

Contemporary Religious Violence and the Environment: Some Tentative Observations and Assessments

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ABSTRACT The implications of current approaches to changes in the environment are that reason and voluntary actions are the only acceptable ways of offsetting deleterious environmental actions. Thus any form of biological regulation is to be deplored and prevented, and further any Malthusian checks on environmental deterioration by means of war, famine and disease cannot be considered as viable options. There is also the possibly in our thinking of the remnants of nineteenth century ascent of man optimism that the decisions of man, collectively and individually, are based on the calm considerations of logic and compromise. This paper considers these views in the light of current affairs in which religion is the principal component and which has actively affected the environment.

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