



## Center for Health, Environment & Justice

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September 8, 2015

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Today we're finding out that the story we were all told about the addition of fluoride to public water systems was not the whole story. The alarming news seems to keep growing.

We've learned that before fluoridation began, important research was not done to evaluate the possible adverse health effects on the whole body. We've learned that large amounts of very basic research has still not been done today. Certain groups are especially vulnerable to harm from ingested fluoride, such as seniors, babies, kidney patients, and diabetics. African American and Hispanic communities experience disproportionate amounts of teeth disfiguration due to dental fluorosis. We've learned that fluoride is not very effective in stopping cavities, which is one of the key reasons for teeth sealant programs in schools. We fluoridate with industrial grade chemicals (not pharmaceutical grade) that are contaminated with arsenic and other toxic substances. Fluoride itself is a toxic substance. All of this is fueling calls for investigative Fluoridegate hearings.

Love Canal taught us the lesson that health, environment, and justice are inextricably linked. We oppose water fluoridation as it harms our health, it harms the environment, and is a textbook case of environmental justice harm affecting low income and families of color. Most families do not know about the issue and/or do not have the funds to avoid fluoridated water if they desire to not consume it. For all of these reasons, we oppose water fluoridation and we join in calls for Fluoridegate hearings.

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