

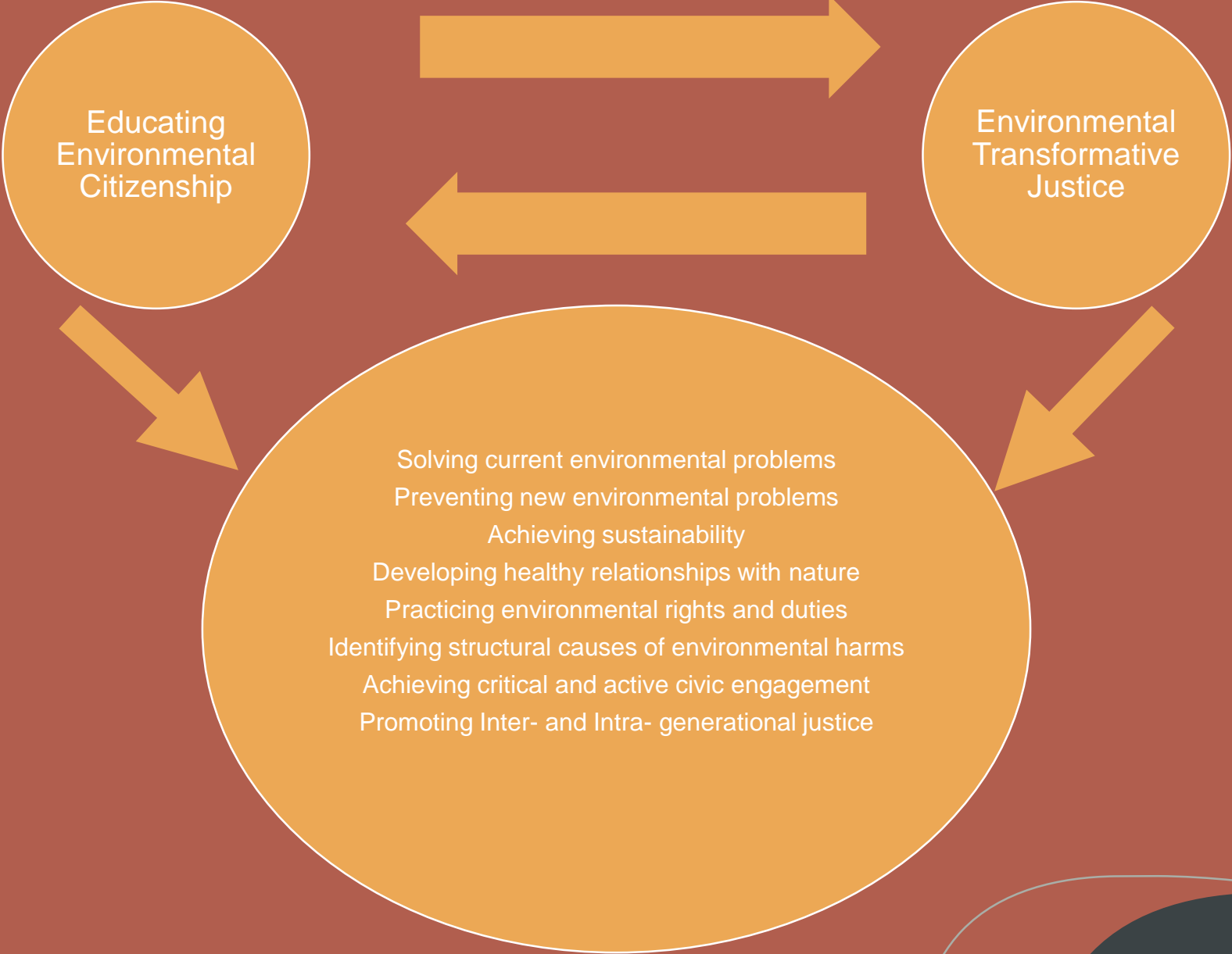
Environmental Transformative Justice and Fostering Environmental Citizenship

By

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Thesis



Goals of Talk

- Define Environmental Transformative Justice
- Demonstrate Injustice of Ecocide
- Delineate Responsibility for Achieving Environmental Transformative Justice
- Highlight How Pursuing Environmental Transformative Justice Fosters Environmental Citizenship

Defining Environmental Transformative Justice

- **Aim** – Determine how to respond to grave environmental harms (i.e., ecocide)
- **Method** - Situate responses to ecocide within Transitional Justice framework
- **Outcome** - Justly transform ecocidal societies into ecofriendly societies

Elements of Ecocide

An environmental harm:

- (1) Committed intentionally for supposed benefit of acting group
- (2) Without consent of impacted group
- (3) Non-instrumental in the commission of a traditional crime against humanity
- (4) Undermined the vital interests of a distinct cultural group, i.e., caused partial or complete social death of impacted group

Criticism of Approach

- Misguided to focus on intentional acts of environmental destruction when pressing environmental issues (e.g., climate change, ocean acidification, desertification) arise as unintended consequences of our industrialized global system of production and consumption
- Perpetuates the same anthropocentric perspective responsible for our present ecological crisis



Mountaintop Removal Mining: El Cerrejon Mine and the Wayúu People



"Maralinga II" by Yvonne Edwards

Nuclear Weapons Testing: Maralinga and the Anangu People



Damming: James Bay Project and the Northern Cree

Injustice of Ecocide

- Undermines basic liberties – John Rawls
- Undermines Central Human Capabilities – Amartya Sen and Martha Nussbaum
- Oppressive – Ann Cudd and Iris Young

Responsibility for Environmental Transformative Justice

- Socially capacious (include individuals, states, corporations, NGOs, etc.) to address root causes (i.e. achieve Transitional Justice's "never again" motto)
- Common (apply to all citizens) but Differentiated (hold perpetrators to account to do justice for victims)
- Backward (correct past wrongs) and Forward looking (prevent future wrongs)

Mechanisms for Achieving Environmental Transformative Justice and Educating Environmental Citizenship

- *Punitive Justice Mechanisms*
- *Reparative Justice Mechanisms*
- *Truth-Oriented Mechanisms*
- *Institutional Reform Mechanisms*

Conclusion

- Environmental Transformative Justice focuses on harms obviously morally problematic and as such is likely to trigger reactions motivating the need for educating environmental citizenship from previously non-environmentally concerned citizens
- Works to remedy unintentional environmental harms because social structures would have to radically alter to achieve Environmental Transformative Justice
- Requires fostering respect for communities' non-anthropocentric interests in nature