

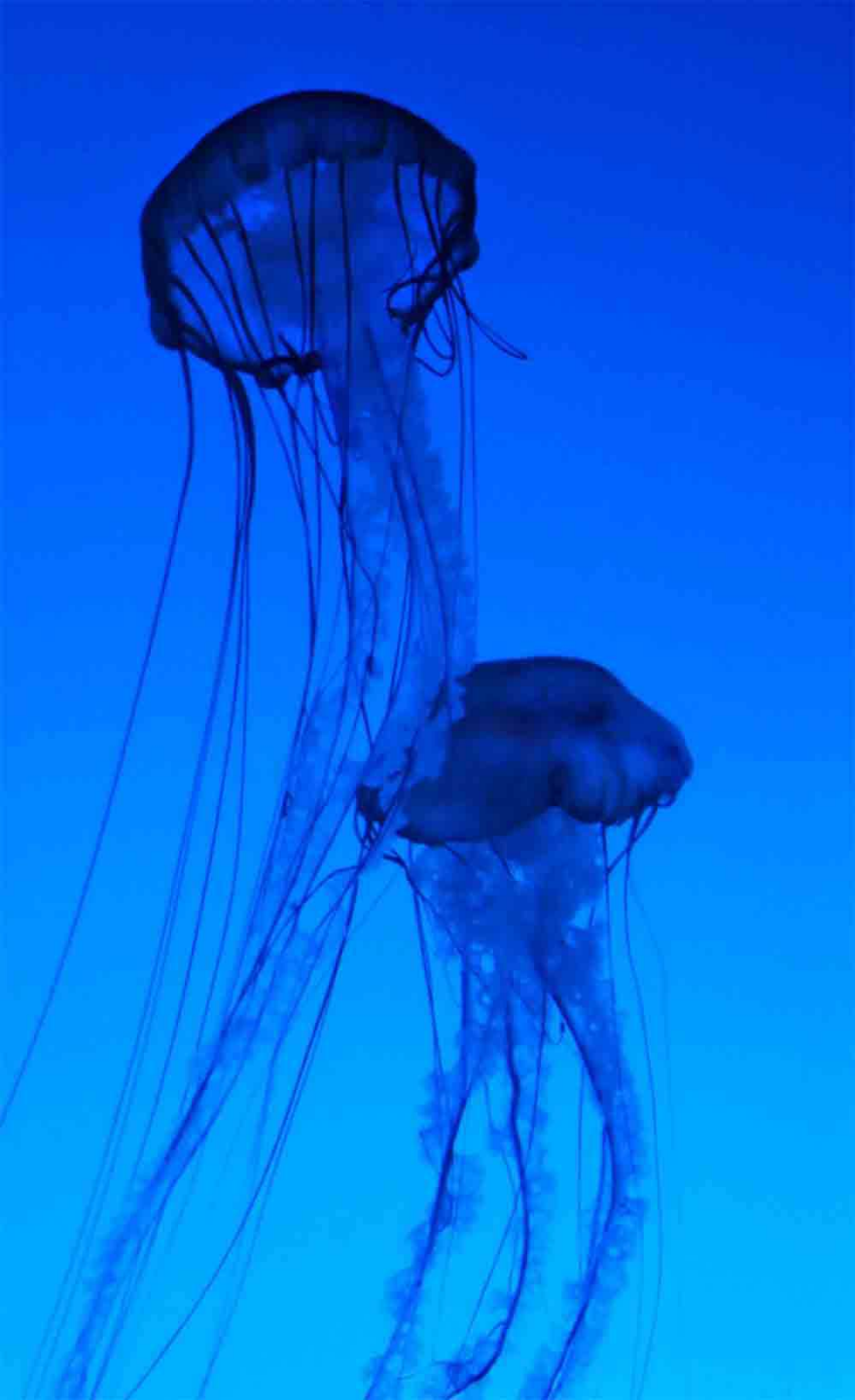
Moral Ground

Ethical Action for a Planet in Peril

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Taking whatever we need from the world to support our comfortable lives, and leaving for the future only a ransacked and dangerously unstable world, is not worthy of us as moral beings.

We have an affirmative moral responsibility – individual and collective – to leave to the future a world as rich in possibility as the world we inherited.

The Practical Syllogism

P1. Descriptive, empirical This is the way the world *is*.

P2. Normative, ethical This is what we value,
this is what we believe is right,
this is how the world *ought to be*.

Conclusion This is what we *ought to do*.



- P1. If we do not act immediately, anthropogenic environmental changes will bring serious harms to the future.
- P2. It's wrong to harm the future.
- C. We have a moral obligation to act to avert that harm.



