

APPENDIX 2 - DEFINITIONS

To give a clear overview of the subjects covered in this paper, some definitions and boundaries need to be set. The review is based on the following definitions and descriptions:

Anthropocene

“Relating or referring to the most recent period in the earth's history, when human activities have a very important effect on the earth's environment and climate. The Anthropocene Epoch is an unofficial unit of geologic time” (Cambridge Dictionary, 2021). For more elaboration on discussions around the start of this epoch, see Maslin & Lewis (2015).

Anthropocentrism

A human-centered ontology, leading to actions or attitudes that prioritize human interests over the interests of non-human entities like the environment or other species. (Kopnina et al. 2018).

Civilization/civilized

The terms “civilization” or “civilized” can be and have been defined and interpreted in many ways. For this paper we use the Cambridge Dictionary definition which describes civilization as *“a human society with its well-developed social organizations or the culture and way of life of a society or country at a particular period in time”* (Cambridge Dictionary 2020). Therefore, the terms “civilization” or “civilized” are used here in the context of the effects the DSP of a civilization has on a social, economic and ecological level, not in a cultural, geographical or historical context.

Commodification

As defined by Heynen, McCarthy, Prudham et al. 2007 (p.103) as *“the creation of an economic good, through the application of mechanisms to appropriate and standardize a class of goods or services, enabling them to be sold at a price determined through market exchange”*.

Ecocentrism

Non-human centered ontology that assigns moral value to non-human species and the environment. Ecocentrism *“recognize the welfare of all nonhuman forms”* (Kopnina et al. 2018 pp. 113).

Environmentalism

This term is defined as *“an interest in or the study of the environment, in order to protect it from damage by human activities”*, expressed as *“advocacy of the preservation, restoration, or improvement of the natural environment”* (Cambridge Dictionary 2020; Meriam-Webster 2020).

Ecological identity

Ecological identity, also called ecological self or environmental identity, describes *“the extent and ways by which an individual views himself or herself as being a part of an integrated social and biophysical (i.e., ecological) system characterized by mutually beneficial processes and nested webs of relationships.”* (Walton and Jones 2018:666; Hayes-Conroy and Vanderbeck 2005).

Industrialized countries

The terms “industrialized” or “developed” countries as used in this paper will encompass the countries of North-America, Western-Europe, Australia and some highly technologically developed Asian and Middle Eastern countries like Japan and Qatar, based on the list of countries with a “very high human development” as indicated by the UN (UNDP 2019). These countries are often referred to as “Western”, even though *“Western culture (and its discourse) has been exported through colonization and globalization, Western (and Westernized) worldviews are no longer geographically confined to Europe and its former colonies”* (Zylstra et al. 2014).

Nature

“Nature” can be interpreted in various ways and disciplines. In this paper “nature” and “natural” is applied as meaning the natural environment, as given by the Cambridge dictionary (2020): *“all the animals, plants, rocks, etc. in the world and all the features, forces, and processes that happen or exist independently of people, such as the weather, the sea, mountains, the production of young animals or plants, and growth”*. However, for this paper, ‘independently of people’ does not merely refer to surroundings that are made without human interference, but also includes environments created by human interventions, as virtually no part of our natural world has remained untouched. Also, this paper will show that the concept of what “nature” entails, is not set, but more of a gradient of different rationales and understandings. Nonetheless, it will refer to some form or interpretation of the physical environment.

Ontology

We use the definition from Meriam Webster (2020) “*a particular theory about the nature of being or the kinds of things that have existence*”.

Overconsumption

In this article we refer to consumption as the consumption of natural resources, both direct (e.g. water or oil), or indirect (e.g. using products based on natural resources). Overconsumption is then defined as the consumption of resources above the natural replacement rate, thereby exceeding the carrying capacity of that particular resource. Carrying capacity is an ecological term that describes how many individuals of a certain population can be supported in their environment on a long-term scale (MacArthur and Wilson 1967).

Place identity

A component of self-identity and an emotional attachment to a certain place or local natural resource. Based on a psychological investment over time. Place identity can be positively related to environmentally responsible behaviour (Vaske and Kobrin 2001).

Resources

For this paper we define resources in an ecological sense as “*anything provided by the environment to satisfy the requirements of a living organism e.g. food or living space.*” (Dictionary of Biology 2011). Resources are products that are the result of natural cycles, feedback loops and production processes on both short- and long-term scales, for instance water, vegetation, animals, oil or minerals.

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