

**ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE:
LEGAL THEORY AND PRACTICE
4TH EDITION**

by
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ENVIRONMENTAL LAW INSTITUTE

Washington, D.C.

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The Menace of Lead

*Of the living dead poisoned by lead,
From paint chips and soldered water pipe,
Making parents in older homes real uptight.
Lead from father's clothes,
Just home from work oppressed with woes.
Who is the blame,
For this shame.
Of poisoning our children,
Causing all this confusion,
Making them welfare bound,
To be treated like hounds.*

*Eyes glazed over and lost for ever,
Functioning to mental capacity never.
Inner city kids exposed to lead,
Millions have much to dread.
Lead poisoning creating anger and despair,
Maybe resulting in court proceeding because cheating,
Stealing, and beating.
Ending in prison term,
For failure to compete and learn.
Black African souls 80% of prison country,
We cannot write off because of bigotry.
Prison systems are new forms of apartheid,
Environmental racism amplified.
Jailed are more black males on a per capita basis,
Than in South Africa with all their racists.*

*If we cared and had a heart,
We would fund head start.
Rather than \$80,000.00 per year for one in Jackson Prison,
More expensive than the University of Michigan.*

*The effects of lead is insidious,
But I don't want you to pity us,
Or to get rid of us by poisoning us.
But to use your might to do what's right,
Equal protection of the law is a civil right,
Redistribution of resources will change our plight.¹*

—Bunyan Bryant, Ph.D.
*Professor, Environmental Justice Scholar & Researcher
University of Michigan School of Natural Resources*

1. Bunyan Bryant's Personal Home Page, Poems, <http://www-personal.umich.edu/~bbryant/poems1.html>.

This textbook/handbook is dedicated to my parents, James Henry and Cecelia Naomi Hill, who instilled in their seven children the importance of obtaining a quality education, and to my mentor, D.C. Court of Appeals Judge Inez Smith Reid, who inspired me to expand my horizons as a student, lawyer, and teacher.

Barry E. Hill

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Biography



Barry E. Hill is an Adjunct Professor of Law at Vermont Law School, where he has taught an environmental justice and sustainable development course for more than 20 years. He has been a Visiting Scholar at the Environmental Law Institute since he retired from federal service in March 2015. Mr. Hill was Senior Counsel for Environmental Governance, Office of International and Tribal Affairs, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from 2007-2015. Previously, Mr. Hill was Director of EPA's Office of Environmental Justice from 1998-2007. Prior to that, he was the U.S. Department of the Interior's Associate Solicitor, Division of Conservation and Wildlife, and the Director, Office of Hearings and Appeals. Prior positions include: Of Counsel to the law firm of Dickstein Shapiro, LLP, where he practiced

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Mr. Hill has lectured in the Middle East, Africa, South and Central America, and the Caribbean on the following topics: establishing an environmental law and policy framework for national governments; environmental justice and sustainable development; capacity-building training in environmental law for judges, prosecutors, government regulators, citizens, and the bar; citizen involvement in the environmental enforcement process; and the impact of global warming on indigenous populations. In 2011, Mr. Hill delivered the Distinguished Lecture for the Trinidad & Tobago Environmental Commission, and the Supreme Court of Trinidad & Tobago.

In 2011, Mr. Hill was presented the "Distinguished Alumni Award" by Brooklyn College of the City University of New York for his "commitment to environmental justice and sustainable development, and pioneering leadership in the field of environmental law and policy in the U.S. and abroad."

In 2001, Mr. Hill was presented the "Award for Distinguished Achievement in Environmental Law and Policy" by the American Bar Association for his work—teaching, research, and leadership—in the areas of environmental justice and sustainable development, and environmental law and policy.

Since 1999, Mr. Hill has been a Fellow of the American Bar Association's American Bar Foundation in recognition of his professional accomplishments, distinguished service, and commitment to the study of law and legal research.

Mr. Hill received his B.A. degree in Political Science from Brooklyn College; M.A. degree in Political Science from Howard University; and a J.D. degree from the Cornell University Law School. In 2012, Mr. Hill received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from the Thomas Jefferson School of Law, since he "steadfastly fought environmental injustice by taking action to decrease environmental risks and to raise awareness of these issues, and by providing communities with the appropriate tools needed to address serious environmental problems."