

Future Generations: A bibliography (In English only)

Jim Dator

September 2008(a)

I. Apparently the first major philosopher to identify and write extensively about the issue of intergenerational fairness was John Rawls, *A Theory of Justice*, Harvard University Press, 1971 (See also his *Justice as Fairness: A Restatement*. Harvard University Press, 2001)

Two volumes were devoted entirely to Future Generations soon after:

Richard Sikora and Brian Barry, *Obligations to Future Generations*. Temple University Press, 1978.

Thomas Schwartz, "Obligations to Posterity," pp. 3-14; Jan Narveson, "Future People and us," pp. 38-60; Gregory Kavka, "The Futurity Problem," pp. 186-203; Brian Barry, "Circumstances of Justice and Future Generations," pp. 205-248.

Ernest Partridge, ed., *Responsibilities to Future Generations*. Prometheus Books, 1980

Hans Jonas, "Technology and Responsibility: The Ethics of an Endangered Future," pp. 23-36; Thomas Derr, "The Obligation to the Future," pp. 37-45; Martin Golding, "Obligations to Future Generations," pp. 61-72; Joel Feinberg, "The Rights of Animals and Unborn Generations," pp. 139-150; Ruth Macklin, "Can Future Generations Correctly Be Said to Have Rights?" pp. 151-157; Richard De George, "The Environment, Rights, and Future Generations," pp. 157-166; Galen Pletcher, "The Rights of Future Generations," pp. 167-170; Annette Baier, "The Rights of Past and Future Persons," pp. 171-186; Thomas Thompson, "Are We Obligated to Future Others?" pp. 195-202; Ernest Partridge, "Why Care About the Future?" pp. 203-220.

II. Subsequently, several futures generation groups were established:

A. Future Generations Programme of the Foundation for International Studies at the University of Malta, supported by Unesco. <<http://www.fis.org.mt/page.asp?p=11506&l=1>>.

It published *Future Generations Journal* and several volumes of essays, usually based on conferences it sponsored:

Emmanuel Agius, *The Rights of Future Generations: In Search of an Intergenerational Ethical Theory*. Leuven: Faculty of Theology, Catholic University of Leuven, 1986.

Emmanuel Agius and Salvino Busuttill, *Our Responsibilities Towards Future Generations*. Malta: Gutenberg Press, 1990.

Emmanuel Agius and Salvino Busuttill, *What Future for Future Generations?* Malta: Union Press, 1994.

Emmanuel Agius, et al., eds. *Future Generations and International Law*. London: Earthscan Publishers Ltd., 1998.

Emmanuel Agius and Salvino Busuttill, *Germ-line Intervention and Our Responsibilities to Future Generations*. Dordrecht: Kluwer Academic Publishers, 1998

Emmanuel Agius and L. Chircop, eds., *Caring for Future Generations: Jewish, Christian and Islamic Perspectives*. New York: Praeger, 1998

B. Following the Rio UN Conference on the Environment in 1992, another group, Institute for the Integrated Study of Future Generations, was established in Kyoto, Japan, by Katsuhiko Yazaki of Japan and Tae-Chang Kim of Korea. It also held conferences and published several volumes of essays:

1. Institute for the Integrated Study of Future Generations, ed., *Why future generations now?* Kyoto: Future Generations Alliance Foundation, 1994

In addition to essays by Yazaki and Kim, there were articles on "Why we should care about Future Generations now" by Sakae Shimizu, Wendell Bell, Emmanuel Agius, Allen Tough and Rick Slaughter

2. Institute for the Integrated Study of Future Generations, ed., *Thinking about future generations*. Future Generations Studies Series I. Kyoto: Future Generations Alliance Foundation, 1994

In addition to essays by the previous authors, this volume also had articles by Eric Chaisson, Jim Dator, Howard Didsbury, Jr., Kido Inoue, Theodore Kheel, Daniel Leighton, and Oliver Markley

3. Tae-Chang Kim & Jim Dator, eds., *Creating a New History for Future Generations*. Future Generations Studies Series II. Kyoto: Institute for the Integrated Study of Future Generations, 1995. This derived from a conference in Kyoto

New contributors were Sohail Inayatullah, Christopher Jones, Godwin Sogolo, Wilfrido Villacorta, Alexandre Timoshenko, Duane Elgin, Christopher Stone, Bruce Tonn, Ana Maria Sandi, Nicholas Albery, Martha Rogers, Natalie Dian and Christel Nilsson, John Seed and Anja Light, Ernest Partridge, Keekok Lee, Norman Care, and Salvatore Privitera

4. Richard Slaughter and Allen Tough, eds., *Learning and Teaching About Future Generations*. Special issues of *Futures* Vol. 29 No. 8 October 1997. (Papers from a Futures Generation conference in Toronto).