MORAL GROUND

ETHICAL ACTION FOR A PLANET IN PERIL



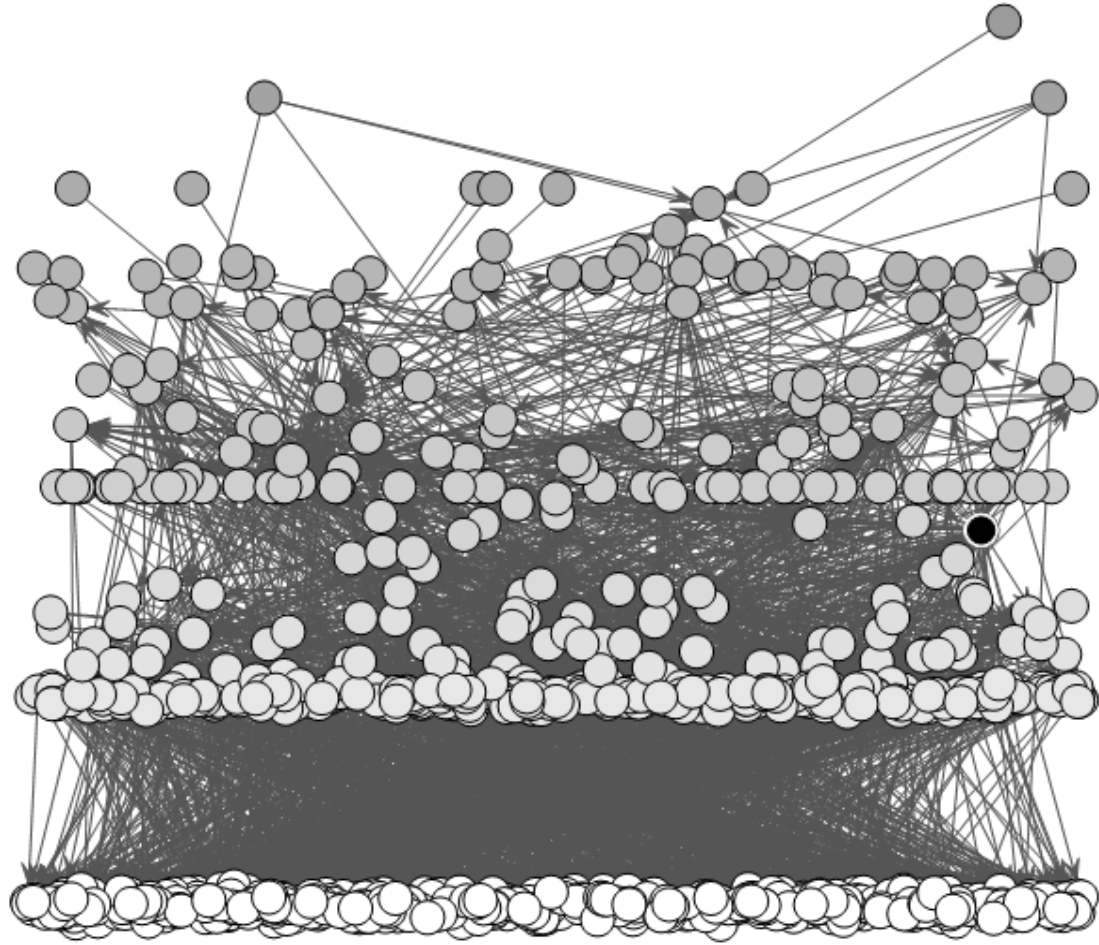
KATHLEEN DEAN MOORE
AND MICHAEL P. NELSON, EDITORS





Trophic level

1 2 3 4 5 6



Do we have an obligation to the future to leave a world as rich in diversity and possibility as our own?

If we have a moral obligation to protect children,
And if environmental degradation is manifestly harmful to them,
Then we have an obligation to avert those harms.



Environmental degradation threatens the foundations of human survival.
Human survival is of deep value.
Therefore, we have an obligation to avert the degradations that threaten us.



