

Social Justice and Environment

Bourgeois Environmentalism

- Rural bias in environmental problems: Amita Baviskar
- Environmentalism of the privileged, upper class elites
- Maintaining a certain standards in the urban areas- clean and green, aesthetic and sanitised environment, without looking at one's role in creating the environmental problems

“ Clearly, the environment is defined differently by different people. In Delhi, that definition is dominated by people who see the environment in terms of green areas, cleanliness, and aesthetic order, rather than in terms of concerns central to the poor. Bourgeois definitions end up persecuting large sections of the working class in the name of beautification and ‘cleaning up.’ ”

- Public: two types

urban poor: marginalised

middle class: aspirations of citizens of new India, civic rights

- Politics of aesthetics and culture of modernity
- Poor do not participate in environmental action and are victims of creation of particular urban space
- Judiciary used by Urban middle class, in the name of public interest
- Top down approach to urban development, lack of decision making by poor

Environmental Justice

- 1980s, Environmental Justice Movement in North Carolina, USA, due to toxic waste dumping in African American neighbourhood.
- Robert Bullard: *Dumping in Dixie*, 1990, “all people and communities are entitled to equal protection of environmental and public health laws and regulations”. Fair/equitable distribution of environmental burdens and benefits among all human beings.
- Social justice and human rights
- Environmental Inequality/Injustice: usually minority community/neighbourhoods share disproportionate share of environmental problems, Justice to humans/people
- Environmental racism: inter-sectionality, communities of particular colour, low income. Race and class. Base in political-institutional. Gender.
- Burdens: polluting industries, waste disposals, conservation, power projects

- NIMBY-not in my backyard
- Environmentalism is about humanity's adverse effect on the environment, environment justice is about how unhealthy environment hit particular communities
- Implementation of justice: Policy and legislation
- The Forest Rights Act (FRA) or the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006