

## The Meek Shall Inherit the Earth— Race, Class and Environmental Justice

Part II of the environmental justice and racism class will focus on modern day issues of environmental justice and how water quality, land use, pollution, industrial development and climate change are impacting urban and rural communities of color in New Mexico and throughout the United States. This interactive class will look at the many forms of environmental justice, outdoor elitism, health impacts/disparities and recent policies at the federal and state level seeking to address these issues. We will conclude with a discussion about what is your role and our congregation's role in protecting the environment and ensuring that all God's children have a safe, healthy and accessible outdoor environment

### **Goal**

To better understand modern day issues of environmental justice and our role in protecting the environment.

### **Resources**

*Follow-Up on Class 1: This Land Is Your Land, This Land Is My Land???*

- **Rev. Andrew Black's Sermon on Interpreting Difficult Biblical Texts on Creation and Environment.** "Dealing with Difficult Biblical Texts of Creation: The Call to be EarthKeepers." Video of Creation Care Sermon, April 26, 2020. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f7wF7ElUe9o&feature=youtu.be>
- **NPR Discusses Tribal Lands and Malheur Militia Takeover.** "Oregon Occupation Unites Native American Tribes To Save Their Land," NPR, October 27, 2016. <https://www.npr.org/2016/10/27/499575873/oregon-occupation-unites-native-american-tribes-to-save-their-land>
- **Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is: Get Serious & Consider Your Investments.** "Money Talks, Carbon Walks," by Michael Brune, *Sierra*, May/June 2014. <http://www.earth-keepers.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Money-Talks.pdf>

*Foundations of Environmental Justice*

- **Video: The Faces of Environmental Justice.** "Taking a Stand Against Environmental Injustice," Video by Pearson, May 7, 2018. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YMJNqKbtC-Q>

- **Dumping in Dixie: Exploring the Roots of Environmental Justice.** Robert D. Bullard, excerpt from “Dumping in Dixie,” (1990). Published in *American Earth*, Bill McKibben (Ed.), Literary Classics of the US, 2008. <http://www.earth-keepers.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Bullard.pdf>
- **2020 Environmental Justice Townhall with America’s Leaders.** Video, National Wildlife, September 22, 2020. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rRC8rwOfTs&feature=youtu.be>
- **Race, Poverty and Environmental Justice.** Carl Anthony and Renee Soule, Essay excerpt from “A Multicultural Approach to Ecopsychology” (The Humanistic Psychologist, 1998). Published in *American Earth*, Bill McKibben (Ed.), Literary Classics of the US, 2008. <http://www.earth-keepers.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Anthony-Soule.pdf>
- **NYT Article: “Mold, Possums and Pools of Sewage: No One Should Have to Live Like This.”** By Catherine Coleman Flowers, *New York Times*, November 14, 2020. <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/11/14/opinion/sunday/coronavirus-poverty-us.html>

### *Climate & Environmental Justice*

- **Video: Climate Change Impacts on America and those on the Margins.** “Climate Change Will Make Parts of the U.S. Uninhabitable. Americans Are Still Moving There,” by Lucas Waldron and Abrahm Lustgarten, ProPublica, November 10, 2020. <https://www.propublica.org/article/climate-change-will-make-parts-of-the-u-s-uninhabitable-americans-are-still-moving-there>
- **TED Talk---New Mexican Cecilia Martinez Speaks on Climate Justice and the Arts.** “Climate Change Through Art and Dance,” TED Talk by Dr. Cecilia Martinez and Chitra Vairavan, TEDxMinneapolis, November 29, 2016. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wb3j\\_gpoL50&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wb3j_gpoL50&feature=youtu.be)

### *Outdoor Equity & Environmental Justice*

- **Racial Exclusion and Outdoor Recreation.** Excerpt from *The Rise of the American Conservation Movement: Power, Privilege, and Environmental Protection*, by Dorceta E. Taylor, Duke University Press, 2016. <http://www.earth-keepers.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Racial-Exclusion.pdf>
- **New Mexico’s Innovation Leads the Way on Outdoor Equity.** Nuestra Tierra, Conservation Project. <https://www.nuestra-tierra.org/outdoor-equity-fund-2>
- **High Country News on Outdoor Equity.** “New Mexico lawmakers focus on equity in the outdoors,” By Jessica Kutz, March 4, 2019. <https://www.hcn.org/articles/social-justice-new-mexico-lawmakers-focus-on-equity-in-the-outdoors>