5. Tae-Chang Kim & Jim Dator, eds., *Co-creating a Public Philosophy for Future Generations*. London: Adamantine Press, 1999. This is a report of a conference in Honolulu sponsored by the Future Generations Alliance and the Hawaii Research Center for Futures Studies that brought together futurists, ethicists, and political practitioners who had tried to incorporate foresight into government.

6. Tae-Chang Kim and Ross Harrison, eds., *Self and Future Generations: An Intercultural Conversation*. Cambridge: White Horse Press, 1999

C. A group concerned with intergenerational justice formed in Germany, publishing essays and a journal: Joerg Chet Tremmel, ed., *Handbook of intergenerational justice*. Cheltenham, UK, Northampton, MA: Edward Elgar, 2006.

Contents: Responsibility for future generations : scope and limits / Dieter Birnbacher -- Principles of generational justice / Christoph Lumer -- The impossibility of a theory of intergenerational justice / Wilfred Beckerman -- John Rawls on rights of future generations / Claus Dierksmeier -- Justice between generations / Michael Wallack -- Rule change and intergenerational justice / Axel Gosseries, Mathias Hungerbuehler -- The economic sustainability indicator / Peer Ederer, Philipp Schuller and Stephan Willms -- Protecting future generations : intergenerational buck-passing, theoretical ineptitude and a brief for a global core precautionary principle / Stephen M. Gardiner -- Institutional determinants of public debt : a political economy perspective / Bernd Sussmuth and Robert K. von Weizsaecker -- Establishing intergenerational justice in national constitutions / Joerg Chet Tremmel -- A constitutional law for future generations : the 'other' form of the social contract : the generation contract / Peter Haerberle -- The French Constitutional Charter for the environment : an effective instrument? / Dominique Bourg -- Commission for Future Generations in the Knesset : lessons learnt / Shlomo Shoham and Nira Lamay -- Institutional protection of succeeding generations : Ombudsman for Future Generations in Hungary / Benedek Jaevor -- The role of CPB in Dutch economic policy / Rocus M. van Opstal and Jacqueline Timmerhuis -- Intergenerational justice / Emmanuel Agius.

Intergenerational Justice Review (IGJR)

Stiftung für die Rechte zukünftiger Generationen (Foundation for the Rights of Future Generations) Oberursel, Germany

D. One futurist who has thought and written extensively about future generations for some time is Bruce Tonn :

Bruce Tonn, "500-year planning: A speculative provocation," *Journal of the American Planning Association* , Vol. 52, No. 2, Spring 1986

Bruce Tonn, "Philosophical Aspects of 500-Year Planning," *Environment and Planning A*, 1987. Vol. 20, 1507-1522.

Bruce Tonn, "The Court of Generations: A proposed amendment to the US Constitution," *Futures*, Vol. 23, No. 5, June 1991 Also, see Vincent Pollard and Bruce Tonn, "Revisiting the 'Court of Generations' Amendment," *Futures*, Vol. 30, No. 4, 1998

Bruce Tonn, "Distant Futures and the Environment," *Futures*, 2002 Vol. 34, 117-132.

