Judaism, environmentalism and the environment: Mapping and analysis
Gerstenfeld, M.

Citation for published version (APA):
1) In the Bible, as well as in the Talmud and other rabbinical sources, references are made to many matters now considered environmental ones. Reading these together provides a balanced picture of the classical Jewish views on these issues, and shows that Judaism does not take them lightly.

(This thesis)

2) There is substantial scope for the expansion of contemporary environmental Halakha.

(This thesis)

3) The discussion on whether Judaism is anthropocentric or biocentric is misplaced as classical Judaism is theocentric.

(This thesis)

4) The many categories of Judaism-environment interaction make the creation of a new academic field of Jewish environmental studies worthwhile.

(This thesis)

5) Lynn White's oft-quoted article on the historical origins of modern environmental problems betrays ignorance of essential elements of classical Judaism.


6) In developing countries a significant number of environmental problems can be attenuated without major costs.


7) Zero pollution means almost zero human life.


8) Jewry has reasons to watch which direction the powerful, renewed worldwide interest in nature will take: particular causes for
concern are neo-paganism’s focus on nature and the ideological focus of extreme environmentalist currents.

(Manfred Gerstenfeld, Neo-paganism in the public square and its relevance to Judaism. *Jerusalem Letter/Viewpoints*, No. 392, October 15, 1998.)

9) The development of Jerusalem as an environmentally sustainable city could be a policy instrument in attenuating political tensions in the city.

(Manfred Gerstenfeld, Jerusalem’s Future as a Sustainable City. *JCT Perspective*, April, 1997, pp. 12-14.)

10) The application of business analysis methods to a variety of political problems – in addition to regular political analysis – can provide better insights in future political developments.


11) Israel’s dealing with terrorist violence can serve as a ‘laboratory of the future’ for the Western world.


12) Italy neglects a major potential economic resource: its Diaspora.


13) The increasing improvement and cost reduction of new communication technologies may reproduce a situation similar to that which pertained when European universities began: the best pupils and best teachers in a field will be able to interact.


14) New perspectives for Western European passenger railway strategies can be developed using a thinking model based on a scenario which begins with the non-existence of railways in modern society.


15) In order to set a worldwide example of environmentally concerned behavior, the United Nations should replace all their meetings with video-conferences. The same goes for all international meetings dealing with the environment.