



EDUCATION 2021



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Covid-19 Influences in Environmentalism and Air Pollution: A Study

*Dr. O. Padmaja**

What is the environment? In one sense the answer is obvious. The environment is those special places that we are concerned to protect particularly in India. The environment includes not just the natural environment, but also the built environment. Indeed, we can even speak of the "social environment." The term 'environmentalism' was coined in 1923, to refer not to the activities of John Muir and the Sierra Club, but to the idea that human behavior is largely a product of the social and physical conditions in which a person lives and develops. This view arose in opposition to the idea that a person's behavior is primarily determined by his or her biological endowment. These environmentalists championed the "nurture" side in the "nature versus nurture" debate that raged in the social sciences for much of the twentieth century. They advocated changing people by changing society, rather than changing society by changing people.

While the scope of the environment is very broad, contemporary environmentalists are especially concerned to protect nature. Often the ideas of nature and the environment are treated as if they were equivalent, but they have quite different origins and histories. The Oxford English Dictionary defines 'environment' as "the objects or the region surrounding anything," (Oxford dictionary)

December 2019 in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China, the ongoing outbreak of COVID-2019 spread rapidly across a wide Science of the Total Environment 731 (2020) It is not only in the respective place of China but in European countries and eastern parts of the countries

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in the world. India, on the other hand, the effect of Covid 19 has been intensified severely in various parts of the country. Nevertheless, the Indian government has imposed the national lockdown for forty five days respectively. The imposed national lockdown has brought out many changes in human life and the environmentalism. The pollution has been reduced rapidly that resulted in increasing the experience of adequate rainy seasons in our country. Apart from it, the oxygen levels remain intact in the world environment. Prior to the covid-19, there used to be rapid changes in the environmental perspectives particularly the thwarting the growth of organic trees and vegetables point of view. Covid 19 has brought out noticeable changes in human endeavor and undergoing rapid changes in terms of earth and environmentalism. The world scientist witnessed the transformations in the wake of Covid 19.

As one of the most populous countries and one in which air pollution exposure historically has been among the highest globally, in recent years, China has begun to move aggressively to reduce air pollution. China's air pollution is still worse than that experienced, on average, around the globe, especially in northern China (Chen et al., 2017; Yao et al., 2016). According to the most recent data of the Ministry of Ecology and Environment (MEE) of China, February 2020, the top 10 cities with the poorest air quality were Yuncheng, Taiyuan, Baotou, Shijiazhuang, Linfen, Tangshan, Urumqi, Xianyang, Weinan, and Baoding, all of which are located.

The Wuhan lockdown set a precedent, and similar travel bans, including limits of nonessential movements in and out of cities, suspension of all transports, and closures of factories, were announced in other Chinese cities within days. These travel restrictions have since substantially mitigated the spread of COVID-2019 (Chinazzi et al., 2020; Kraemer et al., 2020; Tian et al., 2020). As a possible side effect of this unprecedented lockdown, many regions experienced a dramatic reduction in air pollution. In China, Finland's Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air reported that measures to contain the spread of COVID-19, such as travel restrictions and factory closures, produced a 25% drop in CO₂ (Carbon Brief 2020, <https://www.carbonbrief.org>). Similarly, the European Space Agency (ESA) satellite imagery showed a significant decline in NO₂ emissions in northern Italy between 1 January and 11 March 2020, coinciding with lockdowns to combat coronavirus.

ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGES

Additionally, the Institute of Environmental Science and Meteorology (IESM) estimated that since the implementation of the Luzon enhanced community quarantine on 16 March 2020, Metro Manila's PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀ emissions were reduced significantly as a result of decreased utilization of machines that crush and grind as well as low dust exposure from roads. Wang et al. (2020) empirically found that anthropogenic emission decreases due to suspension of transportation and industry, contributed to the decreases of PM_{2.5} concentrations. Human health is strongly influenced by air quality. According to the 2019 State of Global Air Report, air pollution killed an estimated 5 million people globally in 2017, and China topped the 10 countries with the highest mortality (1.2 million) (Health Effects Institute, see <https://www.healtheffects.org/>). Massive research conducted over the past several decades has revealed that air pollution causes people to die younger as a result of cardiovascular (Peng et al., 2009; Wong et al., 1999) and respiratory diseases (Katanoda et al., 2011; Nakao et al., 2018; Spix et al., 1998). A recent study conducted by Zhu et al. (2020) suggested that there is a relationship between higher concentrations of air pollutants and higher risk of COVID-19 infection. As one of the most populous countries and one in which air pollution exposure historically has been among the highest globally, in recent years, China has begun to move aggressively to reduce air pollution. China's air pollution is still worse than that experienced, on average, around the globe, especially in northern China (Chen et al., 2017; Yao et al., 2016).

According to the most recent data of the Ministry of Ecology and Environment (MEE) of China, as we battle the pandemic, other factors beyond the biomedical come into play. These have to do with the social and life worlds occupied unevenly by the vast populations affected by COVID-19. More than a pandemic, the age of COVID-19 is poised, given the specific conditions of the social, on the cusp of a syndemic.

AIR-POLLUTION

Many air pollution studies have illuminated that human-related activities, such as industrial production (Cole et al., 2005), traffic, and transportation (Chen et al., 2017; Fu and Gu, 2017; Lin Lawell et al., 2011), are the major contributors to air pollution, and extreme measures of full or partial lockdown may bring these production and consumption

activities almost to a standstill. This context provides us with a unique opportunity to examine the effects of human-related activities on air quality. Although satellite data have offered suggestive evidence of significant drops in air pollution concentration during lockdowns, it is insufficient to understand the pollution reduction effects of the unprecedented quarantine resulting from the COVID-19 outbreak. Questions remain as to whether, how, and to what extent these. A syndemic is a *synergistic epidemic*, where two or more sequential epidemics or disease clusters may occur through biological interactions, and add to the burden of the disease. Coined by medical anthropologist Merrill Singer in the 1990s, a syndemics approach accounts for not just comorbidities—a key element in current COVID-19 discourses—but also, for the social conditions in which vulnerability is heightened and cluster diseases may emerge. A primary reason for syndemics to emerge is health disparity.

WEATHER CONDITION

Weather conditions influence the formation and diffusion of air pollutants (Kallos et al., 1993; Yen et al., 2013). We downloaded city-level weather conditions data (see <https://freemeteo.cn/weather/>), which contained daily maximum and minimum temperatures, daily maximum wind and gust speeds, and records of rain and snowfall. These meteorological factors are closely related to air pollution. Considering that low temperature may be beneficial to improve air quality, we computed the daily mean temperature and its first difference values (i.e., $D.\text{meantem}$) as the control variable in.

Finally, the covid-19 pandemic situation is greatly influenced by the weather and environmentalism in the world. When the flights are stopped, there would be numerous changes in the ozone cycle that would result in bringing about the great changes in the environmentalism. One way or the other way, the covid 19 has become the yardstick in bringing about the changes in human life. In ensuing days, numerous novel corona virus would be occurred in damaging the environmentalism. So all human beings are prepared to face this pandemic.

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Education is the process of facilitating learning, or the acquisition of knowledge, skills, values, beliefs, and habits. Educational methods include teaching, training, discussion and directed research. Education frequently takes place in a school environment, but it can also occur in formal or informal settings and any experience that has a formative effect on the way one thinks, feels, or acts may be considered educational. The method of teaching is called pedagogy. Formal education is commonly divided formally into stages at preschool or kindergarten, primary school, secondary school and tertiary education, university, or apprenticeship.

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