

Summary 1

Sociology



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Summary Community Protest and Non-Decision Making Power: The Regulatory Agency and the Multinational." In a community with the powerful and the powerless, it becomes very hard for the grievances of the powerless to be acknowledged or addressed since the powerful are always working towards abating the ability of the powerless to participate in the decision making process. The powerless in America consider regulatory agencies and courts as the only possible pathways to appeal for their rights. Although the powerless in the community believe that the courts and regulatory agencies have the potential of addressing their grievances, it is not clear if this is the truth as demonstrated by the buffalo case.

Buffalo, which is a small poor community living in Claiborne County in Tennessee is a good example of how the powerless remain defenseless in the society. Although a mining company carried out mining activities leaving the community vulnerable to land slides and floods, the issues appears to have received very little attention. It would be expected that the poor community would engage in some protest to demand for termination of the mining activities yet they did no one of this. Even after the mining company applied for a permit to restart its mining activities, there community threatended to protest something that never happened.

The Bufallo community relied on regulatory agencies hping for justice. Although the regulatory agencies are supposed to act as a means through which the powerless can be heard the Buffalo community was faced by numerous barrier since they understood neither their rights not how the legal system works. Although the community members were ready to protest in order to protect their rights, they were faced by numerous challenges. The legal system was an instrument used by the elite and powerful company to

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restrain the powerless community. Instead of the administration aiding the powerless in articulating their grievances, it coerced with the mining company to render them voiceless.

In the Buffalo case, the elite coerced the powerless and made them not challenge a court decision they were opposed to. Since the mining company was a multinational company headquartered in London it became clear that the regulatory agencies were unwilling to investigate it and only relied on biased information provided by company lawyers. Additionally, the Companies Act did not mandate the legal system to investigate the multinational company, which did not trade in U. S.

From the Buffalo case study, it became apparent that multinational corporations are not accountable to the nation