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World Without End: Economics, Environment, and Sustainable

Development by *David W. Pearce and Jeremy J. Warford*; *Oxford University Press for the World Bank, Oxford, England, 1993; xi + 440 pp., \$39.95 cloth*

This book constitutes a comprehensive synthesis of the literature on the economics of environment and development by two of the best known economists working at the interface of these areas. David Pearce, of University College London, and Jeremy Warford, of the World Bank, have contributed significantly to the literature they canvass and have been directly associated with the design and development of many of the concepts and policies now being used to address the environmental tests of economic activity in low-income countries. Thus, they are uniquely placed to review the policy-relevant literature in the area, and to offer a commentary on its content and effectiveness.

The book consists of a series of discussions on a number of major issues, including the concept of sustainable development; the estimation of its environmental costs and benefits; the problem of population growth; the role of government and market failures; the scope for addressing the problem of environmental degradation through the reform of property rights; the effects of poverty and the maldistribution of income; the impact of international trade on the environment; and the problem of global public environmental goods. Because each of these issues is treated in a more or less self-contained way, there is some overlap, which makes a long book even longer. Nevertheless, the work remains immensely readable. Its accessibility suggests that the book has been designed as much for pol-

icymakers as for students of environment and development. It contains a wealth of policy-relevant material that, if taken seriously, ought to have a positive impact on both the environmental and development performance of many economies, not least among them the economies of Eastern Europe, which are discussed in two chapters, one on the failure of environmental planning in Eastern Europe and another on environmental performance in the Mediterranean.

Those who follow the literature will not find very much that is new, but they will find coherent overviews both of arguments that have raged in journals with largely nonoverlapping readerships and of the substantial amount of unpublished literature generated by the World Bank.

The book does have its downside. The depth of coverage is less than one might hope for from time to time, and the authors are too evenhanded in their evaluation of the literature. Furthermore, the uncaptioned black-and-white photographs scattered through the text are more irritating than elucidating. But these are minor quarrels with a book that deserves to be read very widely not just by those who would learn about the links between environmental change and economic development but also by those who have to devise corrective policies.

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Living with Risk: The Geography of Technical Hazards by *Susan L. Cutter*; *Edward Arnold, London and New York, 1993; 214 pp., \$22.50 paper*

Susan Cutter designed this book as a brief but comprehensive introductory textbook on technological hazards to fill a gap in the literature, and as such it is excellent. It covers both the empirical and theoretical aspects of the hazards and of how they are perceived. Cutter's personal commitments are clear, but these do not prevent her appreciation of the "tragic dilemmas" in which regulatory agencies find themselves when they enter the scene

too late. She shows clearly how hazards arise from the special character of the productive system, and, at the end of the book, she briefly articulates what seems to be her own perspective—political feminism. However, Cutter does not address the ecological questions of whether the aggregate of such hazards might prove deeply damaging or lethal on a civilizational scale and whether they are inherent in the productive system itself. Even with these limitations, however, the book deserves to become recommended reading in a wide variety of courses.

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Arctic Wars: Animal Rights, Endangered Peoples by *Finn Lynge*, translated by *Marianne Stenbaek*; *University Press of New England, Hanover, N.H., 1993; 118 pp., \$16.95 cloth*

This is a passionate yet reasoned defense of the hunting peoples of the Arctic of Greenland and North America. Finn Lynge, whose father is a native of Greenland, argues that the hunting peoples are dependent on seals, whales, and other animals for their very survival and that the actions by well-meaning conservationists in Europe to ban the trade in these commodities has been both destructive of the cultural integrity of Arctic peoples and illogical. He carefully addresses and refutes each of the arguments made by those promoting bans in trade and argues that the sustainable use of living resources by these indigenous hunters is entirely consistent with international conservation strategies and global environmental concerns. This book is an excellent antidote to current moves in the European Parliament to make native peoples a scapegoat for conservation problems.

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