Bruce Tonn, "Integrated 1000-year planning," *Futures* 2003

III. Other books and articles about future generations:

- John Ahrens, *Preparing for the Future. An Essay on the Rights of Future Generations*. Transaction Publisher, 1983
- John S. Applegate & Stephen Dycus, Institutional Controls or Emperor's Clothes? Long-Term Stewardship of the Nuclear Weapons Complex, *Environmental Law Reports*, Vol. 28, No. 10, 1998, pp. 631–34
- Gustaf Arrhenius, *Future Generations: A Challenge for Moral Theory*. Dissertation for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Practical Philosophy presented at Uppsala University in 2000. Unpublished.
- Gustaf Arrhenius, "Mutual Advantage Contractarianism and Future Generations," *Theoria*. Vol. 65, 1/1999, pp. 25-35.
- Alan Auerbach, et al., "Generational Accounts: a Meaningful Alternative to Deficit Accounting," *Tax Policy and the Economy*. Vol. 5, 1991 pp. 55-110.
- Alan Auerbach, et al., eds., *Generational Accounting around the World*. University of Chicago Press, 1999
- Bruce E. Auerbach, *Unto the Thousandth Generation. Conceptualizing Intergenerational Justice*. Peter Lang, 1995
- Bertram Bandman, "Do Future Generations Have the Right to Breathe Clean Air?" *Political Theory*, Vol. 10, 1/1982, pp. 95-102.
- Brian Berry, "Justice between Generations," in Hacker, P. M. S. / J. Raz, eds., *Law, Morality and Society. Essays in Honour of H. L. A. Hart*. Clarendon Press, 1977, pp. 268-284.
- Stephen Bickham, "Future Generations and Contemporary Ethical Theory," *Journal of Value Inquiry*, Vol. 15, 2/1981, pp. 169-177.
- Edith Brown-Weiss, *In Fairness to Future Generations*. Tokyo/New York: United Nations University/Transnational Publishers, 1989 and Edith Brown-Weiss, "In fairness to future generations," *Environment*. Vol. 32, No.3, 1990
- Edith Brown Weiss, *Intergenerational Fairness and Rights of Future Generations*, *Intergenerational Justice Review*, Vol. 1, No. 6, 2002
- Wendell Bell, "Why should we care about future generations?" in Howard Didsbury, ed., *The years ahead: Perils, problems, and promises*. Bethesda, Maryland: World Future Society, 1993.
- Jim Dator, Dick Pratt, Yongseok Seo, *Fairness, Globalization, and Public Institutions: East Asia and Beyond* (University of Hawaii Press, 2006), pp. 25-31 where "fairness" is defined and discussed, including in relation to "future generations", and pp 186-92 when "future generations" are discussed in relation to "governmental foresight" activities.
- Edwin Delattre, "Rights, Responsibilities, and Future Persons," *Ethics*. Vol. 82, 1972. pp. 254-258.
- Avner De-Shalit, *Why Posterity Matters. Environmental Policies and Future Generations*. Routledge, 1995
- Avner De-Shalit, "Environmental Policies and Justice Between Generations. On the Need for a Comprehensive Theory of Justice Between Generations," *European Journal of Political Research*. Vol. 21, 1992, pp. 307-316.
- Andrew Dobson, ed., *Fairness and Futurity*. Oxford University Press, 1999
- Jane English, "Justice between Generations," *Philosophical Studies*. Vol. 31, 1977 pp. 91-104.

Ulrich Feeser-Lichterfeld, "Intergenerational Justice in an Extreme Longevity Scenario: Ethical Issues in Biogerontological Endeavours," in SrzG, ed., *Demographic Change and Intergenerational Justice*. Springer. 2008

Philip Frankenfeld, "Simple gifts, complex environmental hazards, and the responsibility to leave a controllable world," *Futures*, Vol. 25, No. 1, January/February 1993.

Axel Gosseries, "On Future Generations' Future Rights." *Journal for Political Philosophy*, 2008

Axel Gosseries, "Constitutionalizing Future Rights?" *Intergenerational Justice Review* (English edition). Vol. 4, 2/2004, pp. 10-11.

Axel Gosseries, "Intergenerational Justice.," in LaFollette, Hugh, d., *The Oxford Handbook of Practical Ethics*. Oxford University Press, 2002, pp. 459-484.

Chris Groves, "Do we have responsibilities to future generations?"
<www.cardiff.ac.uk/socsi/futures/conf_cg_philcafe150708.pdf>

Clayton Hubin, "Justice and Future Generations," *Philosophy and Public Affairs*. Vol. 6, 1/1976, pp. 70–83

Gregory S. Kavka, "The Paradox of Future Individuals," *Philosophy and Public Affairs*. Vol. 11, 2/1982, pp. 93-112.

Peter Laslett, "The Conversation between Generations," in Peter Laslett, ed., *The Proper Study*. Royal Institute of Philosophy Lectures. Vol. 4. Basil Blackwell, 1971, pp. 8-20.

Peter Laslett and James Fishkin, eds., *Justice between Age Groups and Generations*. Yale University Press, 1992

Peter Laslett and James Fishkin, "Introduction. Processional Justice," pp. 1-23; Peter Laslett, "Is there a Generational Contract?" pp. 24-47; Tyler Cowen and Derek Parfit, "Against the Social Discount Rate," pp. 144-161; David Thomson, "Generations, Justice, and the Future of Collective Action," pp. 206-236.

Lukas Meyer, "Intergenerational Justice," *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. 2003
<<http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/justice-intergenerational>>

Rachel Muers, *Living for the Future: Theological Ethics for Coming Generations*. T & T Clark, 2008?

Tim Mulgan, *Future People: A Moderate Consequentialist Account of Our Obligations to Future Generations*. Oxford University Press, 2006

Victor Muñoz-Fraticelli, "The Circumstances of Justice across Generations". 2002
<<http://ptw.uchicago.edu/Muniz02.pdf>>.

John O' Neill, "Future Generations: Present Harms," *Philosophy*, Vol. 68, 1/1993, pp. 35–51.

Antonia Oposa, "In Defence of Future Generation," *Intergenerational Justice Review* (English edition). Vol. 2, 3/2002, pp. 7.

Edward Page, *Climate Change, Justice, and Future Generations*. Edward Elgar, 2007.

Derek Parfit, "Future Generations: Further Problems," *Philosophy and Public Affairs*, Vol. 11, 2/1982, pp. 113-172.

