Global Warming, Health Disparities, and Structural Racism

Historically, the interplay between environmental justice issues and public health news. Furthermore, the current global warming emergency is expected to be a long-lasting phenomenon, potentially lasting for centuries. The future of our children and grandchildren, and the future of the planet as we know it, is at stake.

The health impacts of global warming, the roots and manifestations of COVID-19 infection, and structural racism are intertwined in ways that may be difficult to fathom. Gyorgy Kerekes, MD, Chief Medical Officer at UCSF, has described the overlap of climate change and public health as “a perfect storm.”

By recognizing that global warming contributes to the emergence of pandemics, and that both of these challenges are exacerbated by structural racism, we can begin to develop solutions that are not only effective but also ethical and equitable.

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