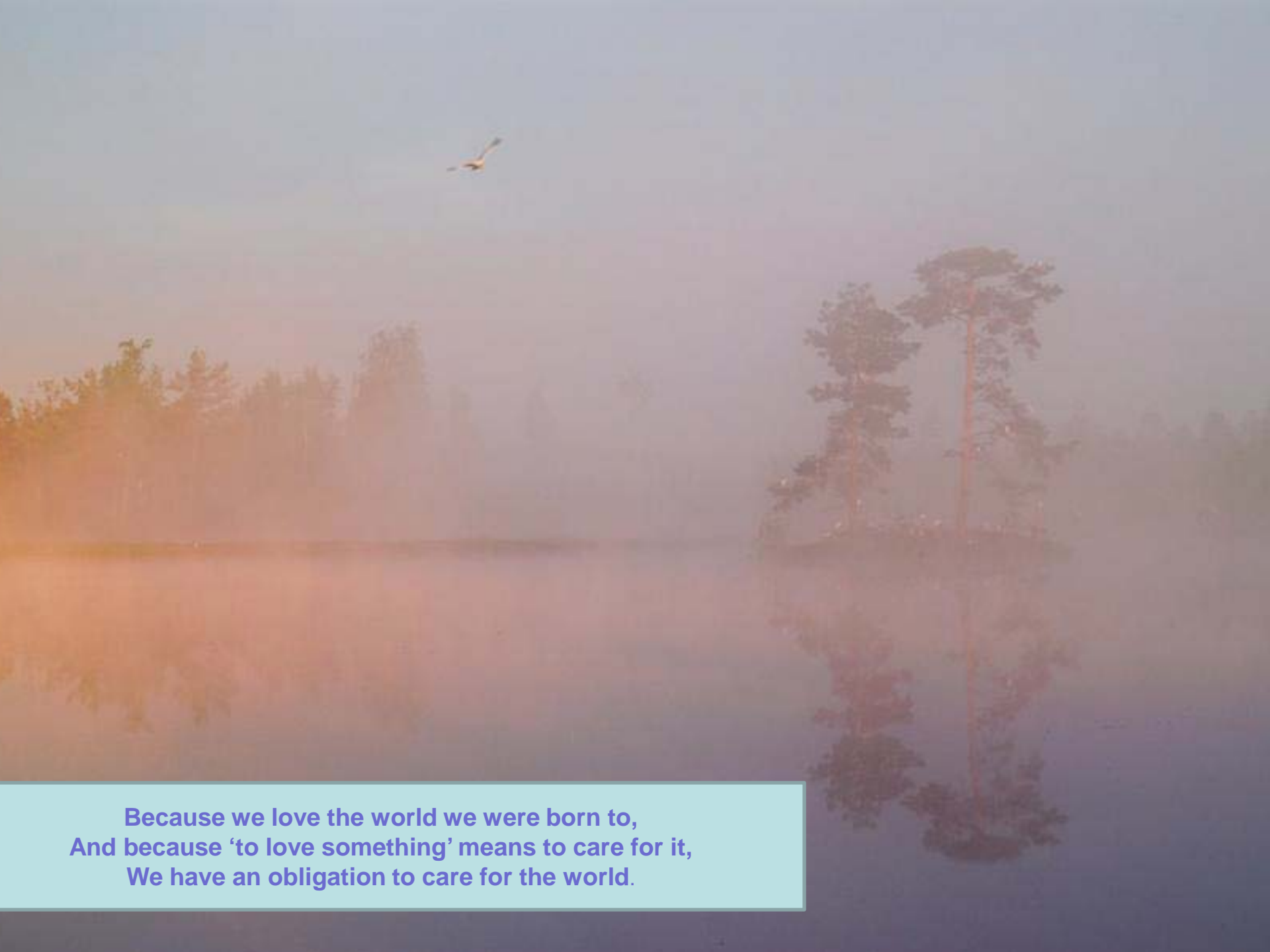
Yes, because justice demands it.

We have created a situation where some people reap the benefits of a profligate use of resources and habitat destruction and heap the burdens on those least able to defend themselves.

This situation is manifestly unjust.

Thus, we ought to act to remedy the injustice of environmental degradation.





**Because we love the world we were born to,
And because 'to love something' means to care for it,
We have an obligation to care for the world.**

Do we have an obligation to leave to the future a world as rich in diversity and possibility as our own?

Yes, for the survival of humankind.

Yes, for the sake of the children..

Yes, for the sake of all forms of life on the planet.

Yes, to honor our duties of gratitude and reciprocity.

Yes, for the full expression of human virtue.

Yes, because all flourishing is mutual.

Yes, for the stewardship of God's creation.

Yes, because compassion requires it.

Yes, because justice demands it.

Yes, because the world is beautiful.

Yes, because we love the world.

Yes, to honor and celebrate the Earth and Earth systems.

Yes, because our moral integrity requires us to do what is right.

Myth #1: Addressing climate change requires sacrifice
and sacrifice is a non-starter.



Myth #2. Addressing climate change is not necessary because sustainable technologies will save us.



Despair

Myth #3. Addressing
climate change
is hopeless.

Integrity

Hope

Myth #4. Climate change is not my problem.





Your calling is at the intersection of your deepest joy and the world's greatest need.

