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Web Project, part 2

Citation: Anti-Environmental Groups, Radio4All Anarchist Group, 9/7/99,
<http://www.radio4all.org/anarchy/index.html>

Claims:

1. The environmental movement is a radical, not conservative, movement.
2. Anti-environmentalists pose a threat to the environment.
3. Anti-environmentalists do not have much public support; most of their support comes from industry, business, and government.

Evidence for claims:

1. “ ‘The environmental movement is the last refuge of the Left. Because of the collapse of communism, because the wall has come down, because the Soviet Union is no more...the environmental movement is the last refuge of people who favor government over people,’ says MSLF president William Perry Pendley.”
“Whenever Coors is involved, extreme right-wing groups are being supported.” (This implies that anti-environmentalism is a conservative movement, which supports the statement made earlier that the “environmental movement is the last refuge of the Left.”)
2. “[The MSLF] has worked vigorously to open public lands to private exploitation for capitalist profit, working hand in glove with big business to develop strategies to undermine legislation protecting wildlife and public lands.”
3. “MSLF has a reputation for being “anti-consumer, anti-feminist, anti-(democratic) government, anti-black, and of course, anti-environmentalist.” (This suggests that MSLF, an anti-environmental organization, does not have much favor with the public.)
“James Watt became the founding president for the MSLF...It’s no surprise that when Watt was chosen to be Secretary of the Interior for the Reagan administration, MSLF’s dictates became national policy. The MSLF remains at the heart of the anti-environmental movement.”
Funding for the MSLF comes from: “Amoco, Chevron, Coors Foundation, El Pomar Foundation, Exxon, Ford, Phillips Petroleum, Texaco.”

Warrants:

1. In the context of the article, a warrant for the first claim could be: Radical movements are more favorable than conservative movements.
2. Harming the environment is bad, and therefore, anti-environmentalists are bad because they threaten the environment.
3. Groups without public support are not as appreciated by the public.

Quality of this site:

Although this site was very small (only one page), lots of examples were given to support the author’s claims. I clicked on the link at the bottom of the page and discovered that this page was one of many pages belonging to the anti-environmental section of an anarchist website. I could not determine whether the information given on this site was valid, although much of the evidence the unknown author gave on this page seemed pretty factual. Anarchists are usually viewed by the public as highly radical and opinionative, but I didn’t consider public opinion to be enough to justify the validity or invalidity of this site. No references were given on the actual page that I read, but perhaps references might be listed elsewhere on the site. I did feel that this page was a valuable source of information in terms of raising public awareness of problems associated with anti-environmentalism.