

Intersectional Environmentalism

**CBWC Meeting
10.7.2020**





ASK A QUESTION

Unite for Green



Unite for Green is an organization whose goals are to create programs and campaigns that assist Los Angeles in achieving their Zero Waste master plan (SWIRP).



Topics of Discussion

1. Intersectionality

How do oppressive acts impact specific communities of people

2. Environmentalism

The past, the present, and the future

3. Intersectional Environmentalism

The more inclusive envisioning of environmentalism





Intersectionality

Theoretical Framework

Intersectionality Theory

Kimberle Crenshaw

Professor of Law and
Intersectionality

[UCLA](#)
[Colombia](#)

A theoretical framework developed by Crenshaw in 1989 that describes how a person's identity intersects at their race, gender, disability, ethnicity, class, and culture. These individual identity markers can impact a person's experiences especially as it pertains to privilege and oppression.

IDENTITIES



RACE

If you are a POC you are more likely to live in a community that is economical oppressed, lacking of access to healthy whole foods, and/or living near a toxic factory or waste disposal site



GENDER

If you are a women, you are more likely to make less than a man for doing the same job, be sexually harrassed or assaulted, have your kidnapping or murder go un reported, and/or be denied basic health care and education



CLASS

If you are a poor human, you are more likely to have lived through various traumas before 2 years old, are dependent on the government for food that is not nutritious for you or your family, and/or you are unable to obtain a quality education

Feminism & LGBTQ

[ROXANE GAY: What Does it Mean To Identify As A Feminist?](#)

[The New York Times: Black Trans Women Seek More Space in the Movement They Helped Start](#)



A black and white photograph of two hikers walking away from the camera on a path through a forest. The hiker on the left is wearing a light-colored t-shirt and a backpack with a wide brim hat resting on top. The hiker on the right is wearing a camouflage-patterned shirt and a large, full backpack. The background is filled with trees and foliage, creating a bokeh effect. A dark blue geometric shape is partially visible on the left side of the image.

RACE

[TNR article: Fear of a Black Uprising](#)

CLASS

60 Minutes: Florida's
Amendment 4





Environmentalism

A man is captured mid-jump, falling into a calm lake. His arms are outstretched upwards, and his legs are bent. The background features steep, forested mountains under a clear sky. The water reflects the surrounding landscape. A semi-transparent blue rectangle is overlaid on the left side of the image, and a white rectangle with an orange border is on the right.

DOMINION VS. STEWARDSHIP VERSUS

GENESIS 1:26-28

Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth."

So God created humankind in his image

The Movement



History

[Timeline of the Environmental Movement and History](#)

[Video - History of Environmentalism](#)



Present

[Earth Day in the Time of Covid](#)

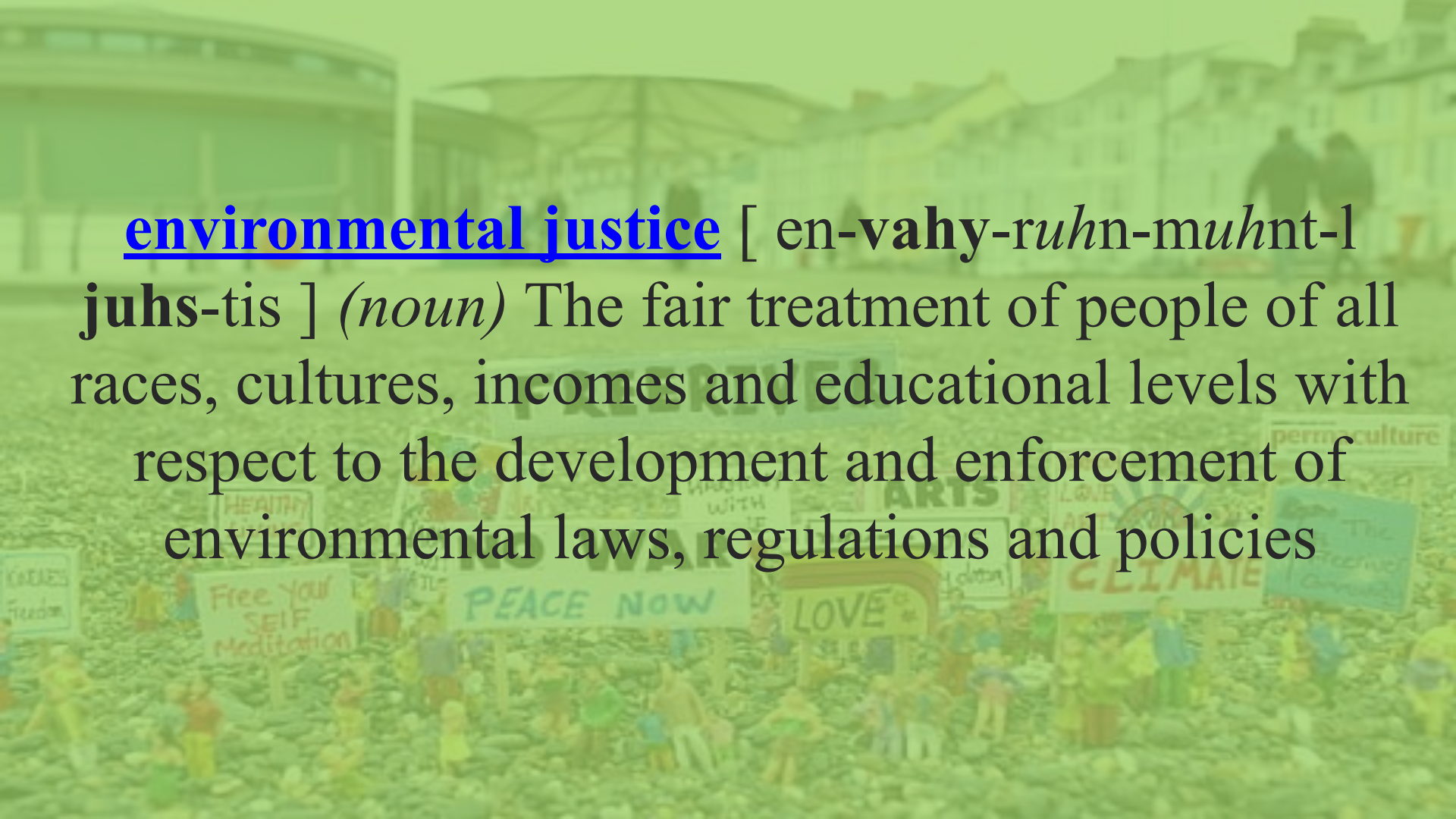
[Youth movement amplifying the voice of youth to fight climate change](#)



