

I can't breathe
when pollution is higher in our neighborhoods,
while white people breathe 17% less air pollution.

I can't breathe
when white vegans shove their philosophies down our throats
without acknowledging where and who they stole and co-opted them from.

I can't breathe
when white feminism cares more about exposing hairy legs
than exposing the harm they benefit from.

I can't breathe
when erasure calls people of color minorities
when we are the global majority.

I can't breathe
when the global majority are affected the most by climate change
even though we're the least responsible.

I can't breathe
when more funding goes toward saving the coral reefs
than saving people of the global majority's lives.

I can't breathe
when my ancestors have carried the world on their backs
and their descendants still do.

I can't breathe
when reform is used as a tool to ignore the need to dismantle
what continues to destroy our backs and souls.

I can't breathe
when my people are endangered and aren't mourned
the same way endangered animals are.

I can't breathe
when my people's final breath are in a prison, an officer's bullet,
an officer's hands, a system's ignorance.

I can't breathe
when settlers' systems still prevail over the Indigenous
infrastructures that keep our planet alive.

I can't breathe
when the environment and climate don't discriminate
while people and their systems still do.

I can't breathe
when Death's discrimination comes from people,
and not Death itself.