

IN SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Claremont Rotary Year 93 | Week 11 | September 17, 2021

## **PROGRAM: Environmental Justice, Dr. Heather Campbell**

Submitted by Jim Lehman



Our speaker was Professor Heather Campbell, Chair of the Division of Politics and Economics in the Department of Politics & Government at Claremont Graduate University.

Though her research has previously covered a wide array of policy areas—including telecommunications regulation, water policy, racial profiling, housing, K–12 education, environmental policy, and student evaluations of teaching—her current research focuses on environmental policy, with an emphasis on environmental justice analysis. She is interested in policy analysis broadly defined, framed by theoretical underpinnings drawn from public choice and the methods of econometrics and benefit-cost analysis. She has an overarching interest in regulation.

Campbell earned a BA in Political Science from the University of California at San Diego, Revelle College, and an MPhil and PhD in Public Policy Analysis from Carnegie Mellon University's Heinz School. Before joining CGU, Campbell served as an assistant professor, associate professor, and director of graduate studies at Arizona State University's School of Public Affairs. There she also served as editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Public Affairs Education* (JPAA), the flagship journal of the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration (NASPAA).

She has published in venues such as *Journal of Comparative Policy Analysis*, *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, *Review of Policy Research*, *Policy Studies Journal*, *Journal of Regional Science*, and *Journal of Public Affairs Education*. Her first book, co-authored with Elizabeth A. Corley, *Urban Environmental Policy Analysis*, was published in 2012 (M. E. Sharpe, Inc.).

Campbell's most recent book, *Rethinking Environmental Justice in Sustainable Cities: Insights from Agent-Based Modeling*, was co-authored with Yushim Kim and Adam M. Eckerd and was published by Routledge in 2015. This book opens narrow conversations of environmental justice to incorporate big picture studies of environmental inequities.

Today's talk was centered on the issue of social and environmental injustice which, even today, is widespread. Research and activism on this issue both started in the 1980s. Three landmark elements included: a protest in North Carolina in 1982 against government dumping of contaminated soil in one of the very few counties with a majority Black population; a study by a sociologist in 1983 showing that solid waste sites in Houston, Texas were situated disproportionately near Black communities or Black schools; and a 1987 study

*Continued, page 3*

### **Watch it!!**

You can hear this program at about **45 minutes into the meeting**. Here's a link to the [recording](#)  
Passcode: Environ!Sept17  
It will be available until 10/15

### **Next Zoom Meeting**

**September 24**

**Pathways Africa**

**[ZOOM LINK](#)**

### **Inside This Issue**

**P. 2 Welcome, Announcements, Inspiration for the Day, World Polio Day**  
**P. 3 Sergeants**  
**P. 3-5 Program, cont'd**  
**P. 6 Bacon Bits, events, club info**

## ROTARY, THE (ZOOM) MEETING

submitted by Michael DeWees

Pre-meeting fellowship included discussion about the nice weather, travel plans, commuting, the coming Fall, zoom bombing. Breakout room discussions included tutorials on how to blur background like new CBS morning news, men's barbershops, grandchildren. **Bonita Ramos** gave an update on her office robbery where she lost all her computer files including all her Together We Prepare info she did for the virtual program in 2021. Hopefully DNA evidence will lead to conviction but a good lesson to put everything on cloud in case your backup hard drive gets stolen as well. **Don Ralls** is catching up with zoom effects, adding special glasses to his image.



The increasingly fit **Cameron Troxell** kicked off the meeting on piano with "Smile" song.

## WELCOME GUEST!

**Bill Gershon** visiting Rotarian received a solo "Welcome Song" courtesy of Cameron.



Memory of the clinking of the glass at the end of the welcome song was discussed. It's time to bring it back.

**Jeff Wilson** asked us to stand and face east for the pledge.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

On **October 1**, there will be a Climate Change Forum sponsored by the So Cal UN Chapter. Watch for registration information for this virtual event. The Environment is one of our seven areas of Focus in Rotary. (shown on the back cover of your Club Roster.)

**Zoe TeBeau** announced that the Rotary Leadership Institute is happening virtually on Friday and Saturday. Five red badgers attended: **Beatrice Casagran, Francis Limbe, Greg Mossman, Ned Paniagua and Ar-zoo Salami**. Long time members **Sylvia Whitlock** and **Bernadette Kendall** also signed up. Sylvia gave us a run down of the conference times. RLI is offered a couple of times a year and everyone is encouraged to take the three part training.



Next week's program is by Lowell and Linda Rice from Pathways Africa, discussing their mission and projects to empower girls.

Are you interested in checking out rotary programs and potential programs abroad? Come to Friday's meeting to find out what **Kebokile Dengu-Zvobgo** and **Buff Wright** are up to.

**Steve Schenck** noted [the Courier](#) just reported the passing of long time member **Gene Corey**, who died several weeks ago.

