

CHEVRON (TEXACO) AND OIL POLLUTION IN THE ECUADORIAN AMAZON

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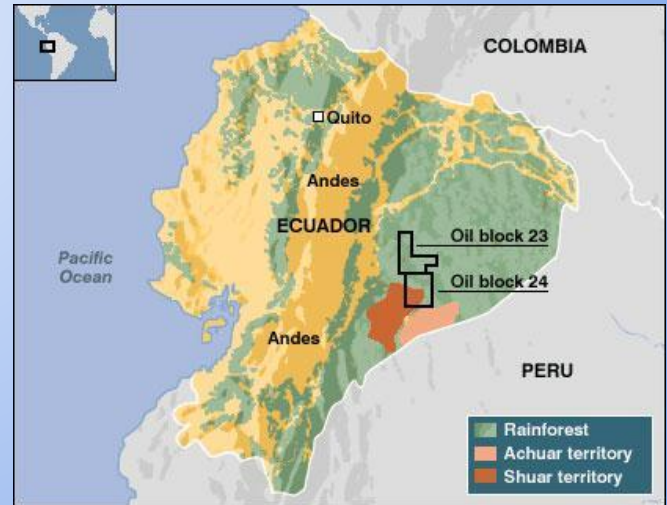
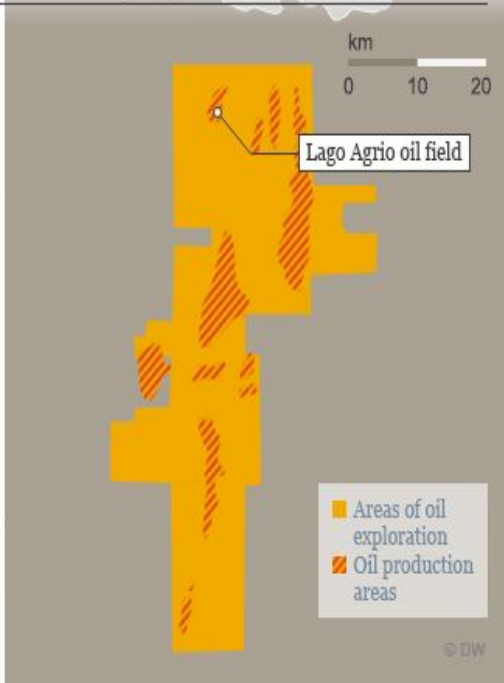
Stockton University, Dr. Tait Chirenjie

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OUTLINE

- Location of where the oil is being extracted in Ecuador.
- The company and how it all started. Its history and what it is known for.
- A video of what the company says they are about in the US but not in Ecuador.
- The proper disposal methods of the oil when it is extracted from the site.
- Images of the proper oil disposal
- Pollution and how it is affecting the people of Ecuador along with their health issues that are now brewing from these non proper disposals.
- Indigenous tribes and how they use the land to survive.
- The case and the outcome when Chevron came in and took over the Ecuadorians land.

Areas operated by Texaco (Chevron) between 1964-1990



CHEVRON (TEXACO) THE COMPANY

- The company was founded in 1879, Mike Wirth is the CEO founder.
- In the 1960's the American Oil company Chevron also known as Texaco started extracting oil from the basin of the Amazon rainforest.
- Over the course of 26 years chevron extracted billion gallons of crude oil that caused a huge revenue for the company Texaco.
- Over 23 years Texaco pumped over 1.5 billion barrels of oil.



CHEVRON (TEXACO) THE COMPANY

- 1960's shell oil, then texaco and petro canada, began drilling on the fringes of Huaorani Territory.
- Texaco was an independent company until its company merged into chevron in 2001
- On October 15th, 2000 chevron announces acquisition of Texaco in a deal valued at 45 billion creating the second largest oil company with a market value of approximately \$95 billion. They merged the company due to the money portion.
- The oil company originated in California
- In the 1960's Texaco came to North Eastern Ecuador to tap into one of the largest oil reserves in North America.

