The call for environmental justice is growing and the emergent environmental justice movement is gaining attention and involvement of social scientists and some public policymakers.

Since 1987 academia has become increasingly involved in the nascent movement. The University of Michigan School of Natural Resources and Environment has been at the fore, holding two conferences on issues central to the movement. The first conference in 1990 led to a compilation of essays titled *Race and the Incidence of Environmental Hazards: A Time for Discourse* (Bryant and Mohai 1992) that provided a wide range of evidence and documentation on environmental inequities. *Environmental Justice: Issues, Policies and Solutions* is the result of a second conference on environmental justice held in 1993. The book can be read alone or as a follow-up compilation that emphasizes issues similar to its counterpart, but with a new focus. Bryant stresses in his introduction, in contrast to the 1992 publication, this book is not merely centered on "articulating the environmental justice problems" but rather on developing solutions.

*Environmental Justice* begins with four rather succinct and thought-provoking analyses of the role of professionals and citizens in promoting environmental justice. Of particular import is Rebecca Head's discussion concerning the extent to which present scientific methods and data are adequate (or inadequate) for informing public policy. Her recommendation for both short-term and long-term amelioration of community-based environmental inequities rests on the necessity for site-specific criteria developed in conjunction with citizen participation for determining safety factors involving environmental hazards or the possibility thereof. The accent of the book's middle essays moves towards institutional issues involving urban residential segregation, economic impacts of state and federal environmental policies and the need for a national industrial policy emphasizing planning that would sacrifice neither workers nor production. Robert Bullard's cogent discussion of institutionalized urban housing discrimination leads to a conclusion similar to Head's in the earlier essay. That is, key to combating environmental inequities is the effective incorporation of citizen's (the primary stakeholders in these issues) into decision-making processes affecting their communities. The final chapters focus discussion on the prospects for democracy, sustainable development and global environmentalism in the approaching decades. As Fredrick Buttel observes in the closing essay, local, national and international "environmental policy must be recognized for what it is - broad social policy" (pp. 206). This statement appears to capture the central point of the book.
Bryant emphasizes that this book is "solution oriented" and has included Clinton's Environmental Justice Executive Order 12898 in an appendix as evidence of new social policy to address environmental inequities. But the call for environmental justice underscored in these works, the movement that has emerged over these issues, public policy and, consequently, many of these authors' recommendations are in their formative phases. The "solutions" discussed in this book express tenets of communitarian participatory democracy, "social democracy" as one author puts it, to be combined with ideas for long-term social and political restructuring, new emphases in planning and extensive social programs as important means to achieve environmental justice. Many of the suggestions, however, appear far from the focus of most present political considerations. In a political climate permeated by calls for reduced budgets at local, state and federal levels, the allocation of resources for effectively developing and implementing the social programs and policies advocated by these authors seems improbable and, at present, the workability of many of the recommendations is questionable. However, there are elements in many of the recommendations that emphasize community-based actions. It is here where the author's ideas for social and political change appear to hold the most promise.

Perhaps a better characterization of this book is expressed in the foreword by Charles Moody. He suggests that the ideas presented here should be viewed as a challenge to policy makers and citizens alike to think and act responsibly about the environment and civil rights. Tentative solutions are suggested in this book. Now the feasibility and potential for implementation of these projects needs to be thoroughly assessed with careful consideration of the resources available to carry them out. More work must also be done to map out issues that remain uncharted and questions that remain unanswered. For instance the relative effects to challenge the environment and civil rights. Tentative solutions are suggested in this book. While gang membership and substance abuse are often simplistically viewed as indicators of "bad kids," this book digs deeper and examines social as well as personal reasons behind such behavior. Families are also discussed at length, with much attention being given to numerous ways of "doing family" that bring into question the assumptions and consequences of contemporary social policy concerning family.

While the majority of the book examines recent past and present aspects of these issues and some connections among them, the last chapters look toward the future and social change. The Watts riots of the 1960s and 1990s illustrate the tragedy and despair that can result from inattention to massive social and political inequalities. The book gives a resounding call to address these inequalities before a third violent uprising occurs. Although many scholars are quick to point out the problems they find with contemporary society, Diver-Stamnes takes the necessary step forward and offers suggestions for change. She offers mostly long-term solutions for improving family life, academic success, employment opportunities, stress, and mental and physical health. The emphasis is on addressing problems in these areas simultaneously, as "any viable solutions must involve the whole cloth rather than the separate threads" (Diver-Stamnes 1995:148).

It is this final section on suggestions for change that I find particularly impressive. By arguing what she perceives to be major obstacles for youth in Watts and then calling for specific remedies to alleviate these problems, the author challenges readers as social actors to work for social change. While much of the work focuses on how the economic and educational systems have failed the people of Watts, the final message is empowering, reminding us that individuals through collective action can make a difference. Overall, these final suggestions are sound, but I wonder how feasible they would be to implement