



## Black, Brown, and Tan communities face numerous Environmental and Social challenges.

### 1. Environmental Justice and Communities of Color:

- Studies have consistently shown that communities of color, including Blacks, Hispanics, and Asians, often face a disproportionate burden of environmental hazards and pollution compared to predominantly white communities.
- According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), people of color are more likely to live in areas with higher levels of air pollution, contaminated water sources, and toxic waste sites.
- Research has revealed that low-income communities and communities of color often experience higher exposure to harmful pollutants, leading to increased health risks and disparities.

### 2. Air Quality Disparities:

- People of color, particularly Blacks and Hispanics, are more likely to reside in urban areas with poorer air quality due to factors such as industrial pollution, traffic emissions, and inadequate green spaces.

- Studies have shown that individuals from these communities are more prone to respiratory illnesses, such as asthma, as a result of exposure to air pollutants.

### 3. Water Contamination and Access:

- Communities of color frequently face challenges related to water contamination and access to clean drinking water.
- Some studies have highlighted the prevalence of lead contamination in water systems serving predominantly Black and Hispanic communities, leading to adverse health effects, particularly in children.

### 4. Climate Change Vulnerability:

- People of color, including Blacks, Hispanics, and Asians, are often more vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.
- Factors such as limited access to resources, socioeconomic disparities, and geographical location in areas prone to climate-related hazards contribute to heightened vulnerability.
- Extreme weather events, sea-level rise, and heatwaves disproportionately affect these communities, leading to increased risks to health, livelihoods, and overall well-being.