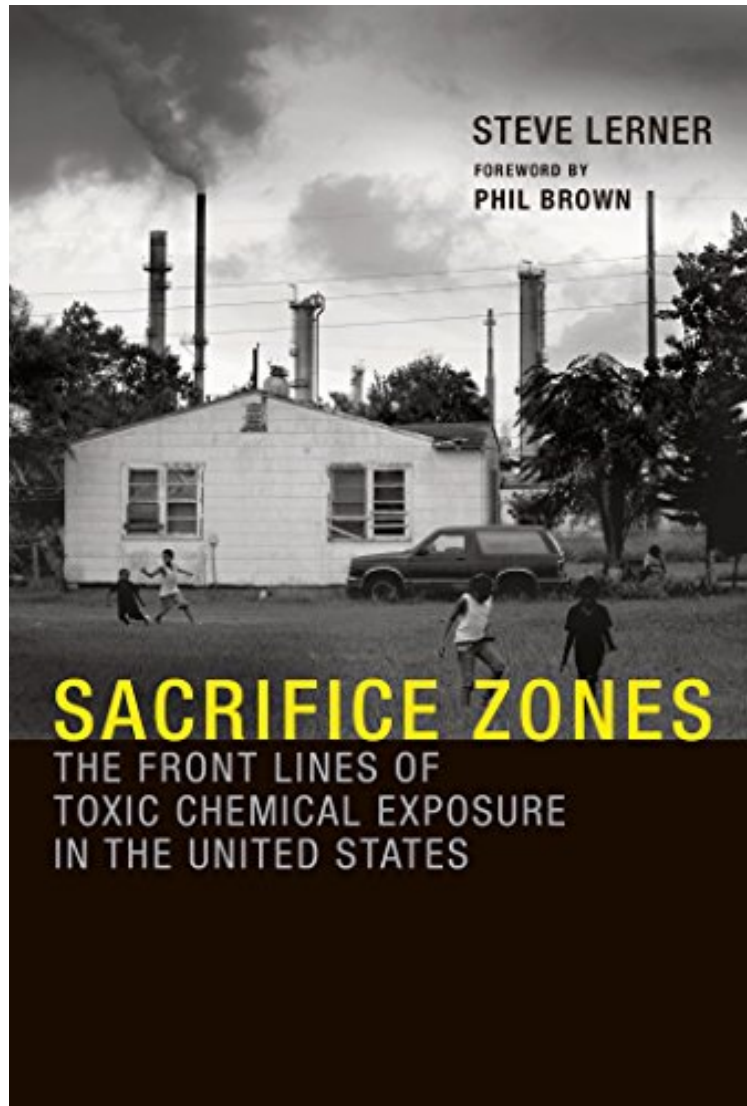


(Ebook pdf) Sacrifice Zones: The Front Lines of Toxic Chemical Exposure in the United States (MIT Press)

Sacrifice Zones: The Front Lines of Toxic Chemical Exposure in the United States (MIT Press)

Steve Lerner, Phil Brown

*DOC | *audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF | ePub*



DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

#486463 in eBooks 2012-09-21 2012-09-21 File Name: B0058VYKQG | File size: 45.Mb

Steve Lerner, Phil Brown : Sacrifice Zones: The Front Lines of Toxic Chemical Exposure in the United States (MIT Press) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Sacrifice Zones: The Front Lines of Toxic Chemical Exposure in the United States (MIT Press):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. My prime interest in this book was the chapter on ...By Elsi M Vassdal Ellis My prime interest in this book was the chapter on Fallon, Nevada -- I was born there and "missed" the leukemia cluster experience but wanted to know more. It is frightening to read of so many sacrifice zones but critical

