Climate Justice: The Next Movement [outline]

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CLIMATE JUSTICE: THE NEXT MOVEMENT

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I. Introduction: Relating Environmental Justice to Global Climate Change

A. Environmental Justice’s Central Lesson: Distribution, Distribution, Distribution

B. The Significance of Distributional Analysis Applied to Global Climate Change

1. Distribution is the Key and Scientific Uncertainty a Red Herring
2. Distributional Mismatches in the Context of Global Climate Change
3. Environmental Justice Distributional Overlay

C. Purpose of Talk: Three Fold

1. Describe the Sources and Extent of the Existing Environmental Justice Distributional Mismatch
2. Describe the Corresponding Hurdles for Lawmaking
3. Comment on Potential Pathways for Breaking the Current Logjam

II. Sources and Extent of the Distributional Environmental Justice Mismatch

A. The Causes of Global Climate Change: Greenhouse Gases and The Wealthy and Powerful

1. By Nation
2. Per Capita Analysis
3. GDP Analysis
4. Projected Changes Over Time (Indian & China)

B. The Impacts of Global Climate Change: The Poor and the Vulnerable

1. Global Location: Temperature vs. Impact
2. Impacts
   a. Water
   b. Agriculture
   c. Wildlife
   d. Infectious Diseases
   e. Weather
3. (In)Adaptability
   a. Lack of Shelter
   b. Lack of Health Care
   c. Lack of Alternative Economies
d. Lack of Institutional Resources

e. Lack of Technology

4. Extreme Victims
   a. Low-Lying Islands
   b. Isolated Indigenous Communities

III. The Corresponding Environmental Justice Challenges of Lawmaking

A. The Cost of Further Delay

B. The Challenge of Persuading the Wealthy and Powerful (and the Wannabes)
   1. When Immediate Costs Considerable
   2. When Benefits of those Costs Enjoyed by Others
   3. When Control Costs Might Decrease in the Future
   4. When Other Nations Might Negate Your Reductions by Increasing Their Emissions

C. The Challenge of Equity in Distributing the Costs and Benefits
   1. Varying Meanings of Equity
   2. Two Examples
      a) Principles of Equality
      b) Principles of Sovereignty
   3. The Carbon Tax Alternative

D. The Challenge of Developing an Institutional Framework
   1. The Existing Framework for International Environmental Law
   2. The Inupiat Petition Example

IV. Breaking the Distributional Logjam

A. A New Approach to Environmental Justice: Thinking and Acting Locally and Globally

B. The True Lesson of 911 and the Iraq War

C. The New Congress and Pending Legislation
   1. S. 280 (McCain Lieberman)
   2. S. 309 (Boxer Sanders)
   3. Bingaman Draft Discussion Bill