

ENVIRONMENT:

Science, Policy and Value

Or, why it is still fun
and profitable to destroy
our life-support system



**Randall
Baker**

 PARADIGMA

Environment: Science, Policy and Values



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ENVIRONMENT: **Science, Policy** **and Values**

Why we seem to make stupid, irrational
and profitable decisions about our life-support
system:

A personal view

Randall Baker



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Kitabxanası

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ENVIRONMENT: Science, Policy and Value

Randall Baker started his studies in the UK in the 1960s by combining a degree in the Natural Sciences with Economics and Geography. He has continued in an interdisciplinary context in teaching and research ever since. His original focus was on land degradation in the tropics, especially on the process of *desertification* in East Africa. He went on, in the 1970s, to be Dean of the School of Development Studies at the University of East Anglia in the UK, and from there he took a chair in the School of Public and Environmental Affairs at Indiana University. He has worked on energy and environment issues in many countries and is the author of several books in this field. He recently wrote a policy road-map for the Asian Development Bank to guide alternative energy development in Azerbaijan. Since 1991 he has been involved with developing the policy and administration fields at the New Bulgarian University in Sofia, where he is now full-time as a Distinguished Professor. His website is www.randallbaker.org

The environment is something that cares little, or nothing, for the divisions among "specialized" fields of knowledge, for the human time-scale, and it certainly does not go along with Man's ridiculous concept of "Conquest of Nature," or "Dominion over the Earth." In a rational world we would try to understand the laws of science – the rules of the environment game, and base our policies to fit these realities. We would then establish a set of values (economics) that recognized and nurtured the integrity of Nature: our life-support system. But, the reality is that we divide up the unity of Nature into boxes for "experts" to pick-over, while the "big picture" becomes hopelessly lost. Politics is too busy serving the constituent's latest crisis and looking for votes in 2 to 4 years to foster a climate in which "sustainability" can ever grow and thrive. Increasingly, problems are global, and can 200 independent states ever form a collective management approach to environmental harmony? Copenhagen showed what a barrier that is. And then there is the question of

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consumer-based economy worshipping the idol
build a world in which science, policy
are essentially the same, and based
ing life-support system, then we
g ourselves. Nature, remember,
fooled, and has endless time
to prove that. We need to
h the big picture.

“Müəlliflik hüququ və əlaqəli hüquqlar haqqında” Azərbaycan Respublikası Qanununa və nəşr ilinə, ölkə üçün mühüm əhəmiyyət kəsb etdiyinə görə bu elektron resursdan yalnız kitabxananın “Lokal şəbəkədən istifadə üzrə oxu zalı”nda istifadə etmək olar.

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