

Environmental Justice is Generation Next "Who Got Next?"

Do you remember the <u>Crash Dummies</u>? What about, <u>This Is Your Brain On Drugs</u> (although I prefer the updated <u>Your Brain On Drug Policy</u>)? What about the Smoke Free Class of 2000? I have to be honest I don't remember a song with it, but apparently there was.... <u>Take a look</u>.

Because of this messaging, as a child, I got my Granny to stop smoking, put on her seatbelt, and I never wanted my brain to end up like that egg. Saturdays were spent with the Get-A-Long Gang which consisted of my Granny, her sisters, her aunts, and me. We would go grocery shopping, to the farmers market, and to pick up whatever else was needed for the house. I can remember being the little girl in the backseat who would (probably annoying to the adults) say "Aunt Carrie put your seatbelt on," and this would be my solo chorus until she put her seatbelt on. Those Crash Dummies and Gus the Bus schooled us on all the harms of not putting your seatbelt on, I was the self-proclaimed car safety patrol. I also have the vivid elementary school memory of negotiating with my Granny to stop smoking and if she did, I would buy her a Mr. Goodbar, her favorite candy. She did it! And she never smoked again. I was schooled on all the harms of smoking, and although my Granny was never a heavy smoker, I knew I had to get her to quit. As I reflect back on this, in actuality, I was an advocate, and so many of our youth today have turned the switch on for their own advocacy. The youth are now asking us to do the same for Climate Justice.

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As we lose some of our greatest civil rights leaders like John Lewis and C.T. Vivian, it is more important than ever to nurture and support our next generation of leaders. The climate justice movement is no different especially when it comes to developing the next generation of BIPOC climate leaders. Check out who got next!!!



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Do you have what it takes to do the challenge? What's your artistic expression? What climate justice issue affects your community?

I wrote a song...like to hear it...hear it go!!!!

Join the challenge

#greengapchallenge #greengap



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