

Food Justice and Sustainability
ENV5383.A
Vermont Law School, Summer Session 2019, 8-Week Term

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Week 1:

June 7: Introduction and Overview

Readings/Videos:

1. Cornell University Library, "Recognizing our own bias"
https://guides.library.cornell.edu/evaluate_news/bias
2. Michael Pollan, "The Food Movement Rising," *New York Review of Books*, June 10, 2010.
<https://michaelpollan.com/articles-archive/the-food-movement-rising/>
3. Robert Gottlieb and Anupama Joshi, *Food Justice* (Cambridge: The MIT Press, 2013), 4-6 (Defining Food Justice), 75-97.
4. Food and Environment Reporting Network, "What is the Farm Bill and Why Does it Matter" (Video) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P4mQyUOE_z0
5. Turning the Farm Bill into the Food Bill (Video)—Ken Cook EWG
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z6T37m4r3yo>

Discussion Topics (Please come to class prepared to discuss the following subjects)

- How do we define "sustainability" in the food system? What does a "sustainable" food system look like?
- How do we define "justice" in the food system? What does a "just" food system look like?
- In what ways are "sustainability" and "justice" in the food system coextensive? In what ways are those concepts in tension?
- What types and sources of law influence sustainability and justice in the food system?

RESEARCH ASSIGNMENT (for small group discussion in class):

- Consider the presence of agriculture and availability of healthy foods (or lack thereof) in your hometown. Spend some time researching the real factors that have shaped this setting (e.g., politics and policies, economic factors, historical development) and come prepared to discuss with your classmates. Be creative in your research approach. Be prepared to discuss the different sources of law and regulation you encountered in your research.