Situating Bayview Hunters Point

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Death Rates from Breast Cancer

- O The National Cancer Institute reports:
 - 33.5 deaths per 100,000 for Black women
 - 24.4 deaths per 100,000 for white women. http://seer.cancer.gov/statfacts/html/breast.html
- Concern, Nassau and Suffolk, was 28.0 and 29.0 per 100,000.
- This higher than the national average, but not higher than the mortality rate for Black women. http://epi.grants.cancer.gov/LIBCSP/

"Big victory for Hunters Point activists" San Francisco Chronicle, (Monday, May 15, 2006)

- The 77-year-old Pacific Gas and Electric Co. power plant on Evans Avenue officially closes today. People who live in the public housing directly across the street and other homes nearby began organizing more than 25 years ago—with protests, lawsuits and countless meetings—to rid their neighborhood of what came to represent the area's disproportionate share of San Francisco's heavy industry and of the city's asthma and cancer cases.
- "To say the least, I am elated," said Marie Harrison, a member of the Huntersview Mothers Committee who got involved a decade ago, after realizing that lung-clogging particulate matter from the plant was drifting through her grandson's bedroom windows.
- Our children have suffered chronic nosebleeds and asthma attacks as a result of that plant.
- "I am giddy, like a little kid, that we got that monster out of our community."
- Most significant, said resident Tessie Ester, was that the kids could be outside jumping rope and playing football and that, even with a strong breeze, she could be certain they weren't inhaling fumes from the power plant.
- "The smoke has stopped," Ester said. "When I look over at those stacks, and there is nothing coming out, I can't help but cry. We should never have been forced to live like that. Maybe now we can get rid of the inhalers and really start to enjoy life."

Bayview is home to:

- A federal EPA superfund site, the now abandoned Hunters Point Naval Shipyard
- A sewage treatment plant that handles 80% of the City's solid waste
- 100 Brownfield sites, (abandoned, idle, or underused industrial or commercial facility where expansion or redevelopment is limited because of environmental contamination)
- 187 leaking underground tanks (LUFTS)
- More than 124 hazardous waste handlers regulated by the USEPA.
- The EPA states that Bayview Hunters Point is home to more than 200 toxic chemicals and materials.

Situated Knowledges: increasingly "concrete engagements"

- 1. Situation is an epistemic location, i.e., a place from which to know.
- 2. Situation is a vital location, that is socially, materially, and historically salient to its members.
- 3. It is a place to know or a place to interrogate.
- 4. Situation is also a methodological location from which to initiate critical, transformative practices, practices that are informed by location.
- 5. Finally, situation is a place whose conditions are transformed by its own methodology as well as a place that methodologically transforms epistemology.