



Toxic Beauty Products & Black Women's Health

BizNGO Conference
December 6, 2022



Black Women for Wellness

Mission Statement:

Black Women for Wellness, a 501 c(3) non-profit, is committed to the *health and well-being* of Black women and girls through health education, empowerment and advocacy.



Programs:

- Reproductive Justice
- Get Smart B4 U Get Sexy
- Grown & Sexy
- Maternal & Infant Health
- Sisters@8
- Kitchen Divas & Food Distribution
- Voting Rules Everyone Around Me
- Diabetes Prevention Program
- BWWAP
- *Environmental Justice*

Environmental Justice Team

Built Environment Initiatives:

- Water equity
- STAND LA
- Plastics Pollution

Beauty Justice Initiatives:

- Research: Taking Stock
- Empowerment: Curls & Conversations
- Advocacy: Safer Beauty Bill Package



Dr. Astrid Williams

Tianna S.W



**friends.
mothers.
daughters.
visionaries.
queens.
rulers.
women.**

Non-Toxic Black Beauty Project



DID YOU KNOW?!
Black women and girls are over-exposed to and under-protected from toxic chemicals in the beauty and personal care products they use every day.





Black Beauty

Toxic ingredients found in everyday beauty products sold to Black women may be linked to:

Breast cancer

Ovarian cancer

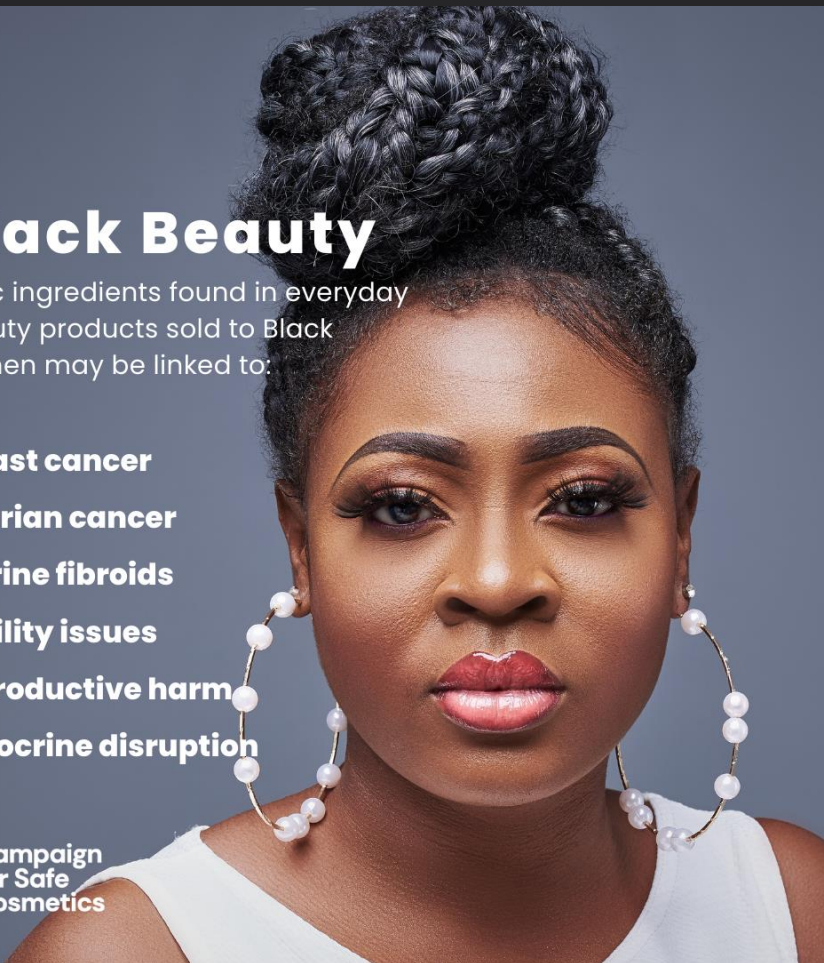
Uterine fibroids

Fertility issues

Reproductive harm

Endocrine disruption

CSC Campaign
for Safe
Cosmetics



Environmental Injustice of Beauty

Overview

- Black women spend more on beauty products per capita than any other demographic -- \$7.5B a year on beauty products and 9x more on hair care
- Compared with White women, women of color have higher levels of beauty product-related environmental chemicals in their bodies, independent of socioeconomic status.

