



Ecoscience: Population, Resources, Environment

Paul R. Ehrlich , John P. Holdren , Ann H. Ehrlich

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Ecoscience, the successor to 'Population, Resources, and Environment,' is a survey of environmental science. The Ehrlichs have teamed up with John Holdren to produce a text that offers a greatly expanded coverage of all topics in environmental science. It offers extensive information on population, resources, and energy and provides concrete strategies for dealing with the environmental crisis.

This title features a comprehensive introduction to basic ecological principles. It offers an expanded treatment of raw materials; a major section is devoted to energy problems; coverage is given to geophysical and climatological aspects of the environment; and a provocative discussion of the possibilities of social, political, and economic change is also included.

Ecoscience: Population, Resources, Environment Details

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Duncan Noble says

This was a textbook in a course called "Nature, Science and Man" that I took as an elective many years ago while studying engineering. The course and this book probably changed my life. I started off doing engineering, but after a few other adventures, ended up doing environmental consulting for the last 2 decades. I should have known after taking that course and reading this book what my true calling was, but I got distracted. Better late than never!

I'm guessing the book is out of date now, but check out some more recent books and other publications by the authors for an update!

Leah says

I picked up this book because John Holdren, the Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, co-authored this book. There's some really troubling proposals in the book on solutions to the population boom of the 1970s. I was shocked to read some of the Brave New World-esque ideas that were mentioned. Of the chapter I read, it reminded me of every dystopic novel I'm familiar with.

Interestingly, Holdren was addressed by the Senate on the controversial ideas in the book and he officially distanced himself from the idea that the government should have a role in population control. Furthermore he announced that he never advocated forced abortions. (Another suggestion was forced adoptions for families with more than 2 children with the possibility of the mother getting the child back after filling out adoption papers and whatnot.)

I found myself with my mouth agape on more than a handful of occasions. Despite all this, it is of some comfort that not only did my copy not have mention of his name (although Goodreads and Amazon both credit him), but also that he made it official that he doesn't support some of the ideas.

Also, may it be noted that I did not finish the book and that I only read some of one chapter before I decided that I didn't want to read anymore.