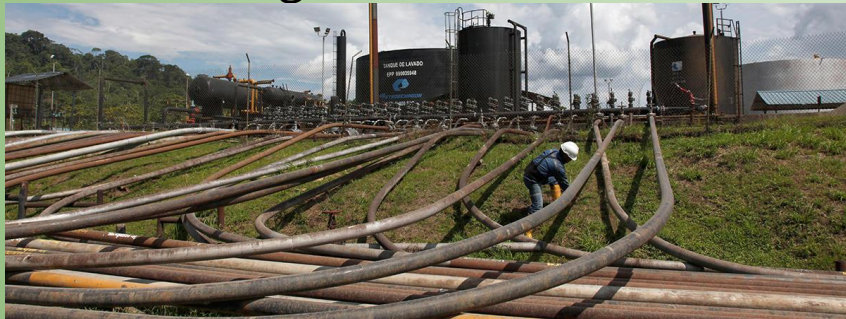
Chevron and their Mission



This video will show how the company is displayed and how they control their company. In the US this would not have happened but they took advantage of the Ecuadorians and did the worst damage in environmental history. These people in this video work for the Chevron company.

PROPER DISPOSAL

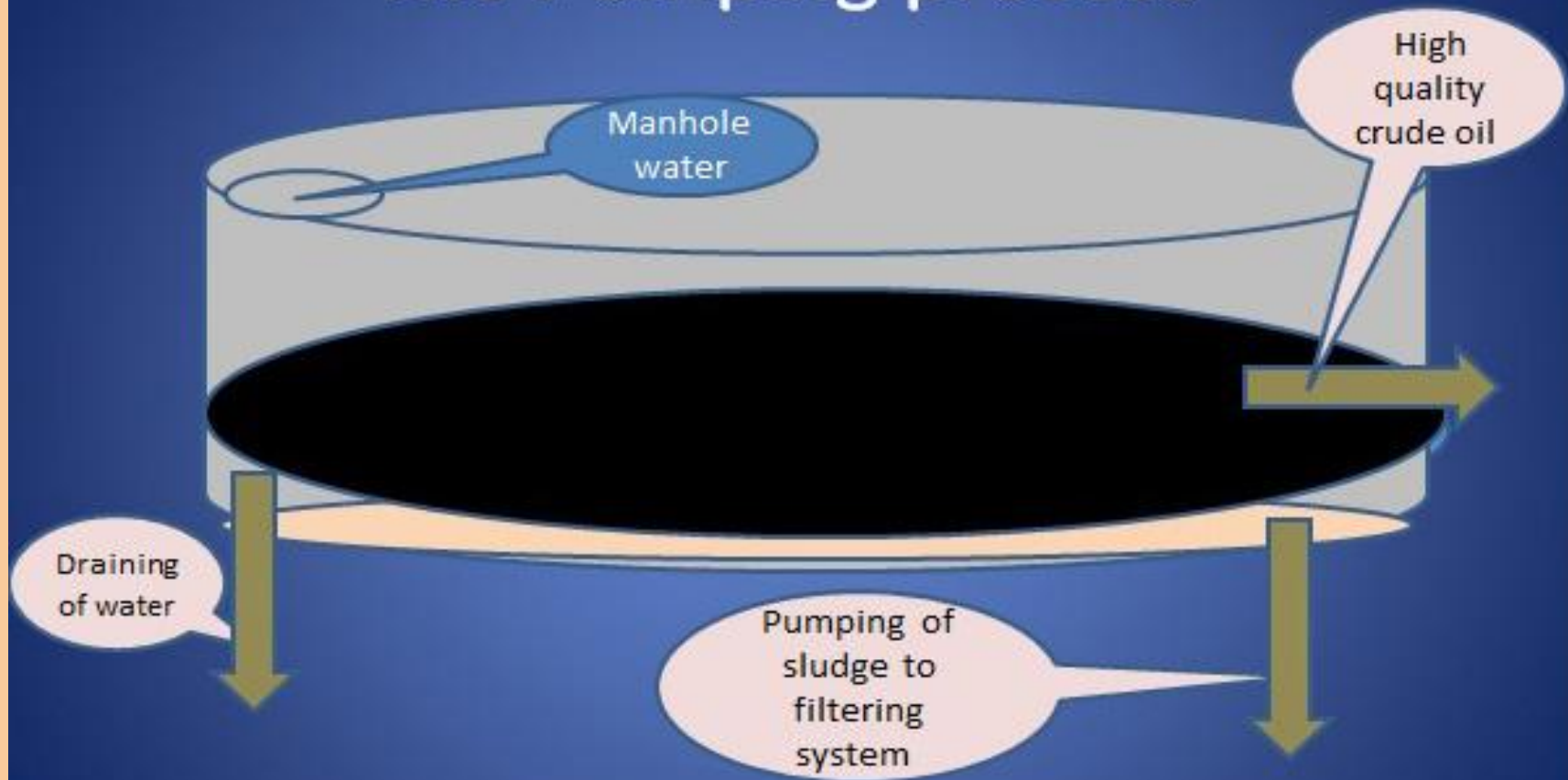
- Oil extraction normally begins when a well is drilled.
- Pits are created for the temporary storage of oil waste.
- Pits are lined with industrial tarps that act as a membrane. They are heat, tear, heavy weight and liquid resistant.
- The tarp helps prevent oil waste toxins from seeping into the ground



