**Introduction**:

**The Effect Global Environmental Injustice**

**What is Environmental Injustice?**

In a nut shell environmental injustice is the lack or total absence of environmental justice because Environmental justice is a concept that links the environmental health science documenting these harms, to debates around rights, justice and equity. It fundamentally deals with the distribution of environmental goods and harms and looks at who bears those harms and who is responsible for creating those harms, in both a practical sense but also in terms of policy decisions. It is a radical environmental health movement that has evolved from civil society groups, angered at what they perceive as the `unjust' distribution of environmental resources for health and, conversely the `unjust' distribution of environmental harms. The movement now includes a collaboration of non-governmental organizations with environmental scientists, public health professionals, and lawyers, all working on the issue of the distributions of environmental harms and the rights of everyone to a healthy environment around the glob.as it’s as our ecology post a question to we all and our health is at stake.

In the words of [Bunyan Bryant](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Bunyan_Bryant&action=edit&redlink=1), "Environmental justice is served when people can realize their highest potential"(Bunyan).

The whole is effected with a common issue which is the environmental injustice, global environmental injustice ranges from smaller scale to the largest community and to the world at large we are face with a common problem that post a threat to humanity. From our local, our life, community to the sure of our borders our environment is deteriorating, the ecology is suffering while the ozone layer is wearing out, plants and animal species are fading away, and spillage and pollution are uncontrollable. The poor community and undeveloped countries are becoming a dumping

**The Brief history of Environmental justice:**

Environmental justice emerged as a concept in the United States in the early 1980s; its proponents generally view the environment as encompassing "where we live, work, and play" (some definitions also include 'pray' and 'learn') and seek to redress inequitable distributions of environmental burdens (such as pollution, industrial facilities, and crime). Root causes of environmental injustices include "institutionalized racism; the co-modification of land, water, energy and air; unresponsive, unaccountable government policies and regulation; and lack of resources and power in affected communities (Rawls).

**Effect and Problems of environmental injustice:**

**Below are five effective problems of environmental injustice;**

1. **The issue Ecological destruction:**

Environmental justice affirms the sacredness of Mother Earth, ecological unity and the interdependence of all species, and the right to be free from ecological destruction.

1. **Lack of mutual respect and justice for all peoples:**
2. **Lack Universal protection from nuclear testing**
3. **Lack Safe and healthy work environment:**
4. Environmental justice demands the right to participate as equal partners at every level of decision-making including needs assessment, planning, implementation, enforcement and evaluation.
5. Environmental justice affirms the right of all workers to a safe and healthy work environment, without being forced to choose between an unsafe livelihood and unemployment. It also affirms the
6. **Lack of Justice in the of Land and other resources:**
7. Environmentaljustice opposes the destructive operations of multi-national corporations.
8. Environmental justice opposes military occupation, repression and exploitation of lands, peoples and cultures, and other life forms.
9. Environmental justice calls for the education of present and future generations, which emphasizes social and environmental issues, based on our experience and an appreciation of our diverse cultural perspectives.
10. Environmental justice requires that we, as individuals, make personal and consumer choices to consume as little of Mother Earth’s resources and to produce as little waste as possible; and make the conscious decision to challenge and reprioritize our lifestyles to insure the health of the natural world for present and future generations (Bryant).
    1. **Founding of Environmental Justice Research;**

He Warren County demonstrations prompted District of Columbia Delegate Fauntroy to request a U.S. General Accounting Office (GAO) investigation of hazardous wastelocations in EPA’s facility Region IV—eight states in the South (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee).

* 1. [Environmental Racism and Environmental Justice](http://www.iep.utm.edu/enviro-j/#H3)

The environmental justice proponents contend that governmental policy is also bent toward the deliberate targeting of communities of color for toxic waste disposal and also the establishing of polluting industries in those communities. Further, policy and legislation not only permit but also endorse the official sanctioning of life-threatening poisons and pollutants being located in communities of color (Bullard).

* 1. [Principles of the Environmental Justice Movement](http://www.iep.utm.edu/enviro-j/#H4)

The result of the 1992 National Law Journal report concluded that the EPA had discriminated in its enforcement of Environmental Protection Law Report, which was intended to remedy the reality of environmental racism in the United States. Consequently, in 1991 at the First National People of Color Leadership Summit meeting in Washington D.C., the Principles of Environmental Justice were adopted.  These principles represent an initial rallying cry on behalf of those inhabitants, human and non-human, who are the victims of environmental injustice, and eventually established a context for a guide to action regarding governmental legislation.  Those principles are (Eddy).

1. Environmental justice affirms the sacredness of Mother Earth, ecological unity and the interdependence of all species, and the right to be free from ecological destruction.
2. Environmental justice demands that public policy be based on mutual respect and justice for all peoples, free from any form of discrimination or bias.
3. Environmental justice mandates the right to ethical, balanced and responsible uses of land and renewable resources in the interest of a sustainable planet for humans and other living things.
4. Environmental justice calls for universal protection from nuclear testing, extraction, production and disposal of toxic/hazardous wastes and poisons and nuclear testing that threaten the fundamental right to clean air, land, water, and food.
5. Environmental justice affirms the fundamental right to political, economic, cultural and environmental self-determination of all peoples.
6. Environmental justice demands the cessation of the production of all toxins, hazardous wastes, and radioactive materials, and that all past and current producers are held strictly accountable to the people for detoxification and the containment at the point of production.

