

## About the Authors:

### **Ki'Amber Thompson**

*Author of Prisons, Policing, and Pollution: Toward an Abolitionist Framework within Environmental Justice*

Ki'Amber Thompson is a creator, abolitionist environmental justice educator, healing justice practitioner, and Sociology doctoral student at the University of California Santa Cruz. Ki'Amber is the founder and director of the Charles Roundtree Bloom Project, an outdoor healing justice program for youth impacted by incarceration in San Antonio, Texas/Yanaguana. Their work is invested in how we heal our relationships with ourselves, each other, and the more-than-human world. Their current research explores how we might bridge abolitionist, decolonial, and environmental justice praxes to emerge more socially and environmentally just worlds. They define environmental justice as creating the conditions where all human and non-human beings can breathe easily and exist in safe environmental conditions necessary to not only survive but thrive. This means adequate access to housing, nutritious food, green space, recreation spaces for play, healthcare, clean air and water, transportation, and energy, and building communities that are free from violence, including policing and prisons.

### **Madeline Bacolor**

*Author of Struggles of Elderly Migrant Laborers against Urban Renewal in SF*

Madeline Bacolor graduated with a B.S. from the University of Michigan's Program in the Environment in 2021. She got her start in the environmental industry as an industrial hygienist, performing asbestos and lead air monitoring. Madeline is currently working as an environmental services technician at an environmental consulting company. She enjoys learning new sampling methods and playing with her cat, Euphrates.

From its birth in Warren County, North Carolina, environmental justice has asked us to reflect on resource and power structures. Who has access to resources? Who is accountable when people are harmed? What responsibilities do governmental bodies have to protect us? Environmental justice holds the ideal that everyone should be treated equitably, have access to the resources they need, and live in a safe environment.

### **Mara Henderson**

*Author of Racial Capitalism is Business as Usual: A Case Study of the Tacoma Liquefied Natural Gas Project*

Mara Henderson approaches environmental justice wary of the potential for co-optation of "environmental justice" for an end that is neither just for those who bear the brunt of injustices in their environment, nor the environments we engage.

Mara holds a bachelors in African American Studies and Environmental Policy and Decision Making from the University of Puget Sound. This dual degree culminated in the thesis: *Case Study of Racial Capitalism: Business as Usual for Tacoma LNG*. Mara wrote this paper in the early months of 2020, but the ideas in the paper were developed over the course of several years prior learning from Tacoma organizers in the struggle for racial justice and the closure of the North West Detention Center.

Since writing this senior thesis, Mara's thinking around racial capitalism, prison abolition and class solidarity has continued to develop and her aim is to find new ways to contribute to the environmental justice conversation in graduate school.

**Anita Carraher**

*Author of Geographies of Risk: Evaluating Environmental Racism in late 20 th Century Silicon Valley*

Anita Carraher (she/her) graduated from the University of Santa Barbara in 2021 with a degree in Environmental Studies and a minor in History. While volunteering in ecology labs as an undergraduate, she became interested in statistical modeling methods and worked to incorporate it into her own interests in environmental studies and justice. Her senior thesis is based off a paper she wrote in her first class in environmental studies, during which she learned that her home county, Santa Clara County in California, had the highest number of Superfund sites in the country. To her, environmental justice is communities having an active say and choice over what they live, work, and play near. Anita continues to be interested in geographical modeling and currently works for the California Energy Commission.

**Christina Vagoni**

Author of

*Legal Personhood: Biocultural Rights and the Rights of Nature Within the State System*

Christina Vagoni (she/her) received her B.A with Highest Honors in Sociology from UCSC in 2022. Her passion for environmental justice and decoloniality stems from the six years of her adolescence she spent living in the Occupied Palestinian Territories. This fall she will be attending Boston College to pursue her MA in Sociology. She aims to pursue a career in academia and continue studying biocultural rights, extractive industries, and relationships between society and nature.