

The Influence of Activism on Environmental and Marine Policy

Activism and advocacy have had an important role in the formation of marine policy, especially since the Environmental Movement of the 1960s and 1970s. In this presentation I will briefly look at the history of activism's role in shaping policy and some of the major marine and ocean policies enacted as a result of that movement. A major trend in environmentalism has been the adoption of "charismatic macro fauna" as the faces of activism. I will examine two such protection cases, for dolphins and turtles, in which advocacy had an important role on both the side of the environmentalists and of industry. Finally I will pose questions for further areas of research