

# **Environmental Racism and its connections to COVID-19**

**By Evelyn & Addie**

# Today's Topic

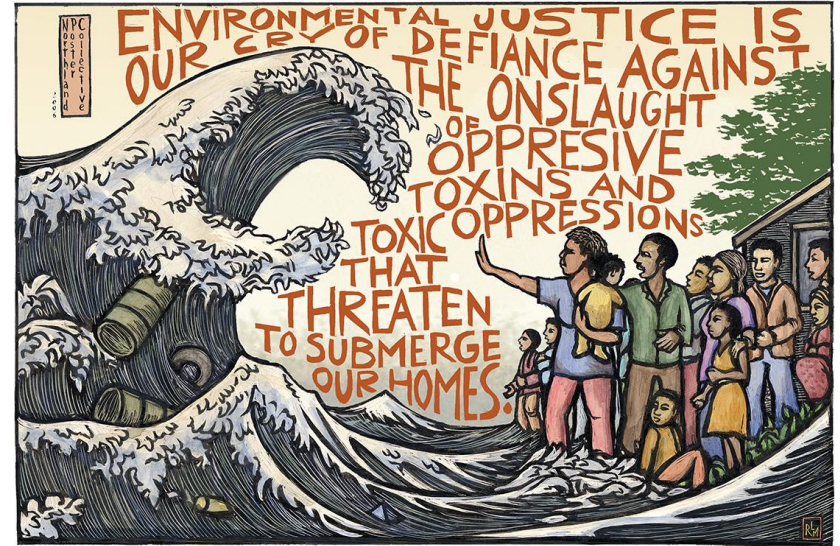
We as a community need to work together to stop the climate crisis. Things like environmental racism aren't talked about enough. It's time to stop thinking and start acting. It's time to treat this crisis like a crisis.



# Environmental Racism

- What is racism?
- How does it connect to the environment?

Lower income communities use land differently



# Where is environmental racism?

- Affects lower income communities
- Often seen in heavily polluted areas
- Less rules on air quality
- “We have a lot of communities that are basically sacrifice zones because they are dumping grounds for polluting facilities.” – Sacoby Wilson

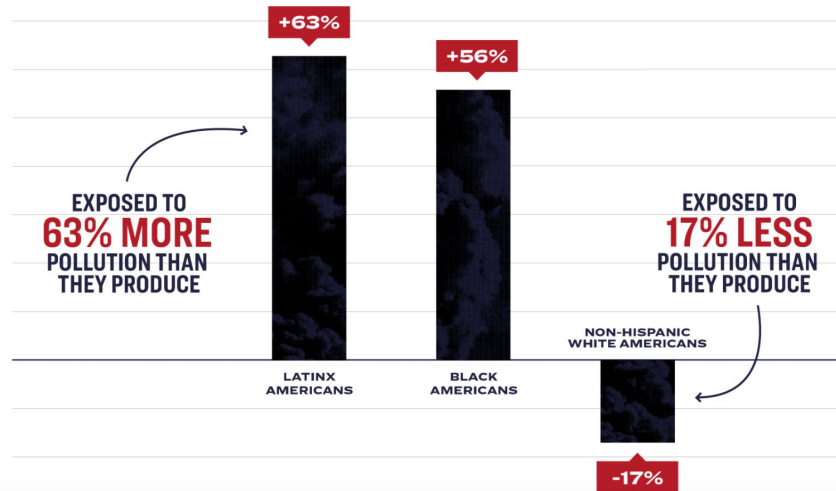
(<https://e360.yale.edu/features/connecting-the-dots-between-environmental-injustice-and-the-coronavirus>)



# What is environmental racism ?

- It's when people of color are more likely to be exposed to toxic waste
- People who live in less wealthy neighborhoods don't have options to eco friendly items and typically will use plastic

