



Medicine and Health | Saving Planet Earth

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There are close parallels between our growing concern for the future safety of our planet and the increasing interest many of us are taking in our health. The overwhelmingly artificial lifestyle of the 'developed' world has seen to it that our conventional medicine has developed along lines as scientific as car design and that medical education is still largely training in physical diagnosis. Similarly we live by economic growth and business training is still largely about managing money rather than resources.

These two books successfully make the point that 'Western' approaches leave out a lot of considerations which can do much to benefit the health of person and planet. Each promotes an awareness of the holistic approach to its subject now reaching increasing numbers of us - even, sometimes, the Big Decision Makers.

Of the two, Kerven's covers the more familiar ground as it chronicles green initiatives from tree-hugging to peatless compost and emphasises the low-impact lifestyle of 'primitive' peoples. These benefits surface again in **Medicine** as it examines complementary and alternative practices with commendable objectivity.

There's a lot of entertainment in these books and much unfamiliar information in **Medicine**: they're at once abrasive and open-minded. which fit them well for a role as discussion-starters in secondary schools.

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