. The vaccine, Gardasil®, is given in three shots over six-months. The vaccine is routinely recommended for 11 and 12 year old girls. It is also recommended for girls and women age 13 through 26 who have not yet been vaccinated or completed the vaccine series.



- [Why the HPV vaccine is important](#)
- [Who should get the HPV vaccine](#)
- [Effectiveness of the HPV vaccine](#)
- [Safety of the HPV vaccine](#)
- [Cost and paying for the HPV vaccine](#)
- [What vaccinated girls/women need to know](#)
- [Other ways to prevent HPV and Cervical Cancer](#)



Getty Images

### HEALTH

## Why Are HPV Vaccine Rates So Low?

It's been hailed as one of the most effective ways to prevent cervical cancer, but millions of young women have yet to get immunized.

By [Karen Springen](#) | Newsweek Web Exclusive  
Feb 25, 2008 | Updated: 6:02 p.m. ET Feb 25, 2008



# Temporal Scope

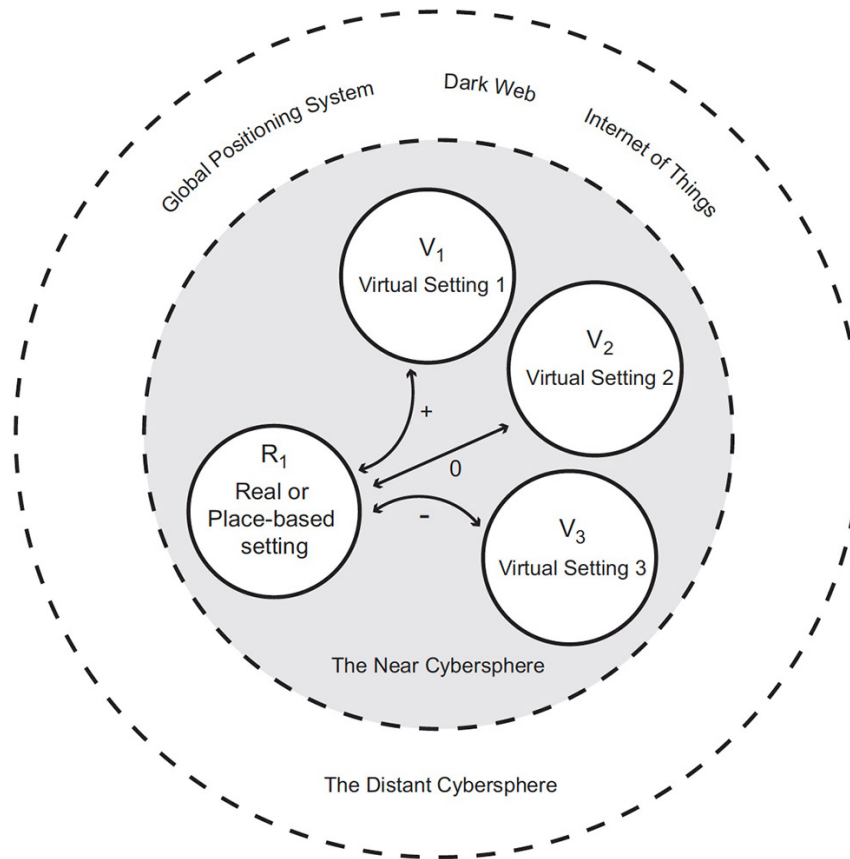
- *Temporal scope of an analysis* – increases to the extent that it represents places, processes, and events within an extended rather than narrow time frame



*Example: Energy Star ratings of computers denote their power use efficiency, but approximately 90% of a laptop's environmental impact occurs during its manufacture and disposal, not use (Goleman, 2009). Ecological accounting of a laptop's environmental impacts can be broadened temporally by incorporating lifecycle analyses of products into Energy Star rating systems.*

# Virtual Scope

- The *virtual scope* of an analysis increases to the extent that it includes cyber as well as sociophysical influences on a particular phenomenon.



*Thank you!*