



WE ACT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Environmental Justice and Beauty Products
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Beauty products are one way harmful substances and chemicals can get into our bodies and affect our health

How Big is this Problem for our Community?

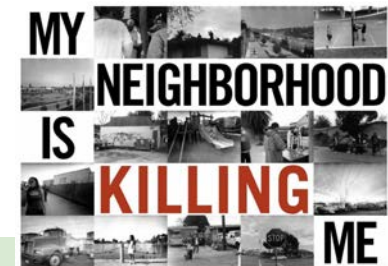
1) African American consumers purchase 9 times more ethnic hair and beauty products than other groups and disproportionately purchase hair relaxers and straighteners.

Latinxs are the fastest growing ethnic beauty market segment

Asian Americans spend 70% more than the national average on skin care products.

2) Workers in the beauty industry, who are predominantly women of color and immigrant women, can also face health problems from chemicals in professional cosmetic products.

3) This adds to many other sources of exposure to harmful chemicals. For example, the neighborhoods where we live have more polluting facilities and higher contamination than other places.



Beauty Products as Environmental Health Justice Issue

Principles of Environmental Justice (1991)

6) Environmental Justice **demands the cessation of the production of all toxins, hazardous wastes** , and radioactive materials, and that all past and current **producers be held strictly accountable** to the people for detoxification and the containment at the point of production.

8) Environmental Justice affirms the right of **all workers to a safe and healthy work environment** without being forced to choose between an unsafe livelihood and unemployment. It also affirms the right of those who work at home to be free from environmental hazards.

What Can We Do?

- ★ Get familiar with what are the **chemicals you should avoid**
- ★ **Demand that manufacturers list the ingredients** on their products
- ★ Demand that manufacturers change their formulas and stop putting harmful chemicals in their products
- ★ **Join WE ACT** and other organizations in demanding the government to pass and enforce **regulations** to take toxic chemicals out of products
- ★ **Have open conversations with your hairdresser**, and other professionals who come in contact with beauty products about what is in them. Work with them to lower your and their exposure
- ★ When possible opt for more **natural options** and learn how to make your own
- ★ Ask yourself if you **REALLY need** that product before buying it