Systemic Issues that Instigate & Worsen the Problem

- Poor regulation
- European, white beauty standards
- Financial inequality
- Workplace discrimination
- Systemic racism
- Local environmental exposures
- Healthcare access



Monday, October 17, 2022

Hair straightening chemicals associated with higher uterine cancer risk

NIH study finds Black women may be more affected due to higher use.



>Women who used chemical hair straightening products were at higher risk for uterine cancer compared to women who did not report using these products, according to a new study from the National Institutes of Health. The researchers found no associations with uterine cancer for other hair products that the women reported using, including hair dyes, bleach, highlights, or perms.

Permanent Hair Dye and Straighteners May Increase Breast Cancer Risk

News Release

Archive - New Contact Information

For more information about this archival news release, please contact [Christine Flowers](#), Director, [Office of Communications & Public Liaison](#) at (919) 541-3665.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, December 4,
2019, 12:01 a.m. EDT

Contact: [Robin Arnette](#),
NIEHS
919-541-5143

Links between Black beauty products and potential adverse health effects

Hair dyes

Hair straighteners

Relaxers

Color cosmetics

Perfumes

Feminine Care spray

Sunscreen

Deodorants

Skin Lighteners

And More....

Menstrual Cycle Characteristics

Breast Cancer

Endometriosis

Uterine Fibroids

Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome

Allergic Reactions

Circulatory Dysfunction

Urinary Dysfunction

Neurological Dysfunction



Beauty Justice Work

Occupational health & Safety for Hairstylists

- CHANGE coalition
- Campaigns
 - Behind the Chair
 - Styling Safely
- Micro-grants during COVID
- Research & Advocacy

Occupational Hazards/Styling Safely



BLACK HAIR STUDIES

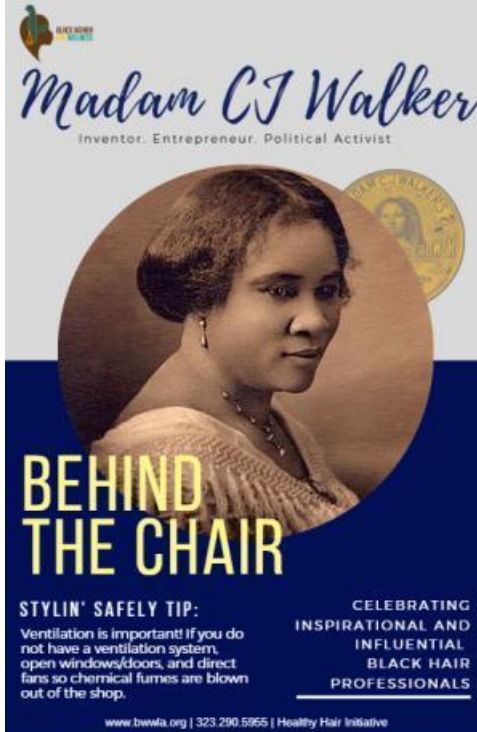
Annie Malone
Educator. Inventor. Philanthropist

BEHIND THE CHAIR

STYLIN' SAFELY TIP:
Try natural fragrances—synthetic fragrances can contain carcinogens, respiratory irritants, and hormone mimickers (endocrine disruptors).

