TYPES OF ECOFEMINISMS

1) **Liberal feminism**
   a) Roots
      - equality for women, end exclusion from men’s realms
      - believe science, conservation, and legal system can solve environmental problems
   b) EF Critique: “Man and the Environment” or “Man and Nature” leaves out women
   c) EF Project: equal participation in environmental work, equal impact as women citizens, activists, professionals
   d) Problems
      - participates with men in elements of dominating nature, esp. in science and technology (has the effect of enlarging the dominating class)
      - fails to challenge the dominant model of what is human
      - ignores moral dimensions of domination

2) **Radical feminism**
   a) Roots: biologically based domination of women by men as root cause of oppression
   b) EF Critique:
      - rejects masculine ideals, esp. of aggression against nature and other humans, saying not only women and nature, but western culture itself has been deformed by masculinization.
      - western culture defines humanity in terms of the dominator identity of the master thus supporting destructive relations with women and nature.
      - rejects objectification of women and nature
      - male environmentalism retains hierarchies
   c) EF Project:
      - subversion, resistance, replacement of dominant society;
o rejects the master model to allow men and women to be part of both nature and culture
d) Problems
   o does not collaborate or cooperate with existing system
   o tends to value reason over body ways of knowing

3) Cultural (or essentialist) feminism
   a) Roots
      o biologically based domination of women by men as root cause of oppression
      o spirituality as source for personal and social change
      o celebration of women’s bodies and biology as motivation for activism
      o values of intuition, caring, interconnectedness
      o woman-identified movements
   b) EF Critique:
      o the naturalizing of domination -- male and female constructed to be polar exclusive opposites;
        dominant male taken as primary, female defined in relation to male; Female constructed as the "other",
        as exception, as subsumed so domination appears to be "natural"
      o not enough attention to env. impacts on women’s reproduction
   c) EF Project: lift up positive feminine virtues in relationship to nature as means to liberation from oppressive male social domination
d) Problems:
   o perpetuates dualistic views by reversal i.e. valuing women bodies/ideas/ways over men’s
   o tends to be ahistoric, leaves out historical context
   o tends to be centered in subjective experience, may overlook diversity or real people
   o essentialist, based on what is essential women’s “nature”
   o can be separatist or seen as separatist
4) **Socialist Ecofeminism**
   a) Roots
      o historical and economic analysis of role of women in society
      o values women’s roles in production and reproduction
   b) EF Critique: source of domination is capitalist patriarchy, accumulation of good and profits, patterns of colonization and oppression of subordinate peoples
   c) EF Project:
      o free women from trap of “barefoot and pregnant”
      o use structural analysis in applied situations to reveal impacts of capitalism on women and nature
      o deconstruct views of nature and human nature that have been socially and historically constructed
      o reproductive choice for women
   d) Problems
      o doesn’t include dynamic, dialectical relationship between human and nonhuman
      o doesn’t see women as product of natural world, just of human social forces

5) **Third wave of ecofeminism** = integrates insights from earlier waves; challenge is to develop a genuinely antidualistic framework
   a) From liberal feminism -- impulse to integrate women fully into human culture
   b) From radical feminism -- recognition that integration is only possible with profoundly different culture and concept of what is human
   c) From cultural feminism -- love and appreciation for women’s experience of body, place, and the nonhuman; politics of heart and community
   d) From socialist, anticolonialist, and black feminisms -- critical perspective in understanding of processes and structures of power and domination
Projects:
- collaboration with women of color
- reconstruction of science
- ecologizing of women’s health movement
- demilitarization
- promote diverse ways of knowing -- intuitive and scientific, mystical and rational