## INSPIRATION OF THE DAY

By Frank Hungerford



Frank Hungerford took info from the April Rotary Magazine. Jay Colingham from the Boulder Colorado Rotary Club is a member of the Rotary Foundation cadre of technical advisors. His day job is as a supervising biological scientist advising the US Geological Survey. He is working on drinking water projects around the world. It's good to know that so very many experts take the time to make sure our projects work.

It's important for us to remember all the good Rotary does and how Rotary makes a difference through our 1.2 million members, including people like Jay who volunteers his expertise on meaningful water, hygiene, sanitation, disease prevention and other projects around the world.

## World Polio Day - October 24, 2021

We can register our club's participation in World Polio Day. We'll learn how Rotary, Rotaract, and Interact clubs around the world are taking action to eradicate polio, when they register their activities by October 14. Last year we raised \$1800 for World Polio Day. What will we do for this year's World Polio Day? There have been no wild Polio outbreaks across the globe since January, which is great news.

## District Governor Betsy Barry invites you to attend the

Southern California  
DISTRICT 5300 ROTARY FOUNDATION RECEPTION  
Sunday, October 3, 2021  
3:00 – 5:00 pm.  
Glendora Country Club  
2400 Country Club Drive  
Glendora, CA 91741

Tickets are \$75 Register on DACdb. Vaccination is required.



## Fine Time with John Tulac

**President Mark** was fined first for not being fined enough. John liked the glass clinking idea and made him pay for it.

**Bonita Ramos** was not fined for her robbery loss but was fined for not noticing she was in full group rather than a break out room when she told the tale.

**Ron Coleman** was fined for recognizing that the sergeant “admitted” that he has a technology problem, and for interrupting the sergeant.

**Jim Lehman** was fined for his “efficient” Inspirations.

**Frank Hungerford** was fined for an extra long Inspiration along with backstory and bio of the inspirator.

John pulled out the perennial sergeant excuse that all the rest of his planned fines were for people who weren’t present and recognized **Nona Tirre** as the only sergeant who contributed from the committee this week. In what seemed like a wrap up of the sergeant’s time, John made a pitch to turn in your fellow Rotarians for fines.

**Buff Wright** tried to pull focus back on fining President Mark for taking the Governor’s Bell award that the club had won for 2020-21. She even showed a phone pic with a blurred background on her blurred background Zoom. John didn’t take the bait and fined Buff for calling out Mark even though he just asked the club to do the same. Lawyer pokes followed.

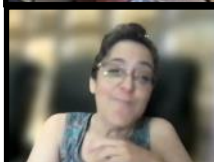
**Chuck Cable** was fined for his background screen (not Zoom background) bought in Hong Kong in the early 80’s.

Red Badgers were put on the spot whether they had memorized Smile or the Welcome Song and if they dared perform a solo.

**Beatrice Casagran** from Ophelia’s Jump Theater had not memorized them yet. (having problems with lines, Beatrice?)

**Joe Atman** gave a “soft yes” on knowing them but was not ready to perform.

**Arzoo Salami** professed to making progress, but was pretty sure that we would not want her to go solo.



John gave clarification that you can always pay more than the fines bestowed (or less).

**Ned Paniagua** was not at the meeting for the fine section but John had done so much prep work relating to his fine for not bringing in his trash cans (thanks to neighborhood watcher **Nona Tirre**) that he gave us a preview of the trash games to come.



## Environmental Justice, cont’d from p. 1

by the United Church of Christ showing that, across the entire US, race was the most accurate predictor of where toxic waste dumping occurred. Although income and class do have an effect, many, many studies have shown that race has an impact that is even more important.



United Church of Christ Commission for Racial Justice briefing to release Toxic Wastes and Race report at National Press Club, Washington, DC, 1987 (United Church of Christ)

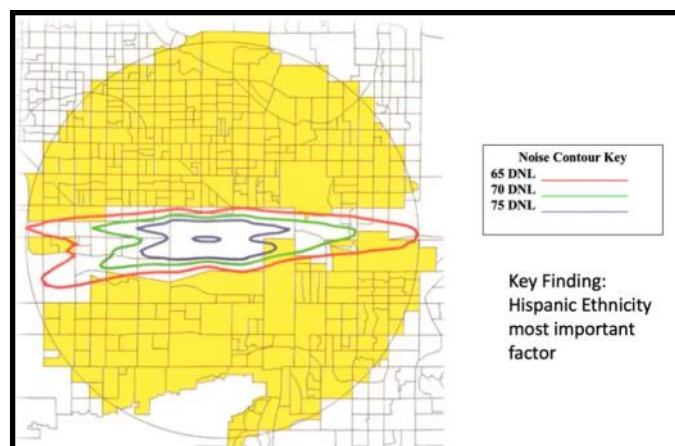
These conclusions have been repeatedly and robustly upheld in the decades since. Environmental injustice has been found across the nation—it is not a regional phenomenon. It exists across a range of pollutants and environmental policies: noise, air pollution, toxic releases, water, brownfield sites, and urban heat islands, for example. It also emerges in the absence of environmentally good things, like greenspace, parks, and farmer’s markets. And it appears for minority groups that are not census-measured, including some religious minorities.