PROPER DISPOSAL

- Drilling muds, toxins, oil waste, chemical lubricants are stored in the lined pits.
- Separation station crude oil is refined and the remaining toxic water or known as produced water in the oil company is injected into the ground.
- When the drilling is complete the oil sludge that remains is disposed of and the pits are filled in and the drilling site is restored.

The Pumping process

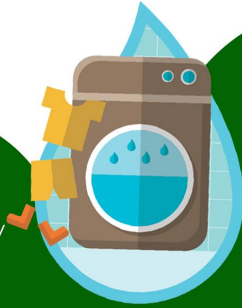


Did you know...

Recycling Just 2 Gallons Of Used Oil Can Generate Enough Electricity To Run The Average Household For 24 Hours



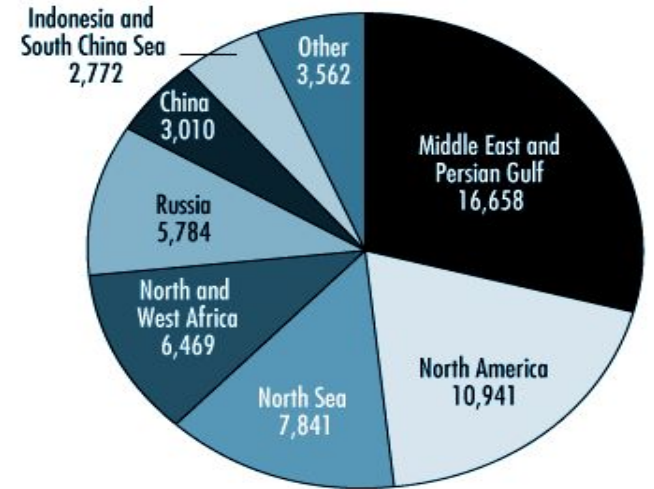
200,000,000 Gallons Of Used Oil Is Improperly Disposed of EACH YEAR



It Takes 42 Gallons Of Crude Oil, But Only 1 Gallon Of Used Oil To Produce 2.5 Quarts of New, High Quality Lubricating Oil



World production (thousand barrels per day) = 57,037



Source: Adapted from Energy Information Administration 1996.

POLLUTION OF CRUDE OIL

- Prevents photosynthesis in plants.
- Disrupts the food chain
- Spreads over the surface in a thin layer stopping oxygen to the plants and animals that live in the water.



HEALTH RISK

Adults: chemical Pneumonia, irritation of the nose, throat, lungs, headache, dizziness, drowsiness, loss of coordination, fatigue, nausea and labored breathing. Chronic exposure can result in irregular heartbeats, convulsions, coma and cancer.

