ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

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ARTICLES

This Article examines how law school's philosophical, cultural, and ethical subtexts inhibit students' development of environmental consciousness. A pedagogical process that rewards no-holds-barred competitive individualism presents an unlikely milieu for fostering understanding of an interconnection-rooted ecological paradigm. Legal education abets contemporary environmental "misunderstanding" through its continuing adherence to an anachronistic, anthropocentric curriculum, which nurtures a historically-discredited and ideologically-driven perspective on property, and by condoning an amoral careerism which defines ethics within self-serving professional—as opposed to planetary—parameters.

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Climate change and national security concerns that arise from America's dependence on foreign fuels are causing policymakers to call for the transformation of the U.S. energy economy to a "sustainable energy economy"-one that relies less on fossil fuels and foreign resources and more on water-intensive forms of domestic renewable energy and nuclear power. This Article explores what this transformation will mean for the nation's water resources given the critical role that water plays in energy generation and fuel production. In light of the interdependency that exists between energy and water often referred to as the "energy-water nexus"—the Article suggests that a successful transformation of the U.S. energy economy requires the integration, by policymakers, of the historically compartmentalized water and energy policy arenas. The article concludes that a cooperative watershed planning effort will be necessary to ensure availability of the water resources necessary to support and sustain the transformation of the energy sector to a "sustainable energy economy."

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