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The Global Environmental Crisis: Implications for Social Welfare and Social Work. Marie D. Hoff and John G. McNutt.

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BOOKNOTES

Marie D. Hoff and John G. McNutt, *The Global Environmental Crisis: Implications for Social Welfare and Social Work*. Brookfield, VT: Avebury, 1994. \$59.95 hardcover.

Academic and popular interest in environmental issues has increased rapidly in recent years, once regarded as a fringe activity, the promotion of sound ecological policies and programs now has widespread public support. The field is no longer the exclusive purview of biologists and environmental engineers but has attracted attention from other disciplines including the humanities and social sciences.

This pioneering book examines the contribution of social work and social policy to environmental studies, and particularly to the formulation of environmental policies and programs. The editors make a strong case for the involvement of social work and social policy in the field. Although environmental problems obviously affect the physical and biological worlds, they are essentially human problems. Environmental damage is inflicted by humans and it has negative consequences on their well-being. As this book vividly demonstrates, the ultimate purpose of environmental policy is the protection of human beings.

The book contains a variety of interesting articles dealing with the role of social work and social policy in addressing environmental concerns. The articles make for interesting reading, and their call for the greater involvement of social workers in environmental programs should be heeded. The book is essential reading for social workers and social service personnel who need to know more about the relevance of environmental issues to their work.

Jacqueline B. Mondros and Scott M. Wilson, *Organizing for Power and Empowerment*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1994. \$49 hardcover; \$22.50 papercover.

By focusing on the practical aspects of community organizing, Mondros and Scott have made a useful contribution to the growing literature on community social work practice. The book does not ignore theoretical questions but its primary purpose