for all to know they exist and that there are so many others that affect our health and futures. We must be more proactive about this problem, even now looking at Houston and the toxic brew that has left its mark on the landscape following the flooding. 14 of 14 people found the following review helpful. An infuriatingly inspiring primer about real pollution in towns you'll never visit. By Jesse Kornbluth. In "Diamond: A Struggle for Environmental Justice in Louisiana's Chemical Corridor," Steve Lerner chronicled life in a segregated town where the poor lived cheek-to-jowl with two nasty industrial plants. It's a story of abuse, struggle and triumph --- in the end, a grassroots campaign led by a local schoolteacher forced Shell Oil to buy up many afflicted homes. "Sacrifice Zones" brings stories like that back home --- to a dozen communities that were knowingly polluted by American businesses. It's a repetitive book: suffering, more suffering, government indifference, then the residents fight back. It's hardly an even fight. The companies have squads of lawyers on staff. Because they often provide the only jobs for miles, they have local governments in their pockets. It's oh-so-hard to prove that the filth on the once-white sheets hanging from the clotheslines of the poor came from a polluter's smokestack. And the victories are bittersweet --- activists don't always see the fruits of their work, having used precious days from their surely shortened lives to organize their communities. Ocala, Florida: "black snow" from a charcoal factory. A city run by five white people. Activists who presented filthy bed sheets to the city council. A plant without afterburners in its smokestacks. The company closed the plant and tore down the smokestacks before they could be tested for pollutants. Port Arthur, Texas: 15.5 million pounds of pollutants released in a single year by a refinery owned by Shell Oil and Saudi Aramco. (Once the plant released 9 tons while children were waiting for school buses.) On and on the dishonor roll goes --- Addyston, Ohio and Daly City, California and San Antonio and Greenpoint, New York. You get the idea fast. And, if you're me, you ask yourself: Who really needs to read this book? Well, how about the villains? That is, the corporations that target and then pollute minorities and the poor. Steve Lerner isn't shy about naming them. Often, he identifies their spokespeople. But no way are the bad guys going to spring for this book. The record is voluminous --- they don't care. I have a thought: Buy the book. Read as much as you can stand, then send it on to the CEO of the biggest polluter you know. Maybe with a cheery note: "Looking forward to reading about your company in the next edition." 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great Read. By Customer. I think that the book is amazing, and it clearly outlines communities faced with pollution all over the United States. This is a must read for people interested in the intersection between climate, the environment and the industrial polluters.

Across the United States, thousands of people, most of them in low-income or minority communities, live next to heavily polluting industrial sites. Many of them reach a point at which they say "Enough is enough." After living for years with poisoned air and water, contaminated soil, and pollution-related health problems, they start to take action--organizing, speaking up, documenting the effects of pollution on their neighborhoods. In *Sacrifice Zones*, Steve Lerner tells the stories of twelve communities, from Brooklyn to Pensacola, that rose up to fight the industries and military bases causing disproportionately high levels of chemical pollution. He calls these low-income neighborhoods "sacrifice zones." And he argues that residents of these sacrifice zones, tainted with chemical pollutants, need additional regulatory protections. *Sacrifice Zones* goes beyond the disheartening statistics and gives us the voices of the residents themselves, offering compelling portraits of accidental activists who have become grassroots leaders in the struggle for environmental justice and details the successful tactics they have used on the fence line with heavy industry.

From Booklist: This book will break your heart. Lerner, who plumbed the depths of Louisiana's suffering in *Diamond* (2005), focuses on how 12 American communities are affected by their close proximity to polluted industrial sites. The facts speak for themselves as he recounts data collected in legal cases and interviews with dozens of people from each locale, and you cannot help but become emotionally involved in each outcome. The clear message is that low-income neighborhoods (the "sacrifice zones" of the title) suffer disproportionately from industrial toxins, and it is hard to argue the point after reading about what everyone from Exxon Mobil to the Department of Defense (ironically the biggest polluter in America) has done to its residential neighbors. In most cases residents do not want industry to go away, they want it to abide by existing regulations and for regulators to do their jobs. This is the heart-breaking part, because Lerner exposes just how easily rules are ignored. One might want this book to be easy to ignore, but instead, it's unforgettable. And devastating. --Colleen Mondor "A significant complement to three decades of environmental justice research; it provides irrefutable empirical evidence that not all American communities are created equal." Robert D. Bullard *Environmental Health Perspectives*. About the Author: Steve Lerner is the author of *Eco-Pioneers: Practical Visionaries Solving Today's Environmental Problems* (1998) and *Diamond: A Struggle for Environmental Justice in Louisiana's Chemical Corridor* (2006), both published by the MIT Press.