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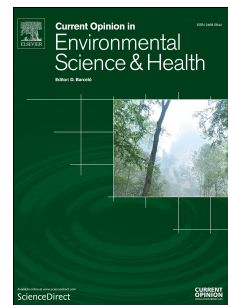
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Environmental justice and fracking: a review

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Abstract

Extensive research over the last five years has demonstrated that those who live near hydraulic fracturing wells and their associated infrastructure are at risk of a variety of health problems. Along with knowledge of these risks comes the ethical question of who is bearing these risks and how decisions are made about who bears the risks. This article reviews how environmental justice scholars have addressed the ethical concerns raised by the fracking boom. It draws out how this work relates to the three main types of environmental justice: distributive, procedural and recognition-based environmental justice.

Highlights

Risks from hydraulic fracturing means scholars must consider the ethics of fracking
Environmental justice provides a way to consider the ethical dimensions of fracking
Distributive environmental justice looks at who bears the risks of living near wells
Procedural environmental justice considers who participates in decisions about wells
Recognition examines whether all stakeholders are recognised as legitimate

Keywords

fracking; hydraulic fracturing; environmental justice; distributive justice; procedural justice

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