



Pollution in People



PARTICIPANT PROFILE: Deb Abrahamson

Place of residence: Wellpinit, Washington

Birthplace: Neselem, Washington

Lived in Washington since: 1955

Occupation: coordinator, Society for Sovereignty, Health, Air, Water, and Land

Age: 51

Known specific exposures to toxic chemicals: residence near landfill burning and mines

Special diet: none

Estimated proportion of diet organic: 5%

Home pesticide use: no

Deb Abrahamson's Chemical Profile

* 39 chemicals detected

* organophosphate pesticide exposure greater than 90% of U.S. population on average

* second highest level of PFOS, formerly used in stain protectors

Chemical Class	Found In	Potential Health Effects	Found in Participant	
			(Yes)	(No)
Phthalates (plasticizers and fragrance carriers)	PVC (vinyl) flooring, toys, shower curtains, personal-care products	harm to reproductive development	✓	
PBDEs (toxic flame retardants)	televisions, mattresses, furniture	learning deficits, hormone disruption	✓	
Lead	PVC (vinyl), drinking water, paint & dust in older homes, hobby products	learning deficits		✓
Mercury	thermostats, fluorescent light bulbs	learning deficits	✓	
Arsenic	treated wood, herbicides, contaminated soil	cancer		✓
PFCs ("Teflon chemicals")	coated food packaging such as for french fry boxes; stain-protection treatments for carpeting and clothing	cancer, organ damage, reproductive effects	✓	
Pesticides	weed and pest sprays for farming and home and garden	cancer, nervous system harm, developmental effects, potential acute effects	✓	
DDT (pesticide)/PCBs (industrial coolant); banned but persistent toxic chemicals	present in many food sources, especially animal and fish fats	nervous system harm, hormone disruption, learning deficits,	✓	