Title: Rethinking the Ecological Crisis

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The current ecological crisis that plagues us is almost exclusively analyzed in a technical context with a shallow understanding of history, rather than a social context. Taking this open-ended social approach, we are able to analyze where we are now in the context of who we were before, in order to make progress tomorrow. Introducing and exploring this ontological approach intends to help pave the road for further research initiatives. Lynn White, Jr. allows us to "clarify our thinking by looking... at the presuppositions that underlie modern technology and science." Nietzsche implores us to go beyond our assumptions, and boldly seize the future by creating our own path. Kellert and Wilson uncover, "the innately emotional affiliation of human beings to other living organisms" (Kellert 1). With eyes trained on the future, and feet rooted in the past, Hardin shows that making a sustainable tomorrow can be achieved through mutual coercion, "to escape the horror of the commons." Through these main sources, in addition to others, this project takes a fresh approach to a problem that has been stuck in the same conceptual rut for too long. The main facets of this approach will be criticism of traditional morality, explorations of a new morality, and insights on personal accountability. Reframing the situation in this way has extreme implications held up by deep academic roots. By exploring in this manner, the gap between research and practice may be shrunk, and academic exploration may be liberated by one small step.

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