

Broadening Worldviews on Climate Change









Human Health and Community Well-being

Embodied and Lived Experience





Photo Source: CARB (2014)

Sometimes it is the people no one imagines anything of, who do the things that no one can imagine.

California's Global Climate Leadership





Credit: Mendez (2018)







Policy Victories for Climate Justice

 AB 32 (Núñez, 2006) – required the Environmental Justice Advisory Committee, outreach in EJ communities, and that regulations not disproportionately impact EJ communities.

 SB 535 (De León, 2012)/AB 1550 (Gomez, 2016) – targeted investments to disadvantaged communities

 AB 197 (E. Garcia, 2016) – required ARB to consider the social cost of carbon and to prioritize direct emissions reductions

EJ Activists and Climate Change Policy

• The primary mitigation mechanism being used to fight climate change, carbon trading, does not mandate reductions at any specific facility or location;

 Leaves equity to chance and does not guarantee reductions in communities with the most pollution.

EJ Activists and Climate Change Policy (cont.)

EJ should be part of climate change policy;

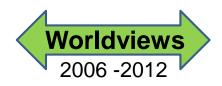
EJ should not be left to chance or addressed later;

• The market should not make equity decisions, they should be planned and intentional (*Trickle-down Environmental Policy*).

Broader Policy Implications



CARBON REDUCTIONISM



CLIMATE CHANGE from the STREETS



GHG Reduction Potential

- Measured in tons of CO₂ equivalent
- Scientific framing: detached expertise
- Cost-effectiveness
- Market-based solutions
- Geographically neutral
- Emphasis on mitigation



Co-Benefits Potential

- Co-pollutants + public health + GHGs
- Contextual framing: local expertise
- Cost-effectiveness: Social equity
- Community-based solutions
- Multi-scalar
- Adaptation + mitigation

Source: Mendez (2020)



Climate Change from the Streets

