

Everyday Exposure to Toxic Pollutants

This article talks about why toxic pollutant concentrations are higher indoors than outdoors. This discovery occurred after conducting research on the concentrations of toxic chemicals in 15 U.S. States. What is the reason behind this? The products everyday people use contain a lot of toxic chemicals. One example is Benzene, which is in your gasoline and everyday items like glue. Other chemicals include tetrachloroethylene, which is used to dry-clean clothes and chloroform, which is in your shower and your boiled water. The problem with the law, is that there are regulations that protect American citizens from outdoor chemicals. What they haven't done is find a way to reduce the concentration levels indoors. Laws such as the Clean Air Act still hasn't been revised to focus on indoor pollution. The only way to get laws and regulations for indoor pollution, people need to be educated. More knowledge could help consumers think about the choices they make and could potentially lower the concentration of toxic pollutants indoors. "Unfortunately, most people are unaware of the ubiquity of indoor pollution or of how to reduce it."

I found this article interesting because it explained to me that the highest concentration of toxic pollutants was inside. Our everyday products have so many toxic chemicals that the public is unaware of. This relates to me because I use everyday products that everyone else uses. Like other people, I did not know that the use of everyday products increases the toxic chemical concentration. Now that I have read this article, I now know that I now have to be careful with which products I use. I also now know that federal laws and regulations do not protect the public from indoor pollution. The next steps, like the article says is to educate people about the indoor pollution. If more people know about this indoor pollution, they can notify others around them and spread the word. This could potentially make the government create laws and acts that protect us, not just outdoors but indoors also. This article is significant because it discusses how the authors first found out about the high concentrations of indoor pollution. It also gives good examples which helps me understand what I'm using that is causing a high concentration of indoor toxic pollution.