[**Causes of Environmental Injustice**](http://www.iep.utm.edu/enviro-j/#H5)

1. Environmental injustice is said to exist when members of disadvantaged ethnic minority or other groups suffer disproportionately at the local, regional (subnational), or national levels from environmental risks or hazards or from violations of fundamental human rights as a result of environmental factors.
2. One cause of environmental injustice is institutionalized racism.  Institutionalized racism is defined as the practical reality of deliberately and intentionally targeting neighborhoods and communities comprised of a majority of people of low socio-economic status and of a collective group of individuals of color and is considered to be the natural outgrowth of racism.
3. Another factor leading to the reality of environmental injustice is the commoditization of land, water, energy and air. This has resulted in their being secured and protected for the benefit of that in power over those who lack power

**Proposed solutions to environmental injustice**

When the general Public participate to push justice it can facilitate solutions to many environmental justice problems or, conversely, the absence of meaningful public participation often amplifies or creates environmental injustices. If decisions are made, such as where to site a power plant that will have emissions or whether or not to raise Shasta dam and flood cultural sites, without consulting with affected populations, environmental injustices will result. One of the participants at a CALFED environmental justice workshop said that, "environmental justice means inclusion." In order to know whom to include, agencies and companies must predict the effects of their proposed action on populations. Finding and contacting minority or low-income groups in the area can help to ensure that undue burdens are not inadvertently imposed. By investigating environmental injustices through the quantitative and qualitative approaches of gathering local data and building community capacity, the Pacific West Community Forestry Center may be able to provide both information to affected groups, and data to agencies on who may be affected by their policies and what mitigations or participatory strategies need to be undertaken to eliminate ill effects or nagativities.

When the an organized movement uses method like, Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping can be a helpful tool to predict where impacts will occur and who will be affected. Potentially affected communities should be part of the impact assessment and decision-making processes for the project, at the early stages. Affected groups need time and relevant information in order to be able to provide input into the evaluation of alternatives to the proposed project. If impacted populations are not allowed to participate in a meaningful way, participation becomes an environmental injustice in itself.

Environmental injustices can only be done effectively with community participation. People must be able to affect both the problems and the solutions that impact them, or mitigations will be inappropriate or inadequate. This requires, at a minimum, that the predicted and actual impacts of the project are re-evaluated and that mitigations or compensatory benefits are monitored for effectiveness during the life of the project.

**Alternative approaches to solving the problem of environmental injustice**

The use of precautionary principle like scientific studies, survey, ethnicity, geographical historical study of the climate, and the use of industrial technology should help communities to understand their risks and options, disseminate important information, and document and legitimize little-heard concerns. Populations that subsist on fishing from the New River in Southern California, for example, are mostly Latino and have almost no information in Spanish about the actual toxicity of the water, which is an abnormal greenish color. These fishers have high levels of illness and nearby companies and farms may or may not be taking precautionary activities to make sure that the chemicals they put into the water do not affect people. The affected community has no way of knowing. By supporting local farms, shareholders are supporting the local economy as well as ecology by preserving open space. In addition, shareholders have the advantage of knowing exactly where their produce is coming from as well as what the soil conditions are and whether pesticides and fertilizers have been used.

**Major Transnational Social Movement Organizations**

* **Basal Action Network** — works to end toxic waste dumping in poor undeveloped countries from the rich developed countries (Park).
* **GAIA (Global Anti-Incinerator Alliance)** — works to find different ways to dispose of waste other than incineration. This company has people working in over 77 countries throughout the world.
* **GR (Global Response)** — works to educate activists and the upper working class how to protect human rights and the ecosystem.
* [Greenpeace International](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greenpeace_International) — which was the first organization to become the global name of Environmental Justice. Greenpeace works to raise the global consciousness of transnational trade of toxic waste.
* Health Care without Harm — works to improve the public health by reducing the environmental impacts of the health care industry.
* International Campaign for Responsible Technology — works to promote corporate and government accountability with electronics and how the disposal of technology affect the environment.
* [**International POPs Elimination Network**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_POPs_Elimination_Network) — works to reduce and eventually end the use of [persistent organic pollutants](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Persistent_organic_pollutant) (POPs) which are harmful to the environment.
* PAN (Pesticide Action Network) — works to replace the use of hazardous pesticides with alternatives that are safe for the environment (Park).
* [Environmental Justice Policy and Law](http://www.iep.utm.edu/enviro-j/#H7)
* The organizes movement
* Civil Rights Movement

## Conclusion

In our world today there are still many instances of environmental injustices at work in our society and in our environment. In order to start really solving this problem, we have to examine the available solutions but also the origins of environmental injustice to ensure that we are not just “band-aiding” the problem, but taking it from the root. The origins of environmental injustice are in the fundamental disrespect that our culture has had for both the oppressed and the earth. In order to remedy this fundamental disrespect, we need to recognize that to respect all people and their right to live in a safe and healthy environment is to also recognize that we need to live more harmoniously with nature. Borrowing from another Earth First! Slogan,”This is not about getting back to nature, it is about understanding that we never left.” Solutions include litigation using equal protection strategies, but also examining ways to create cultural change, for example environmental education and adoption of new paradigms of respect for equality of all people and for the earth, that will cause environmental justice to become a reality.

**Citation**

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