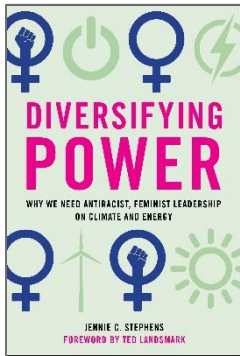




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PRESS RELEASE

Diversifying Power

Why We Need Antiracist, Feminist Leadership on Climate and Energy

By Jennie C. Stephens

Washington, DC (September 17, 2020) — Many of the leadership deficiencies that have shaped the United States' inadequate response to the Covid-19 pandemic have also thwarted the country's response to the climate crisis. For too long, leaders have prioritized corporate profits over the public good, reinforcing economic and racial injustices while exacerbating climate vulnerabilities.

In ***Diversifying Power: Why We Need Antiracist, Feminist Leadership on Climate and Energy*** (Publication Date: Sept. 17, 2020), energy expert and social justice advocate Jennie C. Stephens argues that the key to effectively addressing the climate crisis is diversifying leadership so that antiracist, feminist priorities are central. We must reclaim and restructure climate and energy systems so that policies are explicitly linked to economic, social, and racial justice.

Stephens argues that diverse leadership and multiracial, multiethnic, gender-balanced coalitions are essential to counteract the power of the “polluter elite,” influential individuals resisting change as they profit off fossil fuel reliance.

She shows how innovative leaders are tackling America's economic and health disparities by connecting climate actions and the renewable energy transformation with job creation, economic justice, and public health priorities. Next, she addresses how activists and leaders are fighting for equitable public transportation and housing for all by linking these issues with climate and energy goals.

Stephens calls readers to action, arguing that anyone can advance antiracist, feminist leadership and support the transition to a more just, sustainable future. She presents actionable steps, including joining a community activist group, supporting vote-by-mail options, and advocating for local renewable energy in low-income neighborhoods.

Throughout ***Diversifying Power***, Stephens highlights the inspirational stories of leaders using antiracist, feminist values to drive transformative structural change, from Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez

with the Green New Deal to the Secwepemc women of the Tiny House Warriors. She also shares her own experiences as a woman working in the male-dominated areas of climate and energy.

The shift from an unequal, extractive, and oppressive society to a regenerative, just, and healthy future has already begun. With hope and optimism, Stephens shows how diverse leaders are using energy and climate actions to address society's greatest challenges. ***Diversifying Power*** inspires us all to leverage the power of collective action for climate and energy justice.

Jennie C. Stephens is an educator, a social justice advocate, an energy expert, and a sustainability science researcher. She is Director of the School of Public Policy and Urban Affairs at Northeastern University in Boston, where she is also the Dean's Professor of Sustainability Science & Policy, Director of Strategic Research Collaborations at the Global Resilience Institute, and a member of the Executive Committee of Northeastern's Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies program.

Diversifying Power: Why We Need Antiracist, Feminist Leadership on Climate and Energy

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