

# Available for Interview

To arrange an interview with any of these spokespersons call (718) 880-7979  
or email [dowkills@wetlands-preserve.org](mailto:dowkills@wetlands-preserve.org).

**Akash Viswanath Mehta** is 12 years old and attends St. Anns school in Brooklyn. When he was 7, he founded Kids for a Better Future (KBF), a kid-run organization dedicated to children's rights all over the world. In December 2008, Akash traveled to Bhopal with his family, volunteered at Sambhavna Clinic, and met many Bhopali kids including the members of Children Against Dow Carbide. In 2009, KBF raised \$12,000 for a new playground and the healthcare for 900 Bhopali children at Sambhavna Clinic. Akash and KBF also participated in many 25th anniversary activities, and held a rally outside Dow's Manhattan office on December 3rd, 2009.

**Aquene Freechild** is a Volunteer with the International Campaign for Justice in Bhopal and a Masters of Public Administration student at the NYU Wagner School of Public Service. Before starting at NYU, she was a campaign organizer and grantwriter with the International Campaign for Justice in Bhopal and the Dow Accountability Network for 5 years. The Bhopal campaign uses grassroots, shareholder, student and legal strategies to obtain criminal justice, clean water, rehabilitation, and medical care for the survivors of the 1984 Union Carbide Gas Leak that has killed 23,000 people. She holds a BA in International Relations, French and Environmental Studies from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

**Brian Mooney** B.A., J.D., Ph.D. is a clinical associate professor of Social Sciences and faculty coordinator for Anthropology, Sociology, and International Studies at the Paul McGhee Division of the NYU School of Continuing and Professional Studies. Brian's research and teaching in Anthropology draws from his experience both in ethnographic research in anthropology and from his professional experience as a lawyer. He practiced law from 1984 to 1988 for the firm of Kelley Drye & Warren which at that time was representing the Union Carbide Corporation in the litigation following the 1984 Bhopal Gas Disaster, said to be the world's worst industrial disaster. That experience rekindled his interest in Anthropology - his undergraduate major - and motivated a radical change of direction as he returned to graduate school to pursue a Ph.D. in Cultural Anthropology, focusing on the subfield of legal anthropology. His areas of expertise include the aftermath of the 1984 Union Carbide gas disaster in Bhopal, India; the international legal ramifications of disaster; the legal and social impact of survivors; and Farsi. Recent works include "Interpreting Women's Protest: Ethnographic Research with Women Survivors of the Bhopal Gas Disaster"; "A Very Uncouth Affair: Bhopal's Bhujariya Festival and Transgendered Performance in Post-Colonial India"; and "Encounters with Legal Texts: Reading the Bhopal Litigation in its Social Context"

**Lois Marie Gibbs** In 1978, Lois founded the Love Canal Homeowners' Association and led a campaign with her neighbors to relocate over 900 families from the contaminated Love Canal community. Lois went on to found the Center for Health, Environment and Justice (CHEJ), where her vision has guided CHEJ's efforts to provide critical organizing and technical assistance to communities engaged in their own environmental struggles. Lois has been recognized extensively for her leadership role in the grassroots environmental justice movement. Lois is an inspiring and dynamic speaker who has appeared on many television and radio shows including 60 Minutes, 20/20, Oprah Winfrey, Good Morning America, The Morning Show and the Today Show. She is the recipient of an honorary Doctorate from SUNY at Cortland, New York, the 1990 Goldman Environmental Prize, the 1998 Heinz Award, and the 1999 John Gardner Leadership Award from Independent Sector.

**Jeanne Mirer** is the President of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers. She has been a member of the IADL bureau since 1996. Prior to being President of IADL she served as Secretary General and Treasurer. She was a counsel to the Vietnamese Agent Orange victims who sued Dow, Monsanto and 35 other chemical manufacturers in US federal court. She has been an active member of IADL affiliate, the National Lawyers Guild, for 40 years and has held numerous positions in the NLG. She currently serves as a co-chair of the NLG International Committee. She is in the private practice of law specializing in employment and labor rights. Jeanne is a member of the leadership of the Vietnam Agent Orange Relief & Responsibility Campaign and organizer of the International Peoples' Tribunal of Conscience in Support of the Vietnamese Victims of Agent Orange.

**Michael Schade** is the PVC Campaign Coordinator for the Center for Health, Environment & Justice (CHEJ). Mike joined CHEJ's staff in July 2005. Previously, he was the Western New York Director of the Citizens' Environmental Coalition. During his four years there, he coordinated numerous community, marketplace, and policy campaigns resulting in substantial victories for environmental health and justice in Western New York and across the state. He coordinated CEC's Toxic-Free Legacy, Bucket Brigade Community Organizing, and Kodak Corporate Accountability campaigns in Western New York. He has a BS in Environmental Studies from the State University of New York at Buffalo and a minor in Physical Geography. Mike previously worked for the Buffalo Coalition for Economic Justice/Jobs With Justice on local labor struggles and campaigns. In November 2007, he was named by Ethisphere Magazine as one of the 100 Most Influential People in Business Ethics for 2007 and the PVC Campaign was awarded the "Path to Victory" Business Ethics Network award. In 2008, BEN awarded the PVC Campaign its BENNY award.

**The Yes Men** are a group who use any means necessary to agree their way into the fortified compounds of commerce, and then smuggle out the stories of their undercover escapades to provide a public glimpse at the behind-the-scenes world of big business. The stories are often both shocking and hilarious. They have been called "the Jonathan Swift of the Jackass generation" by author Naomi Klein. The Yes Men have impersonated World Trade Organization, Dow Chemical Corporation, and Bush administration spokesmen on TV and at business conferences around the world. They do this (a) in order to demonstrate some of the mechanisms that keep bad people and ideas in power, and (b) because it's absurdly fun. Their main goal is to focus attention on the dangers of economic policies that place the rights of capital before the needs of people and the environment.