

RAYMOND RICHARD NEUTRA, M.D., C.M., M.P.H., DR. P.H.



Demographics: Dr. Raymond Richard Neutra was born in Los Angeles in 1939.

DHS Position and Work History: Chief of the Division of Environmental and Occupational Disease Control (DEODC) of the California Department of Health Services (CDHS). DEODC includes the California Birth Defects Monitoring DEODC includes the California Birth Defects Monitoring Branch, the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Branch, the California Occupational Health Branch, the Environmental Health Laboratory Branch, and the Environmental Health Investigations Branch. This Division of 300 people is responsible for conducting investigations and providing technical assistance and advice to State and County officials with regard to occupational and environmental problems. Dr. Neutra is also the Chief of the Electric and Magnetic Fields Program (EMF), a multi-year study of policy related research. Prior to accepting his current position, Dr. Neutra worked for fifteen years developing an environmental health investigations capacity in CDHS, serving as Section Chief and then as Branch Chief.

Previous Work History: Before joining CDHS in 1980, he was a tenured Associate Professor of Epidemiology at the UCLA Medical School and the School of Public Health (February, 1977 to May, 1980), and an Assistant Professor at the Harvard Medical School and the School of Public Health (June, 1973 to February, 1977). He carried out epidemiological research in Cali, Colombia, South America for three years and was medical officer for the Indian Health Service on the Navajo reservation in New Mexico (1966-1968).

Education & Languages: Dr. Neutra received his Bachelors degree from Pomona College in 1961, his medical degree from McGill University in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, and his Masters (1969) and Doctorate (1974) degrees in Epidemiology from the Harvard School of Public Health. He speaks *Spanish, French and German*.

Professional Activities: Dr. Neutra is board certified in preventive medicine. He is co-author of a textbook on clinical quantitative decision analysis and has published more than a hundred scientific articles or book chapters.. These reveal a particular interest in *reproductive epidemiology, disease clusters, electric and magnetic fields*, the application of epidemiology to *quantitative decision-making*, and the relevance of *ethical frameworks* and *public participation* to the formation of environmental *health policy*. He has been President of the International Society for Environmental Epidemiology, from which he received the John Goldsmith award for career achievement. He has served on the scientific advisory boards of the National Institutes of Health, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registries and the World Health Organization where he chaired a workshop on the *precautionary principle*.. He is or has been on the editorial boards of Epidemiology, Annals of Environmental Health, Human and Ecological Risk Assessment, and Environmental Health, an on-line journal.

Personal Interests: Dr. Neutra and his wife Penelope have 5 sons and two grandchildren. He is an amateur guitar player and singer, enjoys digital photography, hiking, traveling, scuba diving and reading in ethics, philosophy of science, psychology ,economic development and detective stories.