We Keep Us Safe: Building a Web of Social Action

Chris L. Hawn\(^1\)

\(^1\)NC State University

Published on: Jan 15, 2022

DOI: [https://doi.org/10.52750/289010](https://doi.org/10.52750/289010)

License: [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International License (CC-BY-NC 4.0)](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/)
ABSTRACT

Chris L. Hawn, Ph.D. uses lessons learned from grassroots organizing to apply to the field of public science to create an accessible and justice-oriented science. Hawn discusses their start at NC State University getting their Ph.D. in conservation ecology and the reasons why they shifted towards environmental justice and toxicology.

Chris Hawn, Ph.D., is an assistant professor of geography and environmental systems at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County and a proud NC State alum. Their research platform uses public science to blend conservation ecology with social justice to benefit groups that are subjected to oppression. Dr. Hawn has developed a justice-oriented public science project called Spidey Senser, an air quality monitoring project using funnel spider webs to detect air pollution. They use spiders as bioindicators to test the quality of the environment, and uses Black feminist theory to understand the broader social implications of environmental inequality.

Visit the web version of this article to view interactive content.

TRANSCRIPT

WANT TO LEARN MORE?

Visit Spideysenser.org to participate in Spidey Senser and monitor the air quality in your neighborhood.