

# Group 2: Informal/Gig Economy



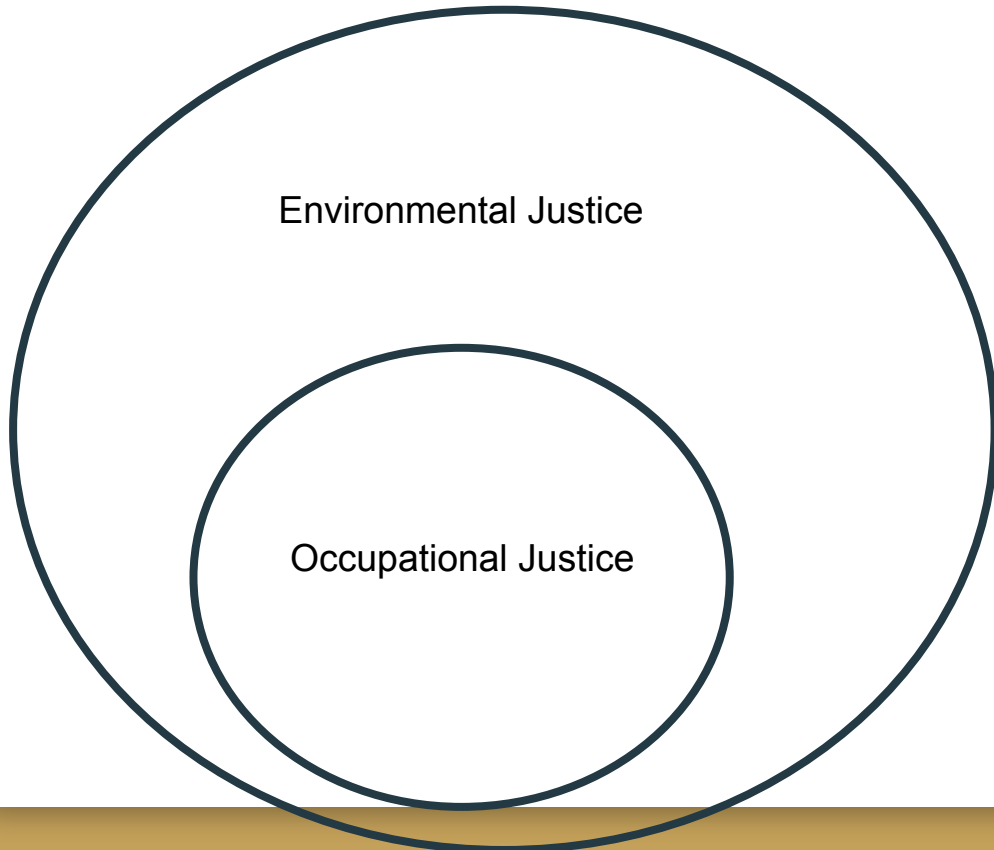
Illustration by Jiaqi Wang

# What is your definition of Occupational or (In)justice?

- Occupational Justice is creating a safe workplace for employees and Occupational Injustice if the reverse.
- Workers should have the right kind of tools to carry out their jobs in a safe manner with minimal risk of accidents, incidents or illnesses.



# Relationship Btw Occupational & Environmental Justice



- Occupational Justice can be seen as a subset of environmental justice because the workplace is a part of the environment.
- OJ exists within EJ, however some issues are strictly OJ specific.
- Resource allocation - There might be competition for limited resources between environmental justice and occupational justice.

# Who is a gig/informal worker?

- A worker, instead of receiving a regular income, receives wages based on the one-time projects or gigs they complete.
  - Does not have a predefined work schedule.
  - E.g. Rideshare drivers, Handymen, Baby Sitters, Nanny, self-employed
- 20-30% of US workers are reported to be gig workers
  - ~30% hispanic, ~20% latino/asian, ~10% white
- Informal work could include volunteering
  - ~1 billion volunteers annually worldwide
  - 7th largest economy

# Exposures/Hazards Associated with the Informal/Gig Economy?

- This work generally falls outside of the protection of existing agencies.
- Hazards include ergonomic injuries, workplace violence
- An emerging workforce (Exposures largely unstudied)
- Often higher-risk industries (drivers, freight, uber) : Transportation approx. ½ of all workplace fatalities (OSHA)
- Workplaces are transient, workers face issue related to precarious employment
- Career gig workers may experience higher burdens of exposure due to long-term reliance
- There are a disproportionate number of Blacks, Hispanics in workforce
- Lower income individuals are in higher proportion.

# How to fix gig work :)

- Societal changes
- Improved EJ
  - The same degree of protection from environmental and health hazards, and
  - Equal access to the decision-making process to have a healthy environment in which to live, learn, and work.
- Regulation & agencies focused on gig work safety
  - Equitable work condition
  - Requirement to register gig work
    - Note: Some workers may not want gig work to be more regulated
- Legislations to protect gig workers

More “informal”

More “formal”