**Lesson Plan Package 3 – Controversial Issues**

**LP5 – Harmful Environmentalism**

**Environmentalism and Me Worksheet**

Instructions: First think about the question of whether or not environmentalists do more harm then good, and then complete the following sentences:

***I believe...***

***My relevant values to this belief are...***

***The life experience that has given rise to this belief is...***

***The ways in which I practice this believe are...***

Now read through the following testimonies and complete the sentences below for each person:

Testimony 1: Simon

I own a cattle farm in Wales. I do think that environmentalists make some good points (and even my own daughter is passionately vegetarian due to growing up with our animals!), but the widespread trend to move towards veganism is actually doing our environment more harm than good, I believe. Firstly because beef production can be regenerative rather than degenerative when managed properly, helping to restore soils and biodiversity and sequester carbon - but this is lost on some activists. Secondly because a fixation on alternatives like soy leads to deforestation as well as high greenhouse gas emissions. Grazing animals may be the best long-term option for us and I fear environmentalists are doing more damage than they realise!

***Simon believes...***

***The life experience that has given rise to this belief is...***

Testimony 2: Maya

My name is Maya, I’m 24 years old. I grew up in Calder Valley in Yorkshire – you may have heard of us as we’re constantly being hit by bad storms and floods! My entire house has been flooded six times in the last 5 years. I’ve given up on installing carpet and am beginning to feel wary of ever switching any electricity on downstairs. I personally think the flooding is due to all the deforestation happening in the area, and I've read that global warming can impact rainfall. I wasn’t too concerned about climate change when I was younger but now I salute all the people fighting to make the government take necessary action – their work is vital!

***Maya believes...***

***The life experience that has given rise to this belief is...***

Testimony 3: Kyri

I’m Kyri and I’m part of the Ground Operations team and London Airport. To be honest, after what I’ve seen, I think it’s highly appropriate that Environmental and animal rights activists have been referred to the government’s controversial anti-radicalisation programme. They’ve been blocking entrances, delaying flights and one protestor even climbed on top of a plane on a runway – ridiculously dangerous and disruptive for everyone. My colleague thinks they’re fantastic and is keen to join, which I can’t understand; we see the traffic day in day out and know full well how much development we owe to our ability to fly. Entire sectors depend on aviation; I don’t think we can reduce the whole debate to ‘planes are bad for the environment’. The irony is more fuel was burnt that day due to the delay they caused!

***Kyri believes...***

***The life experience that has given rise to this belief is...***