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"Bach's Butterfly Effect: Culture, Environment and History"

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Simmons, I.G. "Bach's Butterfly Effect: Culture, Environment and History." *Environmental Values* 6, no. 2 (1997): 201–12. doi:[10.3197/096327197776679130](https://doi.org/10.3197/096327197776679130).

The basic thesis that environmental values must spring from the economic relations of human societies is examined and it is suggested that although such connections are never absent, they do not account for the totality of values. Rather, they interact with other values in a kind of helical strand which is open-ended and self-organising. In such a context, "sustainability," for example, becomes a rather time-limited idea. Our present ways of describing such evolution and interactions are also briefly examined.

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