Women who are pregnant: birth defects, changes in fetal development, decrease in fetal survival if the crude oils cross the placenta, impact on fetal embryo growth.

Children: they will experience the same things as fetuses will since the children are still growing and developing. Learning disabilities and growth rates will be noticeable.

(These statistics are happening in the areas to which this oil extraction is taking place)

Health Risks from Heavy Crude Oil

These four chemicals—benzene, n-hexane, toluene and xylene—are among 26 identified in the heavy crude oil that leaked from the ruptured Pegasus pipeline in Mayflower, Ark., in 2013. The chemicals can have an array of health impacts, depending on length of exposure and concentration.

TOXIC CHEMICALS FOUND IN HEAVY CRUDE OIL

▼ Benzene ▼ n-Hexane ▼ Toluene ▼ Xylene



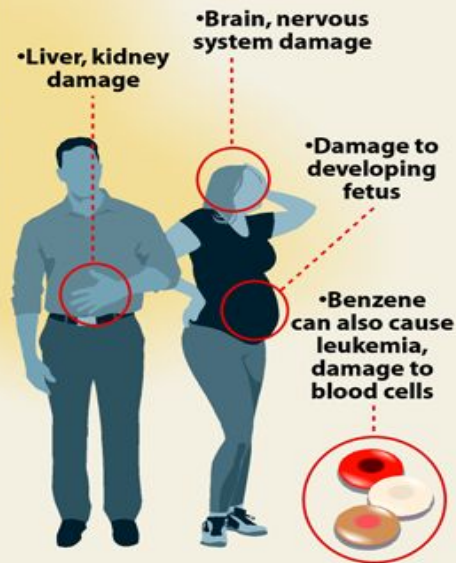
IMMEDIATE HEALTH IMPACTS

Short-term exposure to all of these chemicals can irritate the **eyes, nose, throat, lungs** and **skin** to varying degrees.



LONG-TERM HEALTH IMPACTS

These chemicals are listed as carcinogens, and long-term exposure can cause cancer among other adverse effects.



HEALTH THREATS OF NEIGHBORHOOD DRILLING to women and children



Over 750 active oil wells operate dangerously close to homes, schools, churches, parks and hospitals throughout Los Angeles. Neighborhood drilling threatens the health of thousands of Angeleno families. For the most sensitive populations—children, pregnant mothers and the elderly—the **health threats of neighborhood drilling** are a heavy burden.

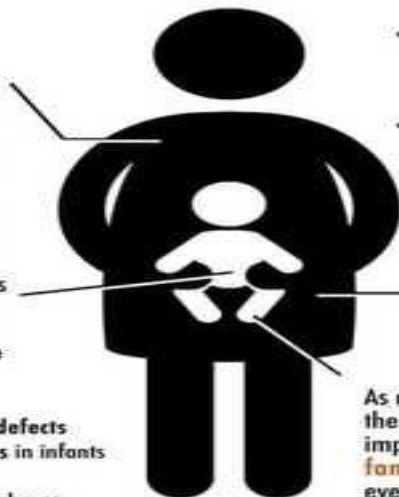
Pregnant women living near active oil operations have a:

40%
increased risk of
PREMATURE BIRTH

30%
increased risk of
HIGH-RISK PREGNANCY

Prenatal exposure to
23 CHEMICALS
used in oil and gas operations
has been shown to cause:

- increased risk of **miscarriage**
- increased risk congenital **heart defects** in infants
- increased risk of other **birth defects**
- serious **respiratory problems** in infants and children
- **pulmonary infections** in newborns
- slower development and **low IQ scores**



