The Potential for Risk Governance through Organizational Safety Culture

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Organizational theory perspectives on culture and ‘sustainability’

- Limited empirical work on culture and environmental management
  - More work on safety culture
  - Safety can be put in personal terms
- Combination of practices contributes to safety culture
  - Modeling, codification, communication, incentives, & training
  - As well, employees must feel able, as a group or individual, to act on company commitments


Organizational culture literature

- Long emphasis on shared values
- Increasing attention to culture as patterns of day-to-day practices
  - People use “repertoires” of cultural resources (Swidler, 2003)
  - Cultural resources reside at the group, organization, or industry level
  - Resources may “move” from industry to organization, or organization to industry
