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Mazmanian, Forward, pages vii-viii

good

nice

- What are the differences between global and local conceptions of sustainability? What about regional?
- Are the dual goals of achieving economic development and environmental protection inherently contradictory? Can we maximize both outcomes?
- What are the sub dimensions of 'community?' how do they impact sustainability outcomes?

Mazmanian, Preface, pages viii- xii

- How do political systems influence the range of possible sustainability policies?
- The author claims that, "The concerns with air, water, and other pollutants that degrade the health of thousand if not millions of Americans living in communities across the nation...are overlaid today with global-scale threats to the Earth's upper atmosphere..." (page xi). Does this suggest that sustainability policies at the local level must always be analyzed from a global perspective? Is the only social system, the world system?

Mazmanian and Kraft, Chapter 1, page 3-32

- Given that the world is highly interconnected, is it possible for one country to remain in the first epoch while others progress into the third? Do sustainability epochs necessarily progress in an evolutionary chain from 1st, 2nd, to 3rd?
- Did the author design his epochal framework to fit the United States? How well does the epochal framework explain the sustainability movement among other nations?
- Is it possible for sustainability movement to originate from decentralized forms of organization?
- To what extent do individuals impact the transition between epochs? Is the transition driven by the political elites?

Hempel, Chapter 2, Pages 33- 62

- The author suggests that the sustainable community movement in the US developed out of concerns for urban sprawl (page 40). Does this suggest that people become concerned about sustainability outcomes only after they are inconvenienced by the consequences of living unsustainably? What are the implications for the future of the sustainable community movement if this is true?