Future

[The Green New Deal?](#)

[Video: The New Green Deal Explained](#)



environmental justice [en-va~~h~~y-ruhn-muhnt-l
juhs-tis] (*noun*) The fair treatment of people of all
races, cultures, incomes and educational levels with
respect to the development and enforcement of
environmental laws, regulations and policies



Copyrighted Photo taken by Jenny Labalme
Permission granted to Saija Butt for her website

The initial environmental justice spark sprang from a Warren County, North Carolina, protest. In 1982, a small, predominately African-American community was designated to host a hazardous waste landfill. This landfill would accept PCB-contaminated soil that resulted from illegal dumping of toxic waste along roadways



- **Racialization** – the tendency to see everything through the lens of race, may prevent us from developing effective solutions • Not every racial problem has a racial solution

A photograph of a protest site, likely the 1968 American Indian Movement (AIM) occupation of Alcatraz. In the foreground, a large white banner is stretched across the frame with the words "FREEDOM FROM COLONIALISM" and "FREEDOM FROM RACISM" printed in bold, black, capital letters. Behind the banner, a large, traditional Native American teepee stands prominently. The background shows a line of trees and a clear sky. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent green filter.

FREEDOM FROM COLONIALISM
FREEDOM FROM RACISM



Environmental Racism

Since Warren County, we've seen multiply accounts of environmental racism from the eminent domain the government enacts to steal land from POC to the lack of water distribution systems in Flint Michigan.

Early Los Angeles EJ Struggles

Concerned Citizens of South Central LA

Mothers of East Los Angeles

Communities for a Better Environment

Bus Riders Union

ENVIRONMENTAL RACISM

RACE IS THE NUMBER
ONE INDICATOR FOR THE
PLACEMENT OF TOXIC
FACILITIES IN THE
UNITED STATES

Disproportionate impact of environmental
hazards on people of color
+ low-income communities, particularly
in Black neighborhoods

Toxic facilities emit mercury,
arsenic, lead, and other
contaminants into the water,
food + lungs of communities

Health Risks



ASTHMA

CANCER

REPRODUCTIVE HARM

OBESITY

DIABETES

HEART DISEASE

DEVELOPMENTAL HARM

Industrial Polluters



TOXIC WASTE DUMPS

LANDFILLS

CHEMICAL FACILITIES

TRASH INCINERATORS

COAL PLANTS

FACTORY FARMS

Food Deserts

Geographic areas where
residents' access to affordable,
healthy food options (especially
fresh fruits and vegetables)
is restricted or nonexistent
due to the absence of grocery
stores within convenient
travelling distance



@kimmietorgerson



Intersectionality Environmentalism



ENVIRONMENTAL
JUSTICE
17 PRINCIPLES

THANK YOU

TASHANDA GILES-JONES

EMAIL: TASHANDA.U4G@GMAIL.COM

IG: @mamatashanda

FB: <https://www.facebook.com/tgilesjones>
@UniteForGreen (currently being updated)

Work: Environmental Charter Schools:
<https://www.ecsonline.org>