



JOURNAL OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND CAPABILITIES

CALL FOR PAPERS – SPECIAL ISSUE

ENERGY JUSTICE AND THE CAPABILITY APPROACH

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Deadline for Submission of Abstracts: November 30, 2019

Deadline for Submission of Full Papers: March 31, 2020

Theme

Access to energy has become an important concern within both the current political and scientific discourse. The significance of access to clean and affordable energy for sustainable development is demonstrated by the fact that it has been put forward as one of the UN Sustainable Development Goals, whilst within already more developed countries, energy poverty as a distinct form of deprivation continues to receive the attention of campaign groups, if not politicians. What needs to be acknowledged is that the distribution of the benefits and externalities of energy gives rise to ethical questions both within the present generation, for example between more and less economically developed countries, and between current and future generations. With the emergence of the field of ‘energy justice’ over the last 8-10 years, social scientists and philosophers have shown increasing interest in questions of social, global and intergenerational justice related to energy production and consumption. Much of this thinking manifests through the energy justice literature, which mostly represents (typically anthropocentric and social) justice agendas through the lenses of distributional, recognition and procedural justice.

More recently, scholars have started to turn to the Capabilities Approach as a fruitful framework for articulating questions of energy and justice (Day, Walker, Simcock 2016; Melin, Kronlid 2019). It is readily apparent that access to energy is essential for the realization of many central capabilities. At the same time, energy production and consumption have many negative environmental consequences that directly and indirectly threaten human capabilities, for current and for future generations. Applying the CA to energy questions also

brings the approach to new applications that should be of interest to Capability Approach scholars. For example, the link between energy production and environmental limits means that questions of justice require attention to capability limits and ceilings as well as to capability thresholds; a challenge for the literature as it currently stands. There is then, much scope for developing capabilities based formulations of energy justice, but as yet this is under-developed territory, with a number of theoretical and methodological challenges to be worked out.

Possible topics for papers entered to the special issue include but are not restricted to:

- Understanding and analyzing energy poverty and injustice in terms of capabilities, theoretically and empirically
- Utilization of the CA for assessment of the impacts of energy projects on different population groups and in different settings.
- How the capability approach does or does not articulate the intersection between distributive, recognition and procedural justice in the context of energy production and consumption.
- Widening the scope of the CA to consider non-humans and/or future generations
- Establishing capability thresholds and ceilings, in the context of climate change
- Methodological issues in applying the CA for energy poverty and energy justice in different settings.

Submission Procedure

Please first submit an abstract of 200-300 words to Anders Melin (anders.melin@mau.se) no later than November 30. Write “energy justice abstract” in the subject line. Following review of abstracts, authors will be notified within two weeks of whether a full paper will be invited for submission.

Please submit full papers online at: <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/cjhd>. According to the JHDC’s guidelines for preparing manuscripts, please send the paper identified as “Main Document”, with all information identifying the authors removed to allow it to be refereed anonymously. When submitting, please choose ‘special issue article’ as the manuscript type, and ‘Special Issue on Energy Justice’ as the special issue name.

The main document should include the following:

- The title of the paper.
- An abstract of approximately 150–200 words.
- Up to five key words.
- Numbered pages in sequence.

· All necessary material (e.g. figures and tables and their captions; appendices).

In addition to the main manuscript, a separate file should also be sent, identified as “Title Page”, and must include all of the following information:

- The title of the paper
- The names of the authors
- The full postal and email addresses of all the authors
- Affiliation details for each author (job title, institution, city, country)
- A brief biographical note for each author (around 100 words)
- One author should be indicated as “Corresponding author”. He/she will be notified of the selection outcome after submission of the manuscript to an anonymous peer review process, and if the paper is selected.

Complete instructions for authors can be found at the publisher’s website:

<http://www.tandfonline.com/action/authorSubmission?journalCode=cjhd20&page=instructions>

The deadline for submission of full papers is **March 31, 2020**. For inquiries, please contact Anders Melin (anders.melin@mau.se). The Special Issue will be published in **February 2021**.