



ICEEM/01 – Environmental Education Section

ENERGY – A CHALLENGE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY

Carmen Cătălina Ioan

*Department of Environmental Engineering, Faculty of Industrial Chemistry, Bd. D.
Mangeron 71A, 6600 Iasi, Romania; ²"Al.I.Cuza" University of Iasi*

Abstract

The energy crisis is seen as an overall crisis related to the limited resources and to the environmental problems that derive from the energy utilization. The energy crisis demands the creation of the Environmental Ethics (similar to Bioethics in Medical Science), which will generate a harmony-based new attitude towards the natural and social environment, and which will impose a new social demand at the global level. The psychological effects of the energy crisis materialize in changes of the behavior. The relationship environment – behavior acts in both directions: the environment modifies the behavior, while the behavior determines changes in the environment. This relationship generates modifications of the attitudes and promotes a sustained and responsible behavior from the energy standpoint. In this context, the EP deals with the transformation of the relationships between the environment and the human behavior.

The specific manifestations of the stress are nurtured by the energy crisis and the means of reducing it. The result of this stress is the inefficiency of the individual and of the group, and finally the failure. Yet, the optimum of frustration may increase the group's efficiency and the climate of mutual confidence.

The social demand will re-orient the direction of the group's rally in order to surmount the deadlock and to advance for progress. The adopted strategy derives directly from the concept of sustainable development.

Keywords: environmental psychology, energy, sustainable development
