Scientific insights: answers?
When do I take action or ‘believe’?

• Inductive reasoning: ‘bottom up’
  – Honey bees *Apis mellifera* how do they find their way?
• Deductive reasoning: ‘top down’
  – Using a general theory, derive a testable prediction about a specific case: Sea otters as keystone predators

Worldview: what the world means to me (and my kind)

• Religion
• Resource abundance
• Standard of living
• Interaction with ‘outgroups’
• Government
• And….?

Imbalances?

• 1/5 of the world’s population live in the 20 richest countries (25K/yr)
• Yet…in the U.S 35 million people (1/3 children) live without sufficient food.
• U.S spends $38 billion yr. on diet programs

Education and fertility rates (women) 2000

• Inverse relationship (education/TFR)
  – Ethiopia: 6%/6.6
  – Cambodia: 17%/5.1
  – Egypt: 80%/3.4
  – South Africa: 95%/3.1
  – Italy: 95%/1.3
  – U.S: 95%/2.0

Religion (2000)

• 83% of the world is religious (5 billion people). 2/3 belong to the ‘big three’
• Christian: 33%, (2 billion)
• Islam: 20%, 1.2 billion
• Hindu: 12.5 %, 800 million

| TABLE 1.2 Average Indicators of Quality of Life for the Ten Richest and Poorest Countries† |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| INDICATOR               | POOR COUNTRIES | RICH COUNTRIES |
| Per capita GNP         | 5170          | 529,946       |
| Life expectancy        | 47.4 years    | 77.9 years    |
| Infant mortality        | 114           | 5.7           |
| Child deaths           | 194           | 7.5           |
| Safe drinking water    | 42%           | NA†           |
| Female literacy        | 38%           | 97%           |
| Birthrate†             | 43.2          | 11.4          |

Notes: Averaged as a group; †per 1,000 live births; ‡per 1,000 children under age 5; *not available, but close to 100 percent; †per 1,000 people.
Source: Data from World Resources Institute, 1996-97, Oxford University Press, New York.
How we think, what we believe, how we are governed, all influence how we behave, including our behavior towards our environment.