ARGUMENT:

CAPITALISM IS BAD FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

ARGUMENT #1

P1. Capitalism requires Growth

P2. Growth requires Mass Consumption

P3. To meet the demands caused by Mass Consumption, Capitalism has used environmental resources at an unsustainable level

C1. A system which uses environmental resources at an unsustainable level is exploitative, i.e., damaging to the environment

FIRST COUNTER

CAPITALISM CAN RESULT IN WASTE & POLLUTION BUT SO, TOO, CAN ANY ECONOMIC SYSTEM

SECOND COUNTER

CONSUMERISM IS NOT NECESSARILY CAUSED BY SPENDING BUT BY INVESTMENT

ARGUMENT #2

P1. Capitalism rewards cost-efficiency

P2. Thus short-term profitability is desirable

P3. Actions resulting in environmental harm but yielding immediate profitability are deemed acceptable

P4. Actions such as environmental reforms which reduce harmful environmental damage are deemed unacceptable (due to the erosion of profitability in the short-term)

C1. Capitalism incentivizes environmental harm.

FIRST COUNTER

MOVEMENTS SUCH AS CSR, ISO26000, B CORPS SUGGEST THAT MANY COMPANIES REJECT THE SHORT-TERM FOCUS

SECOND COUNTER

THE RISING & STAGGERING COSTS OF CLIMATE-RELATED DISASTERS COULD FORCE A MINDSET CHANGE

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