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## TAKING ACTION, SAVING LIVES

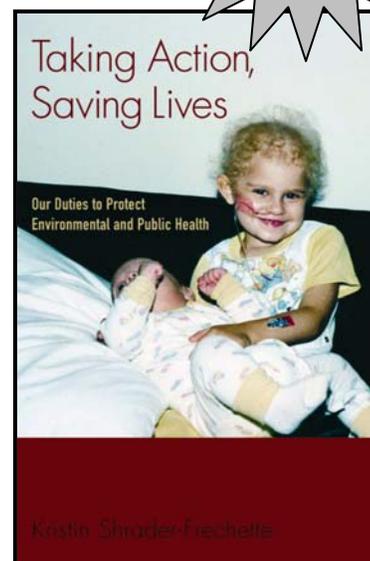
### OUR DUTIES TO PROTECT ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH

Kristin Shrader-Frechette

**IN THE UNITED STATES ALONE**, industrial and agricultural toxins account for about 60,000 avoidable cancer deaths annually. Pollution-related health costs to Americans are similarly staggering: \$13 billion a year from asthma, \$351 billion from cardiovascular disease, and \$240 billion from occupational disease and injury. Most troubling, children, the poor, and minorities bear the brunt of these health tragedies.

Why, asks Kristin Shrader-Frechette, has the government failed to protect us, and what can we do about it? In this book, at once brilliant and accessible, Shrader-Frechette reveals how politicians, campaign contributors, and lobbyists – and their power over media, advertising, and public relations – have conspired to cover up environmental disease and death. She also shows how science and regulators themselves are frequently “captured” by well-funded polluters and special interests. But most important, the author puts both the blame—and the solution – on the shoulders of ordinary citizens. She argues that everyone, especially in a democracy, has a duty to help prevent avoidable environmental deaths, to remain informed about, and involved in, public-health and environmental decision-making. Toward this end, she outlines specific, concrete ways in which people can contribute to life-saving reforms, many of them building on recommendations of the American Public Health Association.

As disturbing as it is, Shrader-Frechette's message is ultimately hopeful. Calling for a new “democratic revolution”, she reminds us that while only a fraction of the early colonists supported the American Revolution, that tiny group managed to change the world. Her book embodies the conviction that we can do the same for environmental health, particularly if citizens become the change they seek.



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**Kristin Shrader-Frechette** is O'Neill Family Endowed Professor in the Department of Biological Sciences and the Department of Philosophy at the University of Notre Dame, where she also directs the Center for Environmental Justice and Children's Health. Advisor to the United Nations and to many countries and U.S. agencies on public health, environmental justice, bioethics, and nuclear-waste management, Shrader-Frechette is the author of fifteen books and some 350 articles.

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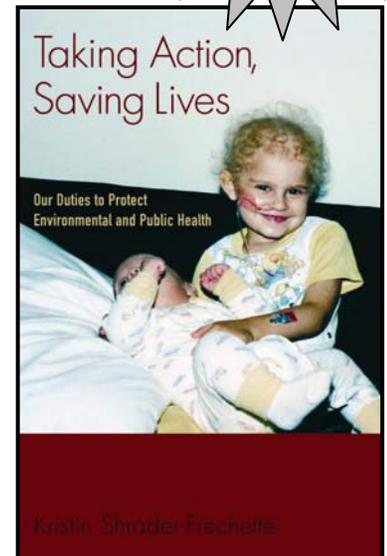
### OUR DUTIES TO PROTECT ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH

Kristin Shrader-Frechette

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*"This is a must-read for anyone who cares about good health, good science, or good democratic citizenship. Shrader-Frechette masterfully integrates scholarly rigor, inspirational stories, and a wealth of facts to create a book that you won't want to put down."*

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*"**Taking Action, Saving Lives** is Kristin Shrader-Frechette's finest work to date. With unique and important arguments, she combines the literatures of public health, environmental ethics, human rights, and discursive democracy in what is not only a work of scholarly synthesis, but an important ethical guide to all citizens."*

- John Martin Gillroy, Ph.D., LL.M., Lehigh University

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