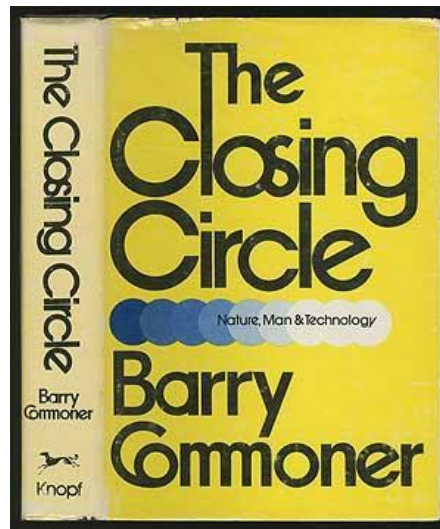




The Closing Circle: Nature, Man and Technology

Barry Commoner

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The Closing Circle: Nature, Man and Technology

Barry Commoner

The Closing Circle: Nature, Man and Technology Barry Commoner

Author Barry Commoner is a biologist, ecologist, educator (a professor with a class of millions he's been called) is regarded as America's best informed & most articulated spokesman for the safeguarding of earth's environment.

The environmental crisis

The ecosphere

Nuclear fire

Los Angeles air

Illinois earth

Lake Erie water

Man in the ecosphere

Population and "affluence"

The technological flaw

The social issues

The question of survival

The economic meaning of ecology

The closing circle

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Lindie says

Commoner wrote this in 1971 and boldly told us what the "far left" were planning for us all along. Interesting, profits bad, military (defence) bad and socialism is good. Global governance is his focus and Bernie would be proud.

Andy says

One of the most important books on the environment... for its time. And maybe our time too. Whose to say? Did this help kick off the environmental movement, help to move it along, or something else? Reading it today, 46 years after it was first published, may be a bit behind the times. Some of the predictions didn't come to pass, as one should always suspect, so is this a sign of progress or a poor reading on what the consequences of various actions were? Once cannot deny that we have made some headway in some limited areas when it comes to the environment but there are also so many indicators that we haven't learned a damned lesson – global climate change, mass extinction, plastic accumulation in the oceans... the list could go on. So what is the use of a book like this to current audiences? A reminder that the problem didn't start with the current generation and that there were voices earlier warning of problems – maybe not the exact ones Commoner wrote about but problems nevertheless... A good read for a historical understanding of what was going on in the late 60s and early 70s but, as to what to do now, I guess the notion of using natural products instead of chemicals is always good but concerns have changed.

Joan says

This was an excellent book in many ways. The reasons why it only got 3 stars is because it is dated...published in 1971...and the author being a professor, it reads more like a textbook than to a general audience. I found it fascinating but the very long chapter discussing economic implications of an environmental crisis just about finished me off and came close to landing this book in the not able to finish category. Having said that, I am very glad I've read it. I have already quoted from this book for a couple of purposes. I also found it a fascinating indication of scientific concern his throw away comment that climate change is a subject currently under intense discussion in scientific circles. Please remember this was published in 1971. I used this information to refute a comment that change resulting from global warming has been rapid and goes back a just few years. Not at all! A whole generation plus has gone by since this book was written. So this is a book I would only recommend to those with a really deep interest in climate change that want to understand the history leading up to the current situation.

Denise says

The father of environmental justice. If you have any interest in social justice or conservation concerns this is a must read book. It is as timely today, as it was in the 70's. We seem to have lost our way.

