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What Happened to Ecofeminism? The Current State of Feminism and Ecology

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Brooke Yarrows

Mentor: J. Claude Evans

Where has ecofeminism gone? In its first decades, ecofeminism enjoyed popularity and developed diverse analyses of a wide range of topics. However, the movement was often criticized for being essentialist and fractured and eventually the term “ecofeminism” largely fell out of use. However, the interaction of feminism and ecology remains present in areas such as animal rights, environmental justice, and queer and posthumanist theories. This work locates the original tenets of ecofeminism within contemporary movements by analyzing the works and arguments of current theorists within these areas. The study concludes that ecofeminism remains alive and well, if only in practice rather than name, and in fact provided much of the theoretical foundation for contemporary feminist-environmental thought.