



The Quest for Environmental Justice: Human Rights and the Politics of Pollution

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This much anticipated follow-up to Dr. Robert D. Bullard's highly acclaimed *Unequal Protection: Environmental Justice and Communities of Color* captures the voices of frontline warriors who are battling environmental injustice and human rights abuses at the grassroots level around the world, and challenging government and industry. policies and globalization trends that place people of color and the poor at special risk.

Part I presents an overview of the early environmental justice movement and highlights key leadership roles assumed by women activists. Part II examines the lives of people living in "sacrifice zones"—toxic corridors (such as Louisiana's infamous "Cancer Alley") where high concentrations of polluting industries are found. Part III explores land use, land rights, resource extraction, and sustainable development conflicts, including Chicano struggles in America's Southwest. Part IV examines human rights and global justice issues, including an analysis of South Africa's legacy of environmental racism and the corruption and continuing violence plaguing the oil-rich Niger Delta.

Together, the diverse contributors to this much-anticipated follow-up anthology present an inspiring and illuminating picture of the environmental justice movement in the first decade of the twenty-first century.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Bullard offers a disturbing account of the environmental and human cost of the excesses of capitalism in this follow-up to *Unequal Protection: Environmental Justice and Communities of Color*. This volume takes a fresh look at the often unequal distribution of environmental hazards to poor and minority communities, examining locations from Louisiana's "Cancer Alley" to Nigeria. In part one, women activists detail their gutsy battles against the combined power of business and government when their minority neighborhoods were threatened by industrial pollution. Part two tells the stories of people (again, mostly minorities and the poor) living in "sacrifice zones," such as Cancer Alley—the stretch down the Mississippi River in Louisiana where "approximately 80 percent of the total African American community in the nine parishes lives within three miles of a polluting facility." Parts three and four examine Chicano struggles in the Southwest and global justice issues, including "corrupt... petro-capitalism" in Nigeria, where deep poverty persists despite the country's oil wealth. Readers can learn much about those who pay the costs in safety and health for many of modern life's conveniences. (Oct.)

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From the Inside Flap

"A refreshing and timely overview of contemporary environmental justice struggles and the fight against environmental racism around the nation and indeed the world."--Congresswoman Maxine Waters

"Robert Bullard and his colleagues have made a crucial link between the global movement for environmental justice and the international human rights movement. It is difficult to overstate the importance of this work for the millions of people across the planet who are struggling against both environmental injustices and human rights abuses. The contributors to this volume present a powerful framework for moving forward to a state of the world that is socially just and ecologically sustainable."--David Naguib Pellow, author of *Garbage Wars: The Struggle for Environmental Justice in Chicago*

"Robert Bullard, whose scholarship created a whole field of study, continues to expand on our understanding of the environmental justice movement. In *The Quest for Environmental Justice*, Dr. Bullard has assembled a group of experts dedicated to eradicating the injustices suffered by people of color, indigenous peoples, and the poor. This volume presents more than 'the empirical evidence'; its focus is on the day-to-day struggles of those engaged in the environmental justice movement. It demonstrates our hopes and victories, our frustrations and defeats, our commitment to basic human rights and social justice."--David E. Camacho, Ph.D., Professor of Political Science and editor of *Environmental Injustices, Political Struggles: Race, Class, and the Environment*

"Bob Bullard has done it again: this latest compilation is a fresh, critical approach to the environmental justice field, reflecting the maturation of the movement and its scholars. It breaks new ground by seamlessly weaving in international environmental justice perspectives, with discussions of Columbia, the Philippines, and Nigeria as well as dozens of communities across the United States. Beyond being a compelling read--which it is--it is also a crucial reference work that collects key environmental justice data that will be useful for years to come. If you read one book on environmental justice this year, this is the one to read."--Luke Cole, Director, Center on Race, Poverty & the Environment

From the Back Cover

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

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