

# Buffalo Creek Disaster- REFERENCES

## BOOKS:

Gleser, Glodine, Bonnie Green, and Carolyn Winget. *Prolonged Psychosocial Effects of Disaste: A Study of Buffalo Creek*. New York: Academic Press, 1981.

This book focuses on the long-term psychological effects a disaster has on its survivors. It is a study of the long-term effects suffered by those involved in the Buffalo Creek disaster. The book stresses with statistical evidence that a traumatic event causes increased insomnia, alcoholism, violence, and depression. The book gathers its information through first hand interviews and long-term studies involving the survivors. This book should help me with information about the communities rebuilding efforts both psychological as well as physical.

Stern, Gerald. *The Buffalo Creek Disaster: How the Survivors of One of the Worst Disasters in Coal-mining History Brought Suit Against the Coal Company and Won*. New York: Vintage Books, 1976

This is a first hand account of the case written by the lawyer representing the victims. Stern takes you through a step by step analysis of the case as well as strategies that he used to win his case.

## GOVERNMENT REPORTS:

Davies, William, Bailey, James, Kelly, Donovan. US Department of the Interior Geological Survey Circular 667: "West Virginia's Buffalo Creek Flood: A Study of the Hydrology and Engineering Geology," 1972.

This is the Geological Survey that the Dept. of the Interior came out with following the dam failure. It reports that the dam was not built properly and that rainfall and runoff were not abnormal.

## COURT TRANSCRIPTS:

<http://www.law.fsu.edu/library...ivpro/3052/index.html> (visited Feb. 24th, 2008)

The website that contains links to the original transcripts for the Dennis Prince et al. vs The Pittston Company case. By reading the testimonies, I should be able to gain perspectives from all sides including the Pittston Coal Company, the survivors, and the lawyers. This was the first case that was filed in the disaster. In total 625 victims joined the case and Pittston settled for \$13,500,000.

## PUBLISHED ARTICLES:

COAL INDUSTRY: Bethell, Thomas, McAteer, Davitt. "The Pittston Mentality: Manslaughter on Buffalo Creek" Published in Washington Monthly May, 1972.

Bethel is the editor of Coal Patrol which is a monthly newsletter on the coal industry. The article gives some good insights on how and why Pittston Coal Company acted as it did as well as providing some overview of the coal industry at the time.

## WEBSITES:

<http://www.wvculture.org/hiStory/buffcreek/frmngtn.html> (visited Feb. 24, 2008)

This website provides a non biased hour by hour account of the disaster. Also the website has numerical information regarding the damage and clean up effort. The website also does a good job explaining the topography of the region and why the dam failed.

<http://www.marshall.edu/librar...reek/html/default.asp> (visited Feb. 24th, 2008)

This is the website of the Buffalo Creek disaster virtual museum. This website is valuable because it has links to original testimonies from survivors that were used in the congressional hearings. The site also has plain English versions of the three court cases: Dennis Prince et al. vs The Pittston Company, Justice vs The Pittston Company, The State of West Virginia vs The Pittston Company. In addition, the site has a link to the original governor's report which states why the governor decided to settle for one million dollars as opposed to go to court and try to get the 100,000,000, the amount that was originally filed.

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