

Community Issues Programming for April 1, 2023 - June 30, 2023

WCLH has identified the following issues as significant issues facing our community this quarter. Following each issue is a list of programs aired addressing that issue.

Issue: Environment: Our community is concerned about the environment as well as the impact of government decision making and other regulations on the economy and daily life.

***Democracy Now!* “Not Too Late”: Author Rebecca Solnit & Filipino Activist Red Constantino on Avoiding Climate Despair”**

We discuss climate solutions and the need for broad involvement in the fight to avert climate catastrophe with writer and activist Rebecca Solnit and longtime Filipino climate activist Renato “Red” Constantino. Solnit is the co-editor of *Not Too Late: Changing the Climate Story from Despair to Possibility*, which features an essay by Constantino about his role in the Paris Climate Agreement titled “How the Ants Moved the Elephants in Paris.” “This is the decade of decision, and we need as many people as possible engaged as fully as possible,” says Solnit.

Airdate 17 April 2023 8:42AM Length 19 minutes

***Democracy Now!* “Oil-Rich Nations Fight to Weaken Global Plastics Pollution Treaty as Climate Crisis Intensifies.”**

The second round of negotiations for a global, legally binding treaty on plastics pollution took place last week in Paris, where many of the scientists and civil society members who attended sought to anchor the talks with a focus on climate change. Over 99% of plastic is made from fossil fuels. We get an update from Graham Forbes, leader for the Plastic-Free Future Project at Greenpeace USA, who headed their delegation at the meeting.

Airdate: 6 JUNE 2023 8:00AM LENGTH: 12:27 MINUTES

Issue: Abortion: This is a social issue that reaches every community in the country – the changes are ongoing with the debate for who has what rights is affecting our community.

***Democracy Now!* : What’s Next in Legal Fight over Mifepristone? Supreme Court Protects Access to Abortion Pill for Now**

The U.S. Supreme Court on Friday halted a ban and other restrictions on the abortion medication mifepristone, keeping the nation’s most popular abortion method available for now as an appeal of the nationwide ban on the pill plays out. The ban was issued earlier this month by the Trump-appointed Texas Judge Matthew Kacsmaryk, who ruled the Food and Drug Administration’s 23-year-old approval of the drug was invalid. The case is likely to end up

before the Supreme Court again after making its way through a lower appeals court. We speak with Mary Ziegler, law professor at the University of California, Davis, whose new piece for *The Atlantic* is headlined “The Justices Pass on an Abortion-Pill Ban...Until they hear a better case.”

Airdate: 23 APRIL 2023 8:37AM LENGTH: 13 MINUTES

Issue: Gun Control: The ongoing issue of gun violence and gun control on a national, state, and local level has an impact on our community.

Democracy Now! : “Gun Capitalism: How Lobbyists & GOP Fight Regulation & Push Gun Ownership Despite Deadly Shootings.”

We discuss the U.S. gun violence epidemic with historian Andrew McKeivitt, who says, “We ought to conceive of our gun problem as a problem of gun capitalism.” He covers the history of the proliferation of individual gun ownership since World War II in his forthcoming book, *Gun Country: Gun Capitalism, Culture & Control in Cold War America*. McKeivitt also discusses how the NRA and pro-gun lobby impedes progress on gun control through the implicit threat of “political violence.”

Airdate: 21 APRIL 2023 8:12AM LENGTH: 22 MINUTES

Democracy Now! : “Author Carol Anderson on How Anti-Blackness Drives U.S. Gun Culture & Right-Wing Assault on Democracy.”

We discuss the debate over gun control, as well as Republican attacks on democracy, with author and academic Carol Anderson, who says U.S. gun culture has always been connected to “the inherent, fundamental fear of Black people.” She notes the expulsion of two Black Democratic state lawmakers in Tennessee for leading a gun control protest at the Capitol highlights how gerrymandered state governments uphold white supremacy in the face of “youth that are pushing forward for a different vision of America.” Anderson is professor of African American studies at Emory University and author of *The Second: Race and Guns in a Fatally Unequal America*. She also comments on the right-wing assault on abortion rights and education.

Airdate: 13 April 2023 8:24M LENGTH: 22 MINUTES