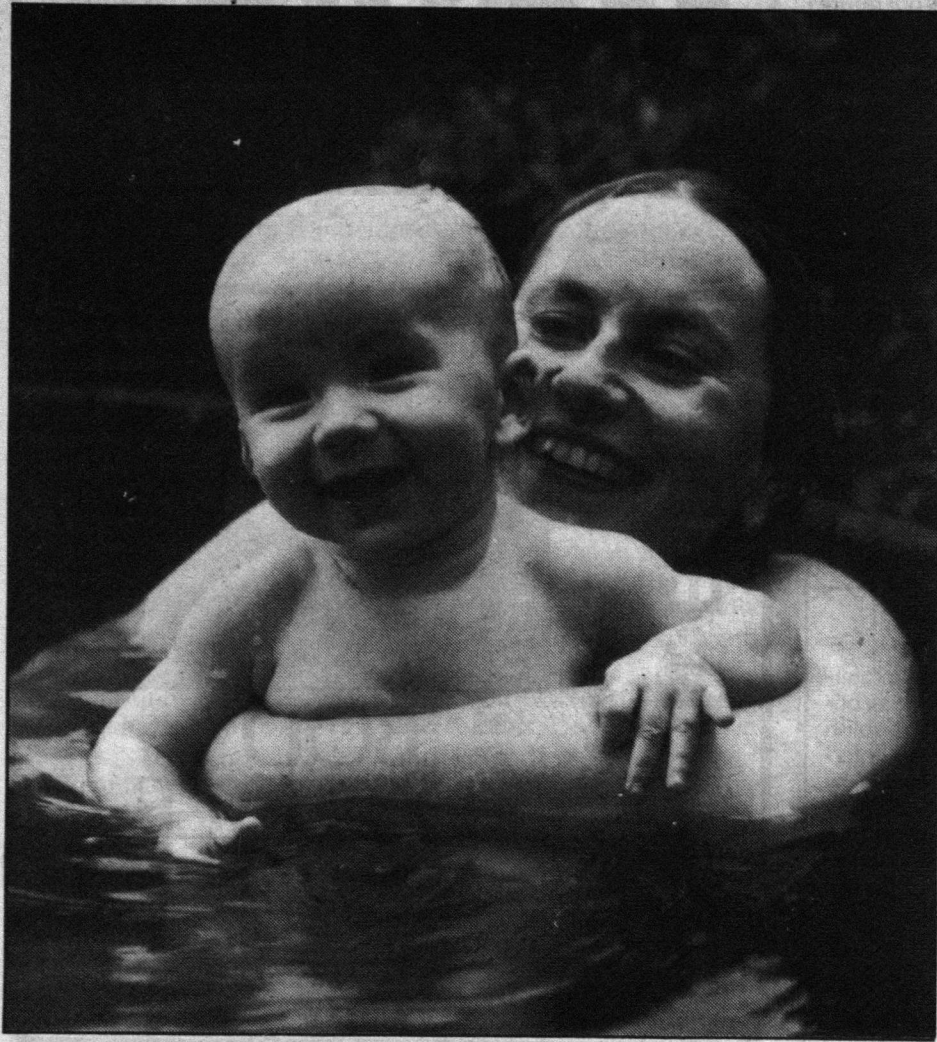


David Suzuki and the CBC:

by Olga Jagodnik



This baby was fathered from a sperm bank of Nobel Prize winners.

"Western culture is the greatest threat on earth, and extinction is sure," states Dr. David Suzuki, "unless we change our way of thinking and practices regarding the world's resources."

The renowned scientist was in Edmonton Tuesday to introduce viewers to his new eight-part series, "A Planet for the Taking," starting Wednesday, February 6 at 8:00 p.m. The series was three years in the making and will replace his on-going 'The Nature of Things' for an eight-week period.

