



Environmental Injustice: Local (Environmental Contamination) And Global (Climate Change) Effects From The Use Of Fossil Fuels On Those Who Benefit Least From Their Use

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BACKGROUND

- **Continuing carbon emissions and the associated consequent rise of mean global temperatures from the combustion of fossil fuels has had, and will continue to have, relatively profoundly worsening implications in resource-constrained regions of the world**
- **Most communities in industrializing/developing parts of the world live in climate-sensitive locations and most economies in such regions depend on natural resources; they also lack wealth as a buffer**
- **Ongoing degradation of natural resources from human activities and reduced agricultural productivity are worsening with climate change and will continue to make these regions uninhabitable, affecting poverty trajectories and migration patterns on a massive scale.**

ETHICS PRINCIPLES

From Bioethics

- **Respect for autonomy:** respecting the right of participants to self-determine the extent of their participation
- **Beneficence:** doing good through our research
- **Non-maleficence:** doing no harm
- **Social/Distributive Justice/ Fairness:** who is deriving benefits and who is taking risks?

From Public Health & Environmental Epidemiology

- **Protect the Most Vulnerable**
- **The Precautionary Principle**
- **Environmental Justice**
- **Scientific Integrity**
- **Protect the Public Interest Over Any Other Interests**
- **Others ...**

QUESTIONS (1 of 2)

- 1. What are the ethical dimensions of the environmental episodes reported among indigenous people in this session?
For example:**
 - a) What evidence can be drawn upon for action to protect the health of local exposed communities?**
 - b) Who benefits from extraction activities and who bears the risks?**
 - c) How have extraction activities impacted traditional lifestyles, local culture and the livelihoods/economy of communities?**
 - d) Are there episodes of suppression and repression of evidence in studies conducted?**

QUESTIONS (2 of 2)

2. What mitigation strategies should be put in place to protect these vulnerable communities and ensure environmental sustainability?

For example:

- a) Environmental Justice**
- b) Protect the Most Vulnerable**
- c) Community engagement**
- d) Protect the Public Interest Over Any Other Interest**

 **THE STAR** S

News · Canada

Ontario court denies Indigenous Ecuadorians redress against Chevron Canada for pollution of land

By **MARCO CHOWN OVED** Investigative Reporter
Wed., May 23, 2018

   

The Indigenous people from Ecuador who have been living for decades on land poisoned by oil companies have had their appeal for redress against Chevron Canada rejected.

An Ontario Appeals Court panel of judges ruled Wednesday that Chevron Canada cannot be held responsible for the toxic pollution left behind in the Amazon rainforest by Texaco in the 1970s and 80s, before it was bought by Chevron.



DISCUSSION