Professor Campbell’s direct exposure to environmental justice research began with one of her doctoral students, who wrote a dissertation on noise pollution and Sky Harbor Airport in Phoenix. Noise pollution has potent negative health and academic performance consequences: sleep disturbance, elevated

*Continued, page 4*

### Environmental Justice, cont'd from p. 3

blood pressure and cholesterol levels, immune system deficiencies, low birth weight, higher incidence of premature birth, and hearing damage, even in unborn babies, for examples. In the legal arena, noise can be considered a “taking,” as it has a negative impact on property or asset values. In short, noise/noise pollution is a harmful thing. So the research asked, “What are the characteristics of the population most directly affected by the take-off and landing patterns, which could have gone anywhere in a particular radius of the airport?” The strongest predictor of where the noise levels were highest was Hispanic ethnicity in the affected population. Education and poverty were also factors, but Hispanic ethnicity was the dominant predictor. Interestingly, it was a relatively small group of people who had control over the decisions about airport planning, and they had the use of a consultant and access to all of the census data about population characteristics.



This eye-opening result led Professor Campbell to take a look at what is known as the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) facilities in Maricopa County (Large county in Arizona—contains Phoenix). The federal government compiles a list of the release of known toxins by all entities throughout the US. Facilities, public or private, are required to report these releases and the government keeps a list, which is publicly available. What distinguishes this case is that the decisions about toxic releases are made by many entities, most of them unrelated to each other, unlike the Sky Harbor case, which involved a centralized decision-maker. This research looked only at releases by new toxic release inventory facilities in Maricopa County, to sidestep the possible problem that locations were an accident of history. Note that since toxic releases are self-

reported, the published data should be regarded as an undercount, since facilities are not likely to report the full extent of their releases, and not all will report. Looking at TRI facilities in that already existed in 1980, those that were newly added in 1980-1989, those that were newly-added in 1990-1999, and those added in 2000-2003, they used census data from each decade to examine the characteristics of the population where these new TRI facilities were located. They controlled for economic costs, potential legal costs, potential political costs, and found that Asian ethnicity was the most important factor. This was a startling finding, since Asian-Americans have higher incomes and more education, on average, than non-Hispanic whites. Similar results were reported by researchers looking at LA County. You don't have to be a poor minority to encounter environmental injustice.

Geographer Laura Pulido has argued that racism can be systemically embedded in our geography, such that racially biased outcomes can be perpetuated without our engaging in current specifically racist activity. The book, *The Color of Law*, by Richard Rothstein, looks at the effects, decades later, of districts that were red-lined in the 1930s, effects that persist even 80 years later. CGU Professor Tyler Reny has produced research with similar results: overtly racist actions that became instantiated in the system and have effects that persist decades after the dismantling of the legal basis for the racist undertakings. But systemic racism can also be revealed absent an obvious prior racial animus. In California's drought, which by the years 2011-2015 had become state-wide, then Governor Jerry Brown mandated water cutbacks by residential suppliers of water—i.e., local water districts. Professor Campbell's research examined who was affected and to what extent by the mandatory water cutbacks. Key findings were that Hispanic populations were accorded lower water allocations and that income was significantly and positively associated with higher water allowances.

We were introduced to the Cal Enviro Screen (CES) score, which is an index of environmental quality degradation—small particulate matter in the air, ozone concentrations, diesel emissions, pesticide use, drinking water contaminants, toxic releases from facilities, traffic density, cleanup sites, groundwater threats, hazardous waste, solid waste sites and facilities—interacted with an index of population characteristics—children and elderly in the population, low birth

## Environmental Justice, cont'd from p. 4

weights, asthma ER visits, educational attainment, poverty, unemployment, linguistic isolation. It's a useful resource for citizens, government agencies, activists, and researchers. Professor Campbell used it in research on whether certain religious groups (Catholic, LDS, Jewish, and Muslim) encounter environmental racism, using the location of their houses of worship as an indicator of where the religious groups are (the census does not collect data on religious affiliation). Houses of worship for Jews and Muslims are disproportionately located with high CES census tracts, even accounting for race, ethnicity, and income. Work in progress shows a similar outcome for the entire US (lower 48 states) for houses of worship and air pollution.

Conclusions? We need to be aware; we need to continue to measure the extent of environmental injustice; we need to weigh and apply this knowledge when deciding on new amenities or dis-amenities; and we need to clean up pollution, but be wary of the peril of displacement via gentrification as we do so.

