



# The Struggle for Ecological Democracy: Environmental Justice Movements in the United States

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Corporate America increasingly relies on environmentally unsustainable forms of production, and not all Americans bear their costs equally. People of color are 47 percent more likely than whites to live near a hazardous waste facility. Fifty-seven percent of whites live in areas with poor air quality, compared to 80 percent of Latinos. Nationwide, nearly a thousand farm workers die of pesticide poisoning each year.

Illuminating manifold connections between the exploitation of nature and the exploitation of vulnerable communities, a new wave of grassroots environmentalism is building in the United States. Groups that have traditionally been at the periphery of mainstream environmentalism--poor people, working people, and people of color--are fusing the fight for a healthy environment with historical struggles for civil rights and social justice. This timely book brings together leading scholars and activists to provide an ecosocialist perspective on the goals, strategies, and accomplishments of the environmental justice movement, and to explore the emerging principles of ecological democracy that undergird it.



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