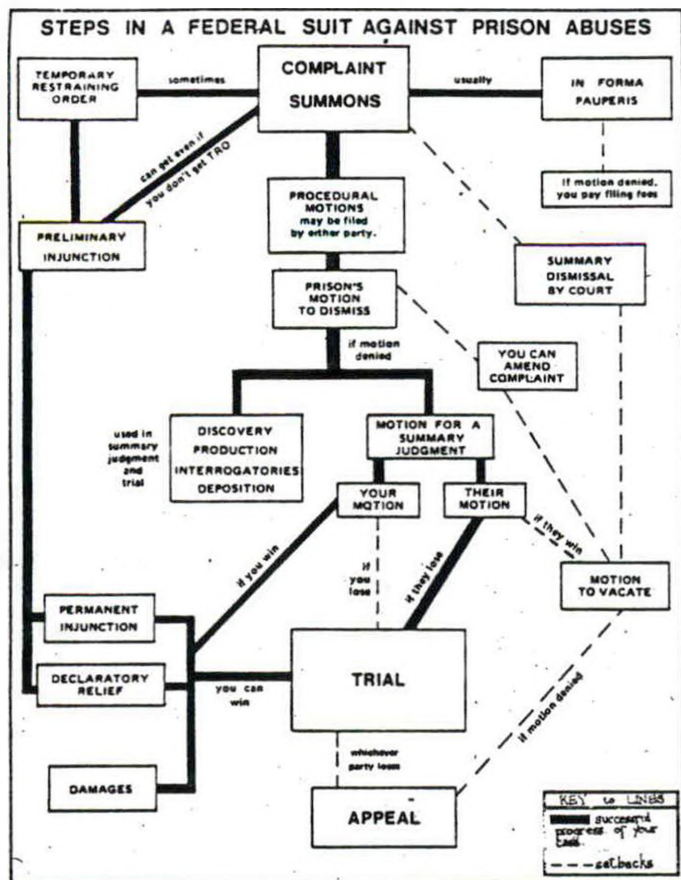




Crime and Delinquency Literature

National Council on Crime and Delinquency
 184 pp. Hackensack, New Jersey: National Council on
 Crime and Delinquency
 \$15/year. Quarterly.

This quarterly publication contains hundreds of abstracts of articles and books about crime and delinquency. Whatever one may think of the viewpoints of the publisher (which is the National Council on Crime and Delinquency), *Crime and Delinquency Literature* is a very valuable research tool.

From:
 National Council on Crime and Delinquency
 Continental Plaza
 411 Hackensack Avenue
 Hackensack, N.J. 07601

CRIME AND DELINQUENCY LITERATURE is designed to assist subscribers in keeping up-to-date on the most recent developments in crime, law enforcement, correction, and other aspects of criminal justice.

This quarterly journal of NCCD's Information Center contains indepth ABSTRACTS of current literature, worldwide in scope, on:

- * Law and the Courts
- * Law Enforcement and the Police
- * Juvenile Delinquency and the Delinquent
- * Crime and the Offender
- * Correction
- * Drug Abuse
- * Related Social Issues

The abstracts, typically 200 words long, clearly indicate the pertinence of each document to the reader and frequently serve as a substitute to reading the entire document.

Abstracts are SUBJECT-INDEXED* (cumulated annually) for immediate identification of all important materials appearing during the year on topics of specific interest to the user.

--Crime and Delinquency Literature

pest control

Defoliation

Thomas Whiteside
 143 pp. New York: Ballantine/Friends of the Earth
 \$.95. 1970.

Herbicides are chemical weed-killers and they are cheap and effective; they replace expensive back-breaking labor and they make possible the use of large, efficient farm machinery.

Yet they also probably cause birth defects in humans and in other animal species. In addition, commercial herbicide preparations, such as the auxin compound, 2,4,5-T, are commonly contaminated with "dioxin" — which is a shorthand name for a very complex, people-created chemical which is among the most poisonous ever discovered. [See Janice Crossland and Kevin Shea, "Hazards of Impurities," *Environment*, Vol. 15 (June, 1973), pgs. 35-38.]

Herbicides are in wide use by federal agencies and by private industrial users. They are becoming a standard feature of modern forestry — 2,4,5-T selectively kills some species of young trees and not others. It therefore can aid in increasing the yield of certain types of trees in forests.

(continued)

This results in a simplification of the forest ecosystem. With fewer tree species, the balances of nature may be upset. Outbreaks of pests can occur more readily. Increasingly, the typical response to such outbreaks is spraying more exotic chemical pesticides.

Thomas Whiteside's book is a good introduction to the problems of herbicides. He focuses on the use of herbicides as part of America's chemical and biological warfare program in Vietnam but the details you learn about herbicides in Vietnam can serve you well on the home front, where chemical warfare against non-human species is increasing by 15% each year. Billions of pounds of synthetic organic chemicals are reaching the environment each year, simplifying and de-stabilizing the planet's ecosystems.

Who's using herbicides in what quantities in your home county and throughout your home state? That's the first thing to find out.

From:
Friends of the Earth
30 East 42nd St.
New York, N.Y. 10017

or your local bookstore or your local chapter of Friends of the Earth.

After the war, many of the herbicidal materials that had been developed and tested for biological-warfare use were marketed for civilian purposes and used by farmers and homeowners for killing weeds and controlling brush. The most powerful of the herbicides were the two chemicals 2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetic acid, generally known as 2,4-D, and 2,4,5-trichlorophenoxyacetic acid, known as 2,4,5-T. The direct toxicity levels of these chemicals as they affected experimental animals, and, by scientific estimates, men, appeared then to be low (although these estimates have later been challenged), and the United States Department of Agriculture, the Food and Drug Administration, and the Fish and Wildlife Service all sanctioned the widespread sale and use of both. The chemicals were also reported to be short-lived in soil after their application. 2,4-D was the bigger seller of the two, partly because it was cheaper, and suburbanites commonly used mixtures containing 2,4-D on their lawns to control dandelions and other weeds. Commercially, 2,4-D and 2,4,5-T were used to clear railroad rights-of-way and power-line routes, and, in cattle country, to get rid of woody brush. 2,4,5-T being favored for the last, because it was considered to have a more effective herbicidal action on woody plants. Very often, however, the two chemicals were used in combination. Between 1945 and 1963, the production of herbicides jumped from nine hundred and seventeen thousand pounds to about a hundred and fifty million pounds in this country; since 1963, their use has risen two hundred and seventy-one per cent — more than double the rate of increase in the use of pesticides, though pesticides are still far more extensively used. By 1960, an area equivalent to more than three percent of the entire United States was being sprayed each year with herbicides.

--Defoliation

pollution

Environment

Scientists' Institute for Public Information
44 pp. St. Louis, MO: Scientists' Institute for Public Information
\$10/yr.; \$18.50/2 years; \$27/3 years. Monthly.

If you have any inclination whatever to understand environmental problems, and you only find time to read one full-length magazine a month, it should be *Environment*. When Barry Commoner and his colleagues in St. Louis started the "scientific information movement" by founding the Committee for Nuclear Information in 1958, they started publishing a little magazine. Despite several name-changes over the next 16 years, *Environment* has consistently led the way in pointing out emerging environmental problems, and in describing ecological and social mechanisms which result in wasteful, polluting, destructive and expensive misuse of technologies.

To get a feel for the range of work *Environment* has published, we recommend the very readable paperback anthology edited by Sheldon Novick