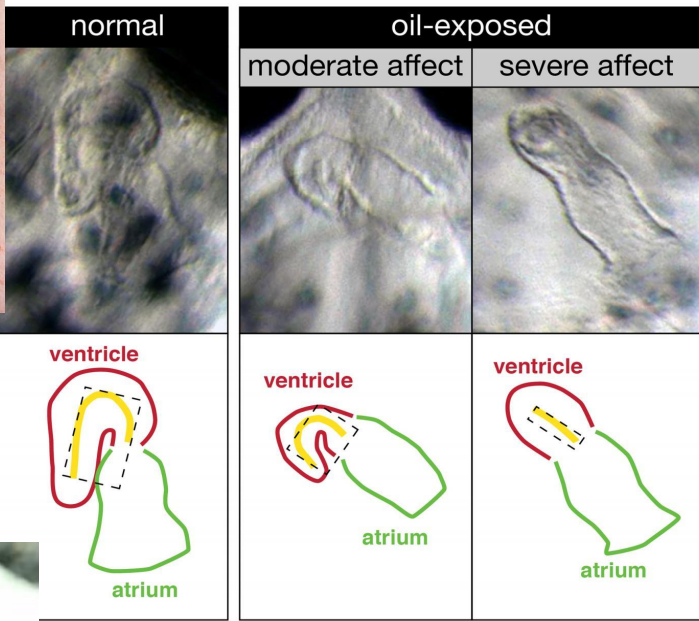
Children are especially susceptible to environmental pollution:

- The air intake of a resting infant is **twice that of an adult**, exposing them to larger amounts of toxics in the air.
- Pound for pound of, children drink more water, eat more food, and breathe more air than adults, offering **greater exposure** to toxic chemicals.
- Children are undergoing rapid growth and development, and their **delicate processes** are easily disrupted by toxic substances.

Oil and gas operations use **endocrine-disrupting chemicals**, which may cause reproductive harm and **infertility**.

As many of these chemicals can harm the reproductive system, their health impacts have the potential to **harm families across multiple generations**, even if they move away from the current source of exposure.

Haddock hearts develop abnormally when exposed to crude oil



Sheri Allen



INDIGENOUS GROUPS

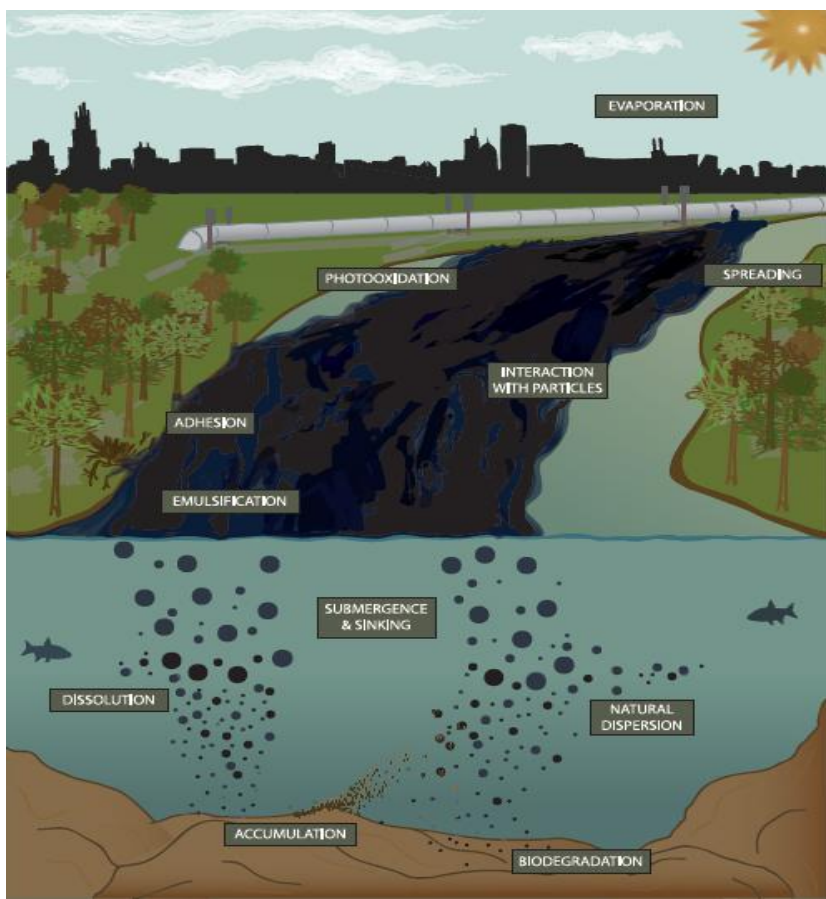
- 25% of the groups in Ecuador are Indigenous. 75% are mixed indigenous groups.
- The first inhabitants of the Americas migrated from Asia across the Beringia land bridge. The first inhabitants of South America arrived from North America via the Panamanian isthmus.
- Oil is looked at as a spiritual value to them they consider oil the blood of their country that has been provided to them by mother nature.
- The amazonian rainforest is home to 8 indigenous tribes.
- In order for Chevron to strive and extract the oil from their land they told the indigenous groups that what they were doing was good for the land. What they were doing was great for the planet and what they were taking out and putting back was even better.

