

Study Questions, Week 10

Topics for the Week:

Plants & Animals; Environmental Justice

Readings for the Week:

McGowan, Alan H. 2003. Environmental justice for all. *Environment* 45(5):1.

Sapat, Alka, Jaap J. Vos, and Khi V. Thai. 2002. Environmental injustice: an emerging public policy issue. *International Journal of Public Administration* 25(2&3):143–168.

Mohai, Paul. 2003. African American concern for the environment. *Environment* 45(5):10–26.

Questions:

- (1) What is meant by *environmental justice*? What factors lead to environmental injustice?
- (2) What evidence refutes the assumption that people of color show little or no concern for the environment? Is this evidence convincing?
- (3) What evidence exists to suggest that people of color are actively engaged in protecting the environment? Is this evidence convincing?
- (4) Which environmental issues are most important to African Americans and other people of color? Why are these issues important to these groups?
- (5) In what ways have African Americans influenced environmental policy?
- (6) Trace the roots of the environmental justice movement. What environmental issues have been important in mobilizing people to seek justice?
- (7) Is environmental injustice more a function of race or of poverty?