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Capitalism and Natural Symbiosis

Jacob Reyes

Binghamton University--SUNY

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Natural Symbiosis and Capitalism

Jacob Reyes

Outline Of The Structure Of The Paper

This paper will begin with an introduction of a discussion about capitalism not being the natural best option for humanity. Then this will transition into an analysis of capitalism, its widespread acceptance, and its flaws. Then there will be a discussion of natural ecosystems and juxtaposition of them with human society. The paper will close with a conversation about the implications, further research, and conclusions.

Research Question

Capitalism presents itself - its logic (greed, selfishness, exploitation, etc.) - as unchangeable because they are simply nature. But is this really the case?

Implications

- Education and wider understanding about nature and capitalism among people can encourage proactive change.
- Further research can be done to determine solutions to problems related to capitalism.

Thesis

The society of trees and the very fabric of nature would seem to indicate that capitalism is not the world's default economic system. If people are shown through science that other species in the world, specifically plants and fungi, have symbiotic societies, they can learn that there is an option to embrace elements of alternative economic methods.

Benefits Of Symbiosis In The Forest

- Common Mycorrhizal Networks or CMNs are underground hyphal (long branching) networks created by mycorrhizal fungi that connect plants together and allow for the transfer of nutrients and minerals throughout entire forests.
- Interspecies cooperation.
- Elimination of competition.
- “[Plants] They are subtle, aware, strategic beings whose lives involve an environmental sensitivity very distant from the simple flower and seed factories of popular imagination” - Richard Karban
- Trees can cooperate to prepare their environments for natural threats like invasive species or dangerous climates.