CELEBRATING
INSPIRATIONAL AND
INFLUENTIAL
BLACK HAIR
PROFESSIONALS

www.bhwfa.org | 323.290.5955 | Healthy Hair Initiative



BLACK HAIR STUDIES

Madam CJ Walker
Inventor. Entrepreneur. Political Activist

BEHIND THE CHAIR

STYLIN' SAFELY TIP:
Ventilation is important! If you do not have a ventilation system, open windows/doors, and direct fans so chemical fumes are blown out of the shop.

CELEBRATING
INSPIRATIONAL AND
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The Non-Toxic Black Beauty Project



1. Raise Awareness

Raise public, manufacturer, and retailer awareness about the hazardous chemicals in Black beauty products.



2. Help get safer products into the hands of Black women and girls

We created a list of **80 verified-as-safe**, non-toxic Black-owned beauty brands, so Black women can shop with confidence knowing the beauty and personal care products they are purchasing do not contain chemicals linked to negative health effects.

[Search the Database](#)

The Non-Toxic Black Beauty Project is tackling the environmental injustice of Black beauty with our list and database of over 800 non-toxic Black beauty products that Black women can trust. [See the list>](#)



3. Equip Black women with tip cards and other resources they can trust that will empower them to make safer choices



Top Toxic Cosmetic Ingredient to Avoid

UV Filters

(Benzophenone, Oxybenzone, Homosalate, Octinoxate, Avobenzone)

FOUND:
Sunscreen
Nail products
Anti-frizz, hair lotions,
Leave-in conditioners, hot oil
Make-up
Baby care products

HEALTH HARMS:
Endocrine disruption
Developmental harm

CS Campaign for Safe Cosmetics

Top Toxic Cosmetic Ingredient to Avoid

Resorcinol, O, M & P-Phenylenediamine

FOUND:
Hair dyes

HEALTH HARMS:
Cancer
Hormone disruption
Immune system toxicity
Irritant

CS Campaign for Safe Cosmetics

Top Toxic Cosmetic Ingredient to Avoid

Butylated Compounds (BHA and BHT)

FOUND:
Lipstick
Eyeliner
Eyeshadow
Body care

HEALTH HARMS:
Cancer
Hormone disruption
Organ system toxicity
Irritant

CS Campaign for Safe Cosmetics

Top Toxic Cosmetic Ingredient to Avoid

Carbon Black and D&C Black 2

FOUND:
Eyeliner + eye shadow
Mascara
Nail polish
Brush-on-brow
Lipstick

HEALTH HARMS:
Cancer
Organ system toxicity
Irritant

CS Campaign for Safe Cosmetics

CS Campaign for Safe Cosmetics

Non-Toxic Black Beauty Database

Make and buy Black-owned beauty products, from skincare to hair care, that are safe for your skin, hair, and health. Support Black-owned businesses that share your values. To help you make the best choices, we've created a database of non-toxic beauty products.

2022

SEARCH

Filter by:

100% Black-Owned Beauty Products

100% Black-Owned Skincare

100% Black-Owned Hair Care

100% Black-Owned Body Care

100% Black-Owned Nails

RED X LIST
Chemicals of Concern
Top Toxic Chemicals by Black Beauty Product Category

THE NON-TOXIC BLACK BEAUTY PROJECT

Red List Chemical	Skincare	Haircare	Bodycare	Beauty	Personal Care	Skincare
Benzophenone-1						
Benzophenone-2						
Buthoxy Hydroxyacetone (BHA)						
Butylated Hydroxytoluene (BHT)						
Butyl Acetate						
Butylparaben						
Carbon Black						
Cocamide DEA						
Crystalline Silica (pyrolytic form)						
Cyclopentasiloxane						
Diazolidinyl Urea						
DMDM Hydantoin						
Ethyl Acetate						
Ethylparaben						
FD&C Red #4						
Homosalate						
Hydroquinone						
Imidazolidinyl Urea						
Methylparaben						

RED X LIST
Top Toxic Chemicals Found in Black Beauty Products

THE NON-TOXIC BLACK BEAUTY PROJECT

These Red List chemicals of concern were found in 25% of the nearly 8,000 Black beauty and personal care products we evaluated in 2021-2022.

