LAND AND BODY VIOLENCE



Land Violence is a tactic that seeks to eliminate Indigenous Peoples in order to gain access to land and waters. It is the deliberate exposure to pesticides, uranium mining, toxic pollution, chemicals produced by extractive industries (coal, oil, tar sands etc.), and military weapon testing on Indigenous Lands.

In the U.S. 5% of oil and 10% of gas reserves, 30% of low-sulfur coal reserves and 40% of privately held uranium deposits are found on Native American reservations. (1)

Industrial chemicals like [PCBs, DDT and HCBs] that are disposed into the waters and soil move up through the food chain, through plants, fish, wildlife, and into the bodies of human beings who eat them. (1)

On July 16, 1945, the first nuclear device was detonated in southern NM by Los Alamos National Laboratory, where numerous Tewa ancestral sites are located. (1)

Mothers' breast milk had 4 to 12 times the contaminations levels found in their body tissue in some Indigenous communities affected by extractive industries.

The world's largest coal mining company Peabody Energy, "operates a strip-mining operation on the Black Mesa plateau located in the Hopi and Dine territories."

Pipelines and the oil industry have exacerbated violence against Native women. (2)

WIPP- Waste Isolation Pilot Plant is the nation's only deep geologic radioactive waste repository located 26 miles southeast of Carlsbad NM. (3)



LAND AND BODY VIOLENCE



KEY TERMS OF LAND VIOLENCE

ENVIRONMENTAL VIOLENCE

The disproportionate and often devastating impacts that the conscious and deliberate proliferation of environmental toxins and industrial development (including extraction, production, export and release) have on Indigenous women, children and future generations, without regard from States or corporations for their severe and ongoing harm. (1).

MAN CAMPS/ WORKERS' CAMPS

Temporary housing facilities operated by extractive industries to house their transient workforce. (1)

ENVIRONMENTAL RACISM

Is the disproportionate impact of environmental hazards on people of color. Environmental justice is the movement's response to environmental racism. (4)

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

A grassroots response to environmental racism valuing respect, the health of our communities and the Earth, and protection from discrimination, dispossession and exploitation, etc. This is different from environmental equity, which is the governmental response to environmental racism that values "fair treatment and meaningful involvement." (1)

RECOMMENDATIONS



Stop oil and gas extraction in and near our Tribal communities and sacred sites



Prioritizing the health of our communities over the interests of energy companies



Ending fossil fuel dependency and working towards an ecological balance through renewable energy resources



Following Indigenous leaders and organizations spearheading the environmental justice movement



Ensuring Tribal/Indigenous leaders and community members are consulted, fully informed and provide consent in all matters related to land, water, and air.

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