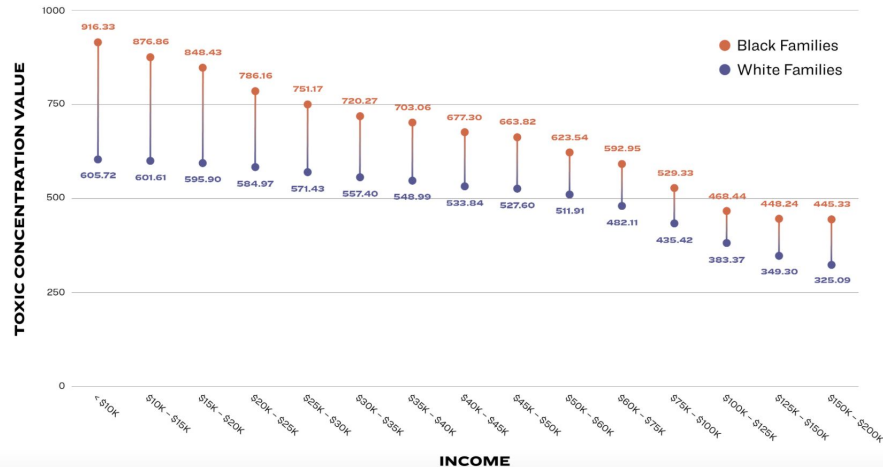
POLLUTION EXPOSURE BY POPULATION (2003-2015)



cont.

- People of color who make \$50,000 are still living near industrial chemicals, air pollution and poisonous heavy metals, as well as pathogens
- White people who make \$10,000 don't experience this

**AVERAGE NEIGHBORHOOD TOXIC CONCENTRATION VALUES BY RACE AND INCOME CATEGORY (2000)**



# Coronavirus effect on the poor

- Air pollution from travelling cars
  - Causes asthma
- Can cause bad cases of coronavirus
- Low income communities have been hit the hardest
  - Highest mortality rates
- Schooling





# How Dr. King was involved in the climate crisis

- After the Civil rights act King worked on environmental justice
- He went to Memphis, Tennessee to march with Black sanitation workers
- He died after being at the march in Memphis for the climate crisis





# What we can do to solve this problem

- Educate others
- Make sure that others are treated correctly
- Don't be shy to share your feelings about the problem
- Join peaceful protests
- EU is working on a post covid-19 plan that includes helping the environment

## Ways to

Protect the environment at home



1. Conserve energy
2. Save water
3. Use eco-friendly products
4. Use filtered water
5. Start a compost pile
6. Plant vegetables
7. Recycle and reuse
8. Pick up litter
9. Make homemade desserts
10. Use cloth shopping bags



**PROTECTING OUR PLANET STARTS WITH YOU**

<b>BIKE MORE DRIVE LESS</b>  Cut down on what you drive away. Follow the three "R's" to conserve natural resources and lessen spills.	<b>reduce REUSE recycle</b>  Cut down on what you throw away. Follow the three "R's" to conserve natural resources and lessen spills.	<b>choose sustainable</b>  Learn how to make smart seafood choices at <a href="http://www.FishWise.org">www.FishWise.org</a>	<b>PLANT A TREE</b>  Trees provide food and oxygen. They help save energy, clean the air, and help combat climate change.
<b>EDUCATE</b>  When you better yourself with education, you can help others understand the importance and value of our natural resources.	<b>CONSERVE WATER</b>  The less water you use, the less runoff and wastewater that eventually end up in the ocean.	<b>-SHOP- WISELY</b>  Buy less plastic and bring a reusable shopping bag.	<b>Don't send chemicals into our waterways.</b>  Choose nontoxic chemicals in the home and office.
<b>Volunteer!</b>  Volunteer for cleanups in your community. You can get involved in protecting your watershed too!	<b>Long-lasting light bulbs - ARE A - BRIGHT IDEA</b>  Energy efficient light bulbs reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Also flip the light switch off when you leave the room!		

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**Questions?**

# Sources

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