

The Birth of a Movement: Engaging Students Through Justice-Oriented Science Teaching and Learning

Students from groups underrepresented in STEM benefit when instruction emphasizes issues of concern for marginalized communities (Ladson-Billings, 1995). Attendees will become students as they engage in a critical inquiry case study exploring events that birthed the Environmental Justice movement. Using primary source materials, we will investigate the creation of a hazardous waste dump in Warren County, N.C. through the eyes of a student who witnessed this pivotal event. In addition to receiving access to this case study for use in their classrooms, participants will have an opportunity to discuss similar topics that students can explore through a justice-oriented lens.

Presentation Target:

Middle School

Presenter(s):

1. Monica High, Ph.D., Science Teacher, Cato Middle College High School
2. Lenora Crabtree, Ph.D., Instructor, Cato College of Education, University of North Carolina at Charlotte