SURVIVING OFF THE LAND

Indigenous groups live off the land to survive.

- Use the water from the rivers for fishing, bathing, and cooking.
- The plants for eating and for medicinal purposes such as the headache plant.





<https://mn.water.usgs.gov/projects/bemidji/results/intro-final.pdf>

<https://www.chevron.com/about/history>
<https://www.environmentalpollutioncenters.org/oil-spill/>

<https://www.chevron.com>



WHAT HAPPENS AFTER THE TOXIC WASTE TRAGEDY...?

- Citizens were lied to, taken advantage of, and environment destroyed
- Indigenous groups launched lawsuit against chevron in 1993
- 2002 US courts threw our case stating that the context would be more appropriate in Ecuadorian courts
- In 2003 lawsuit was brought to Ecuador against Chevron

- Plaintiffs stated that pollution causes increases in cancer and other serious health problems along with environmental destruction



- Experts evaluated damages in 2008
- Estimated compensation of 16-27 billion dollars
- 2011 Chevron ordered to pay 8.6 billion and more than doubling without a public apology
- Chevron deemed this “illegitimate and unenforceable”
- Moved forward to fight back through series of appeals

“Chevron is defending itself against false allegations that it is responsible for alleged environmental and social harms in the Amazon region of Ecuador.”

-Chevron Website

- Ecuador filed lawsuits in other countries to pressure Chevron's assets (Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, Canada).
- 2012 Ecuador orders to seize 200 million dollars worth of assets within the country
- 2012 Ecuador original ruling was upheld for Chevron to pay up



IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT CHEVRON IS AT FAULT AND SHOULD LOSE THE CASE, RIGHT?

Chevron is guilty of:



- ☠ Contaminate around 2 million hectares in the Ecuadorian Amazon.
- ☠ Throwing 16 billion gallons of toxic water into the rivers of the area.
- ☠ Damaged 5 million acres.
- ☠ The disappearance of two indigenous communities.

#ToxicEffect

WRONG...HOW DOES CHEVRON ACTUALLY WIN?

- 2014 Chevron challenged Ecuador accusing the state of bribery and violating **bilateral investment treaty**
- Found **agreement signed in 1995 that released Texaco Corporation from financial responsibility from any claims of "collective damage."**
However, the panel left open the possibility that Chevron could still be liable for damages incurred by individuals.
- A **bilateral investment treaty is an agreement establishing the terms and conditions for private investment by nationals and companies of one state in another state. This type of investment is called foreign direct investment.**

2018 VERDICT AGAINST ECUADOR

- Evidence placed before the Court is “the most thorough documentary, video, and testimonial proof of fraud ever put before an arbitral tribunal.”
- Plaintiffs blackmailed an Ecuadorian judge, leading to order the appointment of an “expert” friendly to the plaintiffs.
- Among others



- Clearly the oil companies are at fault for destroying not only the valuable and rare ecosystems in the Amazon, but the lives of many fellow human beings who live there.
- It is sad to see that Chevron will not pay to compensate for the damages they helped cause because of some questionable and irresponsible mistakes made on the Ecuadorian side in the processes of the court proceedings.

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QUESTIONS????