Derek Parfit, "Doing the Best for our Children," in Michael Bayles, ed., *Ethics and Population*. Schankman, 1976

Ernest Partridge, "Just Provision for the Future," *Intergenerational Justice Review* (English edition). Vol. 8, 1/2008.

Ernest Partridge, "Should we Seek a Better Future?" 2007 <www.igc.org/gadfly/papers/swsabf.htm>

Ernest Partridge, "On the Rights of Future Generations," in Donald Scherer, ed., *Upstream- Downstream. Issues in Environmental Ethics*. Temple University Press, 1990, pp. 40-66.

Bernd Raffelhuschen, "Generational Accounting: Method, Data, and Limitations," *European Economy, Reports and Studies*. 6/1999, pp. 17-28.

Bernd Raffelhuschen, "Generational Accounting - Quo Vadis?" *Nordic Journal of Political Economy*, Vol. 28, 1/2002, pp. 75-89.

Andrew C. Revkin, "Does the future need a legal guardian?"
<<http://dotearth.blogs.nytimes.com/2007/12/29/does-the-future-need-a-legal-guardian/index.html?hp>>
See <guardiansofthefuture.org>

David Richards, "Contractarian Theory, Intergenerational Justice, and Energy Policy," in Douglas MacLean and Peter Brown, eds., *Energy for the Future*. Rowman and Littlefield, 1983, pp. 131-150.

Kristin Shrader-Frechette, "Ethical dilemmas and radioactive waste," *Environmental Ethics*, Vol. 13, No. 4, 1991,

Lawrence Solum, "To Our Children's Children's Children: The Problems of Intergenerational Ethics," *Loyola of Los Angeles Law Review*. Vol. 35, 1/2001, pp. 163-234.

Christopher D. Stone, "Should Trees Have Standing? Toward Legal Rights for Natural Objects", *Southern California Law Review*, Vol. 45, 1972.

Allen Tough, "What future generations need from us," *Futures*, Vol. 25, No. 10, December 1993.

Jörg Tremmel, *A Theory of Intergenerational Justice*. Dissertation for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy, accepted by the Heinrich-Heine-Universität Düsseldorf, May 2008

Jörg Tremmel, "Is a Theory of Intergenerational Justice Possible? A Response to Beckerman," *Intergenerational Justice Review* (English edition). Vol. 4, 2/2004, pp. 6-9.

Burns Weston, "Climate Change and Intergenerational Justice: Foundational Reflections," *Vermont Environmental Law Journal*, Vol. 9, No. 3, Spring 2008,

Laura Westra, *Environmental Justice and the Rights of Unborn and Future Generations*. Earthscan, 2006

IV. Court Case:

To my knowledge, only one judiciary has acted affirmatively on behalf of future generations. In the case, *Oposa vs. Factoran, Jr.*, (1993) the Philippine Supreme Court ruled that representatives of future generations have standing and thus can bring legal action to prevent environmental destruction which diminishes the quality of life of future generations.

V. Unesco Declaration:

Declaration on the Responsibilities of the Present Generations Towards Future Generations, G.C. Res. 31, art. 4, U.N.E.S.C.O., 29th Sess., U.N.E.S.C.O Doc. 29 C/Res. 31 (Nov. 12, 1997) <<http://www.unesco.org/cpp/uk/declarations/generations.pdf>>

VI. On "Discounting the Future" See:

George Ainslie and John Monterosso, "A marketplace in the brain?" *Science*, Vol. 306, October 15, 2004, pp. 421-423

Dieter Birnbacher, "Can discounting be justified?" *International Journal of Sustainable Development*. Vol.

6, 1/2003, pp. 42-51.

T. J. Brennan, "Discounting the Future: Economics and Ethics", *Resources*, Summer 1995, pp. 3-6.

J. Broome, "Discounting the Future", *Philosophy and Public Affairs*, Vol. 23, 1994, pp. 128-156.

Lawrence H. Goulder and Robert N. Stavins, "Discounting: An Eye On The Future," *Nature*, Vol. 419, 2002, pp. 673 f.

S. Kim et al., "Prefrontal Coding of Temporally Discounted Values during Intertemporal Choice," *Neuron*, Vol. 59, No. 1, 2008.

Harold Linstone, "On Discounting the Future", *Technological Forecasting and Social Change*, Vol. 4 (1973), pp. 335-338.

Harold Linstone, *The Challenge of the 21st Century*, SUNY Press, 1994, pp. 256-261, 345-348.

I. Livingstone and M. Tribe, "Projects with Long Time Horizons: Their Economic Appraisal and the Discount Rate", *Project Appraisal*, Vol. 10, 1995, pp. 66-76.

Samuel McClure, et al., "Separate neural systems value immediate and delayed monetary rewards", *Science*, Vol. 306, October 15, 2004, pp. 503-507