Thank you Professor Campbell for an informative and energizing presentation! Mark was glad to hear there are things we can do to make a difference.

During Q&A after the meeting, Professor Campbell clarified some issues.

*What is a water allowance?* This is related to a water allowance given to the water provider, which then passes on restrictions to customers. For example, a couple of years ago during the drought, our households were told to cut back by a certain percentage, based on what we used before. So someone who can't afford to water their yard likely will be impacted more in their other life activities than someone in Beverly Hills who has acres of grass and fountains and such.

*What would it take to bring about water justice?* The members of the CA Water Resources Control Board are not elected, so they don't have \*direct\* political pressure of that sort. That does not mean they don't feel political pressure, of course, just not direct election pressure. More about the Board [here](#).

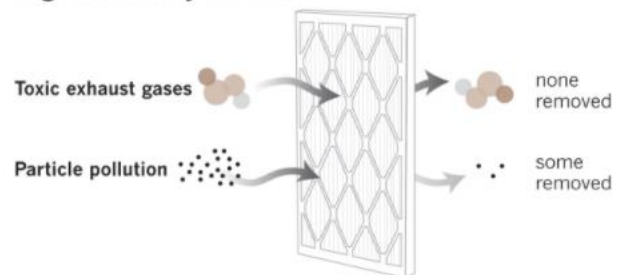
*How effective is the policy analysis community in getting findings before the policy makers?* At conferences, the analysts are talking about how to have a greater impact. This is an ongoing concern!

*Don Ralls asked about the financial aspects of decisions placing dis-amenities on cheaper land.* Heather said that there is some relationship between cost of location and poverty. But studies have shown that race and ethnicity mean more than income.

*Cameron noted a study of people who live in the LAX flight path and that people closest had a large impact on their health.* While most of these studies are on noise pollution, other impacts are also a problem. Similarly, proximity to freeways is also an issue. A cloud of particulate matter is rained on areas nearby. After the meeting, she provided a link to an article in the LA Times based on a study by Suzanne Paulson, UCLA atmospheric chemistry professor who has spent years studying how invisible plumes of dirty air from traffic spreads into surrounding neighborhoods. The conclusion? "Avoid sites **within 500 feet** — where California air quality regulators warn against building — or even 1,000 feet. That's where traffic pollution is generally highest, along with rates of asthma, cancer, heart attacks, strokes, reduced lung function, pre-term births and a growing list of other health problems." [Dec 30, 2017](#). To the extent that freeways are increasingly distributed across all populations, it may not be a social justice issue, but it is concerning!

The LA Times article is very interesting and gives some suggestions for avoiding the worst impacts of freeway pollution. [Read it!](#) For example, the California Energy Commission apparently requires MERV 13 air filtration in all newly constructed dwellings starting last year. Even high efficiency filtrations systems in older homes don't do the job we need them to do. (See below)

### High-efficiency air filter



Source: city of Los Angeles, South Coast Air Quality Management District, Times reporting

@latimesgraphics





**Mark Carson**

Claremont Rotary  
President

2021-2022



**SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES**

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Sept 24	Pathways Africa, Lowell and Linda Rice
Oct 1	Camp Bravo, Matt Lara
Oct 8	South Africa School Project, Biffy Dankwerts



Fence Posts, Mangles Ranch Dairy

*Photo of the week by Steve Schenck*

Fences and vaccinations make good neighbors. We are close to eradicating Polio! Feed the virtual pig.

Send fines and donations [here](#) or mail your check to  
PO Box 357  
Claremont 91711



**Bacon Bits**

Let's fill up the pig!

### Website

Information about the club and back editions of this newsletter are always available on DACdb and [www.claremontRotary.org](http://www.claremontRotary.org)

### Join us on Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/RotaryofClaremont](https://www.facebook.com/RotaryofClaremont)

Club [Bylaws](#) and [Policies](#) are posted for member access on DACdb

### September Birthdays

Dennis Smith 9/3  
Barbara Troxell 9/10  
Arman Ariane 9/14  
Bobby Hyde 9/19  
Bridget Healy 9/22  
Steve Schenck 9/22  
Gail Sparks 9/22  
Steve Juliar 9/23



**Sergeants committee**  
gathers before each meeting by email.

**Anyone is welcome to share information!!**

**Nona Tirre, chair**

### Clarifier Committee

Mike DeWees  
Bill Burrows  
Beatrice Casagran  
Sean Harrison  
Bobby Hyde  
Jim Lehman  
Steve Schenck  
Chris Hayes Shaner  
Harry Sparrow  
Peter Weinberger  
Buff Wright, editor

*Notes by Jim Lehman and Mike DeWees. Photos by Steve Schenck*

*The Claremont Rotary Club meets on Zoom at 12:00 on Friday until Nov. 5*