

Review of: "[Commentary] Climate Change, Health, Ethics and the Sustainability of Civilization"

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This commentary brings an ethical perspective to the global and intergenerational effects of climate change while putting human civilization in focus. From a public health perspective, countries and communities that contribute least to greenhouse gas emissions are the ones that are and will be most affected by the catastrophic effects of climate change. Yet, as emphasized by the author and as declared by Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director-General, during the COVID-19 pandemic on 18 August 2020, 'no one is safe until everyone is safe' (<https://www.who.int/director-general/speeches/detail/who-director-general-s-opening-remarks-at-the-media-briefing-on-covid-19---18-august-2020>). This echoes also for the effects of climate change in each and every domain, such as communicable diseases and food security. While nuclear war is a threat, the collapse of civilization might not need a nuclear bomb while billions of displaced people seek clean water, food, and shelter due to the acute or mid-term effects of climate change.

My comment would also be to include a discussion on the ethics of carbon capture. The author can refer to the statements of Vandana Shiva, an Indian physicist, social activist, and ecofeminist, who devoted her life to advocating for sustainable agriculture. She warns the world that "...the money makers and profiteers are trying to set up a carbon capture and storage industry to continue to pollute while making more money from a new pollution industry" (<https://navdanyainternational.org/carbon-capture-two-world-views-two-technology-paradigms-two-economic-systems-two-futures/>). Moreover, this is a threat to the livelihoods of many communities depending on their own agriculture and a tool for land grab in low- and middle-income countries in the name of reforestation.