Feminism

Christine Overall:
1. Women have been discriminated against because of their sex.
2. This discrimination is wrong.
3. Actions are needed to prevent discrimination.

Feminist ethics: Cans, empathy.

What is Environmentalism?

Anthropocentric view: Human needs require the preservation and restoration of the natural environment.

Radical view: Biocentrism, ecological egalitarianism, deep ecology, Ecomythicism?


Moderate ecofeminism:
Environmental discrimination against women:
1. Toxic waste leading to women's illness, e.g. breast cancer.
2. Women not given access to natural resources.

Radical Ecofeminism
1. Women have different ways of seeing and relating.
2. Female insights have been ignored and devalued.
3. The domination of women and the natural world are intimately connected.
4. Re-asking female ways of seeing and relating can lead to more positive ways of interacting with the natural world.

Patriarchy

- The view that men, and male experiences and activities, are superior.
- Ecological consequences: hierarchy of human over animals.
- Alternatives: biospheric egalitarianism, holism, witches, spirituality, goddesses, Gaia.
- Question: Is science patriarchal?

Farm Women

Vulnerability of farm women:
1. Gender stereotypes
2. Knowledge not acknowledged
3. Overwork
4. Organizations are male dominated

Problems of intensive agriculture (high technology, fertilizers, pesticides):
- Health issues, farmers' poverty, Economic degradation, Loss of family farms

Discussion Question

- Can feminism contribute to preservation of the natural environment?
- Please close laptops.