The two shows differ greatly. "A Planet for the Taking," says Suzuki, will be able to take an issue like the Alberta Tar sands and not only discuss moral dilemma on that issue but will explore the cause of the basis of our relationship with nature. The series will be a profound change from any work he has done in the past and, he hopes, will cause viewers to really think about man's relationship to his environment.

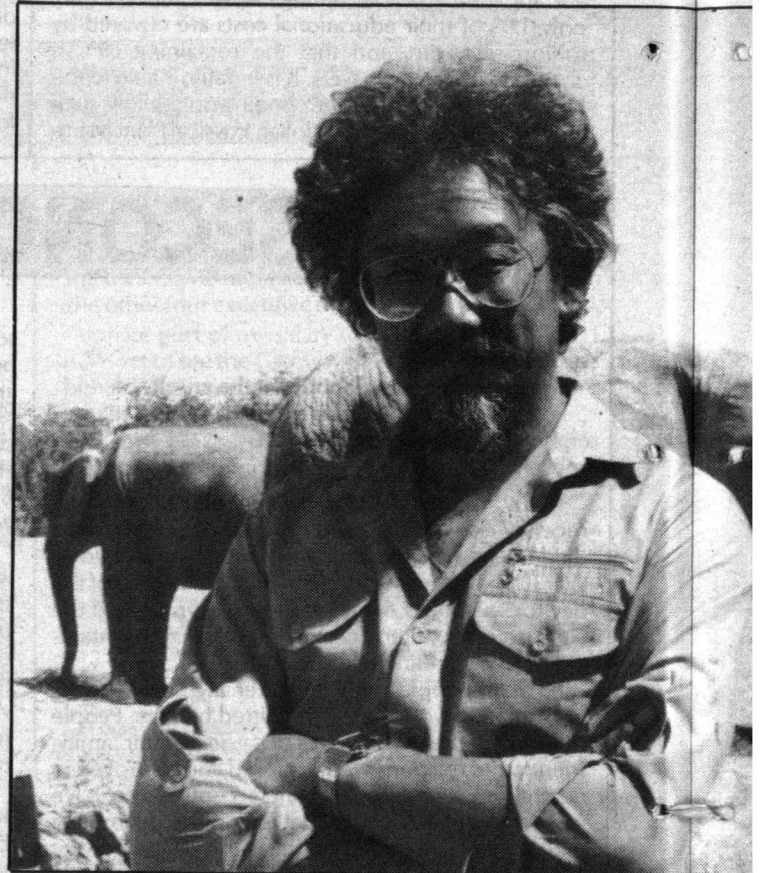
The first episode, called 'Human Nature,' and filmed in Botswana, Tanzania, Kenya and the U.S., deals with man's origins and the biological inheritance we share with other life forms. The second episode, 'The Myth-makers,' is filmed on three continents and explores the many myths and religions that humans have developed to explain their

existence on earth. Many of these beliefs are strongly rooted in a Judeo-Christian tradition, says Dr. Suzuki.

"Look at the Book of Genesis in the Bible," he says. "It teaches that man is made in the image of God, that he should go out into the world and subdue it. Man is supreme over birds, animals, and his environment, and as God's descendent his role is to conquer nature." These beliefs are entirely contrary to those held by people in Southern India where the Hindus feel that it is their aim in life to "resonate in harmony with the universe, not dominate it," according to Dr. Suzuki.

Man's control of nature and his attitude that everything is his to use, is examined in 'Subdue the Earth.' Episode Three is a particularly pessimistic one, says Suzuki. Given the way things are going today, he feels personally that his two young children will not live to see adulthood. Though the subjects dealt with in this segment may be difficult to accept, one is still left with a feeling of hope.

'Who Needs Nature?' deals with two very contrasting pictures. We are taken to places where animals and wildlife are revered—Disneyland, Marineland and zoos. This viewpoint will explore man's attempts to win battles with animals in bullrings and rodeos, where calves are shown with necks broken in the struggle to resist men. This show, says Dr. Suzuki, deals mainly with the ways man



David Suzuki talks to elephants on new CBC series.

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