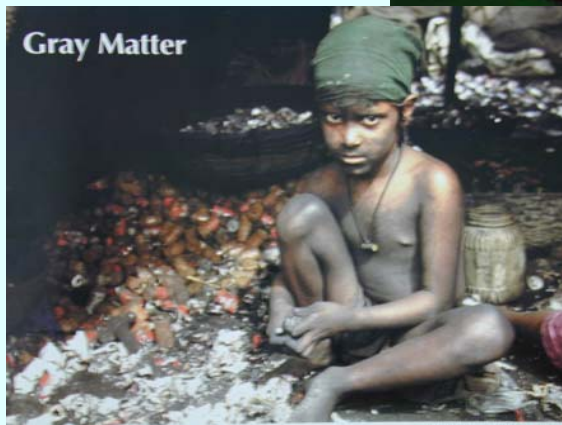


The Ethics & Values of Precaution



**June 11, 2006
9:00 - 10:00 AM
Plenary Session
Baltimore, MD**



Program

Facilitators:

Ted Schettler & Steven Gilbert

Music - Lou Zeller

Oren Lyons

**Indigenous Perspective: Precaution & Seventh
Generation Iroquois Concept**

Frank Peterman

**Shared Ethics & Values of Environmental Justice &
Conservation**

Open Discussion

Grand Vision

Environmental & Human Health

“Conditions that ensure that all living things have the best opportunity to reach and maintain their full genetic potential.”



The Precautionary Principle

**Uniquely addresses knowledge
and ethics in the same decision
rule**

What do we know (not know)?
What do we do?

(Douglas Weed—NCI)

The First Bioethicist



Aldo Leopold

"A thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability, and beauty of the biotic community. It is wrong when it tends otherwise." - Aldo Leopold, 1949, A Sand County Almanac

----- 1887 - 1948 -----

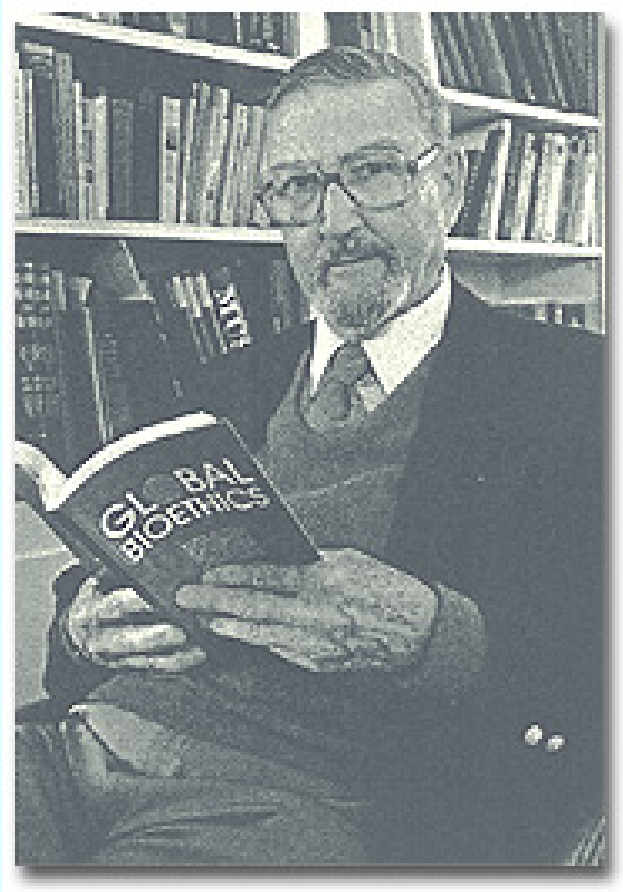
Limits on Freedom

**“An ethic, ecologically, is
a limitation on freedom of
action in the struggle for
existence”**

Aldo Leopold

Bioethics

Van Rensselaer Potter

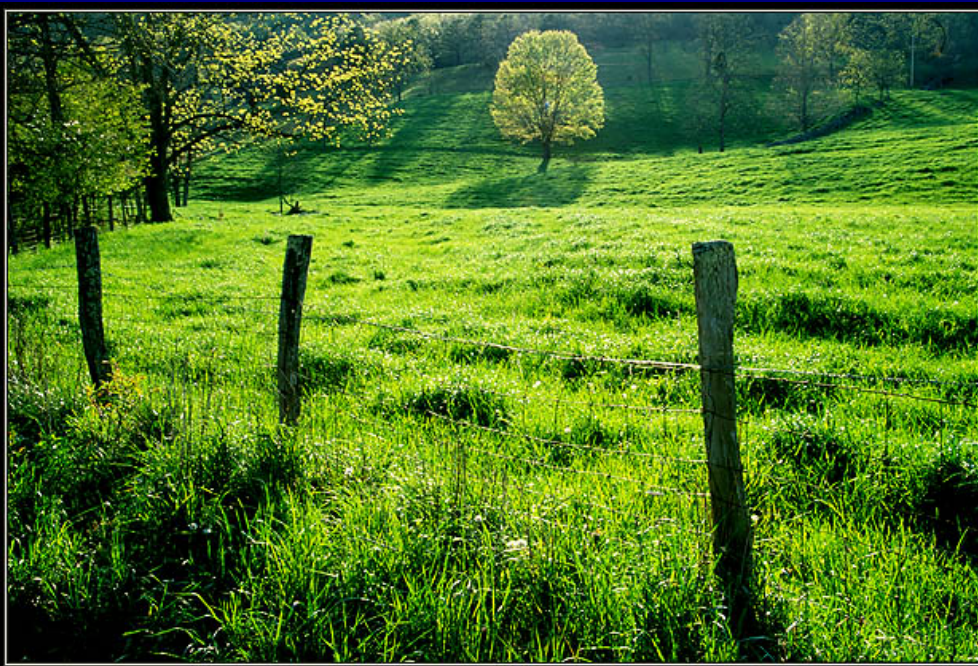


"Biology combined with diverse humanistic knowledge forging a science that sets a system of medical and environmental priorities for acceptable survival."

Global Bioethics (1988)

----- 1911 - 2001 -----

“The Commons”



West Virginia Pasture In Spring © 2002 JonathanJessup.com



The Tragedy of the Commons
By Garrett Hardin, Science, 1968



Technical Solutions

“It is our considered professional judgment that this dilemma has no technical solution.”

**The Tragedy of the Commons
By Garrett Hardin, Science, 1968**

Hans Jonas

Responsibility to future generations as a guide for decision-making in today's world

Different from rights or utilitarian cost-benefit analyses

“Modern technology has introduced actions of such novel scale, objects, and consequences that the framework of former ethics can no longer contain them”

-Hans Jonas; *The Imperative of Responsibility: In Search of An Ethics for the Technological Age* (1978)