Key concepts: Doughnut economics

Living within Planetary Limits and Addressing Basic Needs

Like Monbiot, Kate Raworth, an English economist working for the University of Oxford and the University of Cambridge, clarifies the critical ecological, social, and economic challenges we face in the 21st century.

1.1 Scan Kate Raworth's writings on Doughnut Economics at her website:
https://www.kateraworth.com/doughnut/

1.2 Watch the “One–minute introduction to the Doughnut,” by animator Jonny Lawrence, linked to on Raworth’s website. (1:26)

Raworth, Kate. “Kate Raworth on Growth,” video, 3:26, posted by The RSA to YouTube, March 25, 2014.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mkg2XMTWV4g
Kate Raworth’s doughnut economics graphic draws on years of scientific research by earth scientists into the limits of the planet’s various ecosystems (See Rockström in supplemental readings). In the visual graphic above, the outer boundary consists of nine planetary boundaries or environmental ceilings beyond which lie unacceptable environmental degradation and potential tipping points that threaten human civilization. As you will see below in Figure 1.2, we are already in overshoot in several areas.
The inner ring or social foundation identifies twelve social dimensions that Raworth took from the minimum standards of social wellbeing, internationally agreed to and set by the United Nations as the world’s Sustainable Development Goals in 2015. In the innermost circle, however, she finds evidence that here too we are globally falling short in meeting many basic needs. Between social foundations and ecological ceilings lies the environmentally safe and socially just space she thinks we need to strive for if humanity is to thrive.