RACISM AND DISCRIMINATION

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Jesse Kreuzer Murals

(Alessandra Mondolfi)

TODAY 8:30 AM

By Climate Change reparations that America and colonialism has to make up for.”

Africa—that’s how slavery started, stealing resources from black and brown communities,” said

oppression, and sovereignty, hints at a more profound truth: The climate crisis offers a unique

must end.

Critics argue that cap-and-trade, like fining small-scale drug dealers to curb organized crime,

energy efficiency, and public transportation.

There was also groundwater contamination, an abundance of freeways bordering the Murder

Five years ago, California paved the way with a similar piece of legislation, Senate Bill 535, and

could encourage decentralized, community-owned renewable energy. (The week of the Climate

levy fees against companies for greenhouse-gas emissions, with 40 percent of the revenue to be

To this end, UPROSE is part of the New York Renews coalition that is drafting state legislation to

space for green manufacturers (and possibly offshore wind turbines) would not only slow this

ECONOMIC DEMOCRACY AND THE

electricity costs for local subscribers (low-income households will be prioritized). But these solar

percent lower than for investor-owned utilities. In the Brooklyn neighborhood of Sunset Park,

council of elders), the agency is designed to distribute surplus revenues back to the tribes for use

The result was the first tribal public power authority in the United States, an independent,

harness the muscular prairie winds for a share of the profits. “So we became our own developers,”

many of them are starting to

system, so money that’s exchanged stays within the community,” said Franks. “So we’re not

These corporate factory farms are big contributors to climate change, from the petroleum-based

“We’re bringing it back down to local communities, to build the resilience and power of our

remain: Some claim that the oil canals are cutting off oxygen to the crawfish in the Atchafalaya

The Carver Terrace hosing project sits next to an oil refinery in west Port Arthur, Texas.

in exogenous shocks, such as natural disasters or financial crises, are also increasing the risk of

were intended to secure farmland and natural

accompanied the largest land-grab in US history, were intended to secure farmland and natural

to greater biodiversity than our current food system allows. “Many of them are starting to

might entail a return to seeds that preexisted the arrival of white settlers (not to mention genetic

Farm Workers have been fighting pesticide use in the fields since the sixties; and black sanitation

would be saying, ‘Fossil free at last, fossil free at last, we’re going to be fossil free at last.'”

true climate justice puts

climate change grows more disruptive.

XL pipelines. But without directly addressing how environmental injustice impacts poor

political tensions), much as a severe

with only 56 percent of the white population.

But the racial disparity among victims of environmental pollution are stark: African Americans

Kemper County is hardly the only black community to be sited near a coal plant: At least 68

addiction to fossil fuels when we know that we should be looking at renewable sources of energy.”

had renewable energy and money to spare,” she said. “I’m not sure why we continue this

the ground).