

Conceptions of Environment & Coexistence According to the Spanish Philosopher Leonardo Polo: Implications for Sustainability Education

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BACKGROUND

The Spanish philosopher **Leonardo Polo** (February 1, 1926 - February 9, 2013) engaged with both Classical and Medieval thinkers such as Aristotle, Thomas Aquinas, and William of Ockham, as well as Modern and Contemporary philosophers such as Descartes, Kant, Hegel, Husserl, Heidegger, and Nietzsche.

Polo scholars have come to call his philosophical proposal
“transcendental anthropology”,
given that —using the method of *abandonment of the mental limit*— he made available 4 great themes in relation to man:

- on the one hand, the (1) act of being and (2) essence that lie outside the mind, and
- on the other hand, the (3) act of being and (4) essence of the human being.

BACKGROUND

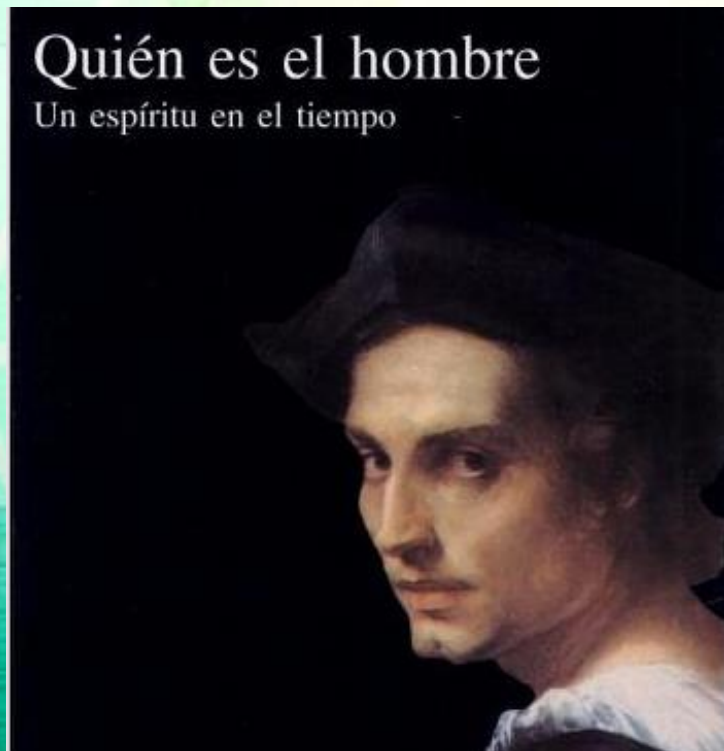
Having distinguished *act of being* in metaphysics vs. *act of being* in anthropology, Polo's works then proposes 4 “anthropological transcendentals”, namely:

- 1) Personal Co-existence
- 2) Personal Freedom
- 3) Personal Intellect/Knowing
- 4) Transcendental Love (Self-Gift)

POLO, Leonardo. "Ricos y pobres. Igualdad y desigualdad". *Cuadernos del seminario permanente "Empresa y humanismo"* n° 11. Pamplona. Univ. de Navarra, 1989.

RICOS Y POBRES. IGUALDAD Y DESIGUALDAD

[Rich and Poor. Equality and Inequality.]



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“Rich and Poor. Equality and Inequality.”

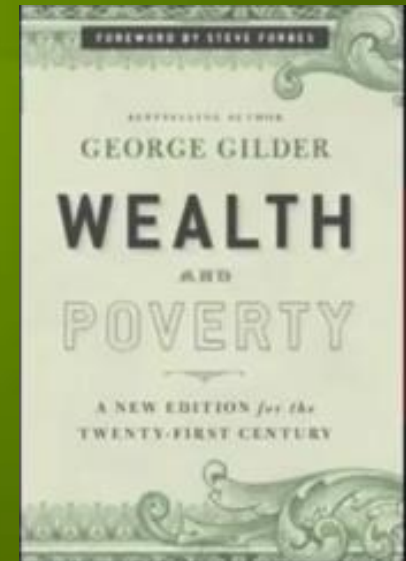


Say's Law
***“supply
constitutes
demand”***

Jean-Baptiste Say



George Gilder



“True wealth is not found in the acquisitive capacity of a country, but rather in the capacity to invest in and produce consumable goods in the future. It is rooted, in effect, in: initiative, creativity, and the human work of the businessmen and workers, who are, in the end, the generators of wealth.”



