

## Analysis on Environmental Theme

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Course: HIST 131 021 – World History from 1500 CE to the Present

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Submission date: August 14, 2022

# INTRODUCTION

Our ecology has been degrading for the previous two centuries, and practically every corner of the globe has been affected in some way. Human disturbance is the principal source of environmental deterioration. The nineteenth-century industrial revolution automated the production and manufacturing of commodities and introduced the use of machinery and other heavy equipment, which triple the demand of fuels as a source of energy, degrading the environment. The current technical advancement that we are so proud of is the fundamental cause of environmental degradation. Factors such as urbanization, population and economic expansion, increased energy usage, and agricultural intensification, all contribute to environmental change (Conserve Energy Future, 2022). Humans, plants, animals, and microorganisms are all negatively impacted by the unpredictable change of our environment.

There is a connection between catholic church and global warming. Catholics have been caring for a long time about what the god has created for humankind. For many decades, saints and popes were trying to make their movement toward a better earth to care what the god's creation. In church they teach people about the ways to deal with the climate crisis as they thought that their predictable of earth deterioration will happen soon if they do not take action to prevent it from happening.

Moving to Rachel's work, she was an aquatic biologist in 1936. She has published many books including *Silent Spring* which will be summarized and discussed in this essay. In the *Silent Spring*, Carson proposed that pesticides should be named "biocides" because it does not only have a negative impact on pests, but also other living organisms as well. After documenting the numerous negative effects pesticides have on the ecosystem, she specifically mentioned the

damage DDT caused to bird death when she read a letter of her friend; and this inspire her to write this book. Human behavior on the environment leads to the contamination of air, earth, sea and river with lethal materials.

Similarly, pope Francis' encyclical, *On Care for Our Common Home*, also emphasize on how human activities deteriorate their surrounding environment as well. His encyclical combines contemporary science with the traditional belief which represents the care of our universe. Our Earth is created by the god, and we all share this common home together; we must take care of this home and prevent it from damaging.

### **Human activities**

At the early age of the universe, environment influenced the transformation of chemicals substances. Over time, this transformation created lives, and the most important event was the emergence of humans. Humans are the root of environmental deterioration. During World War II, the explosion of an atomic bomb released nuclear radiation into the air. This radiation then comes to earth in the form of rain drops, stick in the soil, enter the grass or other crops; and humans absorb these toxic foods into their bones, where it remains until death; and this process is like a cycle (Racheal Carson, 1962).

The climate is a public thing that belongs to everyone and is intended for everyone. It is a complicated system that is related to many of the basic requirements for human survival on a global scale. A strong scientific agreement demonstrates that we are currently experiencing an alarming warming of the climate system. This warming has been accompanied by a steady rise in sea level and, it appears, an increase in extreme weather occurrences in recent decades (Pope Francis, 2015).

## **The deterioration of earth**

Since the mid-1940's over 200 basic chemicals have been created in the purpose of killing insects, weeds, rodents, and other organism which in modern days describes as pests. The innovation of pesticide has a tremendous negative impact on the environment. This pesticide is sold worldwide under thousands of different brand names. These wide distributions and without proper control from the government have contributed air, water, soil pollution and especially the adaptations of pests make it even worse for our planet. According to the Darwin principle, the survival of fittest, the immune system of insects attempts to adjust with certain types of insecticide; as a result, a deadlier one must constantly be produced, followed by a deadlier one than that. Sprays and aerosols are now applied almost around the globe to farms, gardens, forests, and homes. Nonselective chemicals that have the power to kill not only the bad insect but also the good insect as well which is very brutal to the biosphere (Racheal Carson, 1962).

In recent decades, there is a great concentration of greenhouse gas emissions released to the atmosphere as a result of human activities. Carbon dioxide, Carbon monoxide, Nitrogen oxide. Methane and other substances act as a huge net that traps most of the light rays that are produced by the sun in the high level of the atmosphere. This phenomenon called the blanket effect which light rays cannot reflect to the space which make our planet become warmer and melt down the glacier as a result in extreme weather such as flood due to the rise in sea level. The challenges are exacerbated by a development paradigm centered on the extensive use of fossil fuels, which is at the heart of global energy systems. Another contributing element has been a rise in altered soil usage, most notably deforestation for agricultural purposes and the use of poisoning substances such as pesticides (Pope Francis, 2015).

## CONTRAST

In Carson's work focused more on how humans' innovation in producing new chemicals is harmful to our environment. She said that these chemicals substances that are produced in laboratories and sold widely in the form of sprays, dusts and aerosols for the purpose of getting rid of pests should not be called pesticide but instead biocides. These poisonous solutions do not kill only bad insects, but it is also having a negative effect on water, soil, plant, animal and particularly for humans who eat those final products from the market. DDT (Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane) is one of the most popular products among civilians. These chemical substances contain even more deadly materials for all living things (Racheal Carson, 1962). Carson's solutions are education and the search for less invasive pest control methods. The very least any of us can do is educate ourselves not just on the impacts of chemical pesticides, but also on the consequences of human behavior on the ecosystem. When we look deeper, we see that spraying pesticides on fields is simply one of many human attempts to control nature. With the correct education, we may abandon the concept of dominating nature and instead begin partnering with it. Then, according to Carson, we should look at more environmentally friendly pest control methods. Such approaches are already known to us, we just need to make sure that we use them. For instance, mass pest sterilization or the introduction of special parasites and predators that may limit pest populations. (Brzosko, 2022).

On the other hand, Francis' work focused more on how we should take care of our common home. He introduces the notion of "integral ecology," which believes that mankind, society, politics, and the environment are linked together. Economic and political systems have failed to consider the needs of the poor, which results in inequality. This inequality contributes to

the degradation of our common home. Francis said that "We are not God. The earth was here before us, and it has been given to us". As an intelligent creature, our responsibility is to respect the law of nature by avoiding doing activities which are harmful to our home such as cutting down greenhouse gases emissions. We must also be admirable of what we have here and continue not to do any damage to it (Pope Francis, 2015).

## **CONCLUSION**

In conclusion, according to the analysis of both works, we can conclude that the overlap theme is the concern of the environment's declining. Carson's book, the Silent Spring encourages people to find other ways of getting rid of bad insects on crops instead of using very harmful substances such as DDT. Francis's encyclical, On Care for Our Common home invoke the way people think of how we could change our behavior in order to stabilize our common home which God create for us.

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