## **Ecology and Environmentalism**

Ecology is the scientific analysis and study of interactions among organisms and their environment. The word ecology is from the Greek language and means house or environment. Ecology is the study of interactions organism have with each other, other organisms and with their environment. Ecology is not synonymous with environment, environmentalism, natural history, or environmental science. It is closely related to evolutionary biology, genetics, and ethology (study of animal behavior).

Environmentalism or environmental rights is a broad philosophy, ideology, and social movement regarding concerns for environmental protection and improvement of the health of the environment. Environmentalism can be referred to as a movement to control pollution or protect plant and animal diversity. It is an attempt to balance relations between humans and the various natural systems that they depend on. The main thing that we depend on being plant that through photosynthesis (process used to convert light energy into chemical energy that later fuel the organisms' activities.) give us oxygen. We also depend on plants and animals to give us food, shelter, water and fuel. Plants not only give us oxygen and food but they also regulate carbon dioxide that alongside other greenhouse gases acts as a thermal blanket for the Earth which leads to global warming.

Global warming is gradual increase in the overall temperature of the earth's atmosphere caused by greenhouses gases. The primary greenhouse gases in Earth's atmosphere are water vapor, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide and ozone. Without greenhouse gases, the average temperature on Earth would be -18 °C rather than the present average of 15 °C. Since the Industrial Revolution, there has been an increase in production of carbon dioxide, which has come from combustion of carbon-based fuels (coal, oil, and natural gas) and deforestation.

In conclusion, I think that environmentalism is important because we have a problem regarding global warming and destruction of natural habitats. We should burn less fossil fuels and focus on renewable kinds of energy. We should also focus more on recycling and less on making piles of trash.

Daniela Pavešković