dynamic integrity

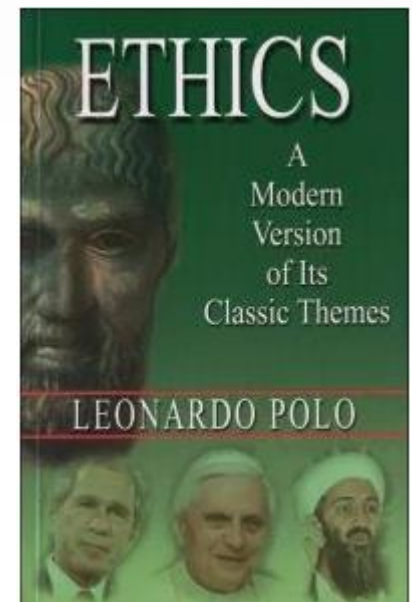


Man is an ethical being because he is free. As a temporal being, he has tendencies: he looks to objectives/aims; he is not satisfied with what he has, rather he goes for more. Ethics is the manner by which to reinforce the maximality of human tendencies. To be ethical is to *be more, understood as more human, i.e., greater human flourishing.*



εὐδαιμονία

Eudaimonia



From transformational to *transcendental leadership* →

Human person = “open and free system”, he naturally tends towards self-gift; his growth as a human being is a function of this.

Person's *being* takes precedence over his *having*: his *having* should be given over to a love for and service to others; this is the very essence of his personal being, which is free and *donal* (Polo, 1997).

TRANSCENDENT MOTIVES:
a genuine interest in the development and motives of the other...





God, at creation, left the world unfinished, so that man, the ultimate/pinnacle among his creatures, may bring it to completion. This is the ultimate mission of man: the **ecological problem is, thus, having to contend with the non-fulfillment of this mission.**



Laudato si'

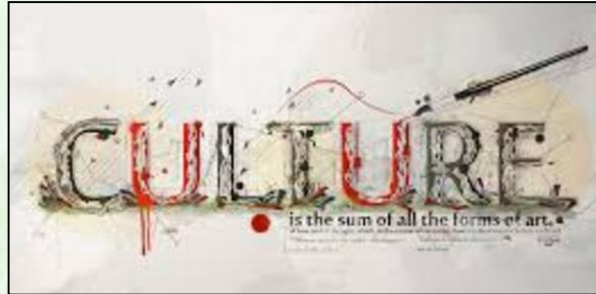
Throwaway
culture

SOLAR ENERGY



- ♥ **Man is a social being because he is a *dialogic* being, that is, capable of expressing what he thinks to others and to establish thereby a communicative network ...**
- ♥ **In community relations, *dialogue* is needed. With communication, whoever commands learns, and is put in conditions of obeying those who offer the best solutions.**

- **Culture = *continuatio naturae***
- **need to create ethical culture!**



Leonardo Polo and the Mind - Body Problem by José Ignacio Murillo ✓

LA TEORÍA DE LA CULTURA DE LEONARDO POLO

JOSÉ IGNACIO MURILLO





Humanistic paradigm:



education

SUMMARY:

- **Integral dynamism: no homeostatis;**
- **An economy of *supply*, rather than demand:**
 - **Generates innovation/entrepreneurship;**
- **Culture = *continuatio naturae***
 - **need to create ethical culture!**
- **Dialogic society: no unilateral rule!**
 - **Solidarity! Coordination! Communicate!**
- **Ethics:**
 - **(A) Mission / Human Flourishing.**
 - **(B) Humanistic Paradigm!**

THANK YOU! 😊
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