1. Titanium Dioxide (inhalable form)	27. Polyacrylamide
2. Silica (inhalable form)	28. Triphenyl Phosphate (TPP)
3. Bifenthrin (Cyfluthrin A)	29. p-Phenylenediamine
4. Butylated Hydroxytoluene (BHT)	30. Ethylhexyl Dimethyl PABA
5. Benzophenone-1	31. Homosalate
6. Butyl Acetate	32. FD&C Red #4
7. Ethyl Acetate	33. Sodium Borate
8. Methylparaben	34. Resorcinol
9. Benzophenone-2	35. Polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE)
10. Carbon Black	36. Naphtha-Petroleum
11. Butylphenyl Methylpropional	37. Benzaldehyde
12. Diazolidinyl Urea	38. Butylated Hydroxyanisole (BHA)
13. n-Butyl Alcohol	39. Chromium Oxide
14. Benzyl Salicylate	40. Didecylammonium Chloride
15. DMDM Hydantoin	41. Isoeugenol
16. Triethanolamine (TEA)	42. Benzophenone-2
17. Cyclohexylisoxane	43. Methyl Methacrylate
18. Ethylhexyl Methoxycinnamate	44. Propandiol
19. Butylparaben	45. Perfluoroethyl Triethoxysilane
20. Diocetyl Adipate	46. Acetaldehyde
21. Sodium Hydroxymethylglycinate	47. Hydroquinone
22. Benzophenone-3 or Oxbenzone	48. Triclosan
23. Ethylparaben	49. Cocamide DEA
24. Cyclopentasiloxane	50. Quaternium-15
25. Imidazolidinyl Urea	51. Tert-Butyl Alcohol (TBA)
26. Butylparabenyl Dimethylolurea	

Buying Power
Black women purchase \$7.5 B of beauty products a year

Hair Purchases
9x more purchases of hair care products than any other demographic

Straighteners
30% more likely to develop breast cancer for Black women who use chemical hair straighteners


Hair dye
60% higher risk of breast cancer for Black women who regularly dye their hair

CS Campaign for Safe Cosmetics

4. Grow the Safe Black Beauty Industry

The Non-Toxic Black Beauty Project is elevating Black-owned companies that are making safer beauty and personal care products for Black women and providing technical support to help businesses that don't make it onto the list of non-toxic beauty brands and want to do better.





Non-Toxic Black Beauty Project
Top Black-Owned Beauty Brands

The following is a list of Black-owned beauty brands whose product ingredients were vetted for safety by the Campaign for Safe Cosmetic and our advisory committee of leading scientists and NGOs working to improve Black women's health.

2 Girls with Curly	ELeVen by Venus Williams	KAIKE	Praises Products
54 Thrones	EPARA Skincare	Kariè Shea Butter	Rosen Skincare
Aba Love Apothecary	EUGENIA	Kubra Kay Skincare	Sabreen Cosmetics
AbsoluteJCI	Free + True Skincare	Kuebae	Shea Radiance
ACARRE	Frigg	Liha Beauty	Shimirose
Adeba Nature	Gloryscent Beauty	Limegreen	Sienna Naturals
Afro Hair & Skin Co.	Golde	London Grant	Skin Scholars
Aja Naturals	Golden Roots Essentials	Loving Culture	Strandz
Alchemy Body Shop	Orn Goods	Mary Louise Cosmetics	Suki Suki Naturals
Ami Colé	Holy Curly	Melanin Haircare	The Balm Shop &

INGREDIENTS TO AVOID



HAIR CARE

Benzyl Salicylate; Benzoic acid, 2-hydroxy-, phenylmethyl ester
DMDM hydantoin
Lilial
Tri Ethanol Amine Quat (Teaq); triethanolamine
Isopropanol
Butylated hydroxytoluene (BHT)
Diazolidinyurea

TOP CSC VERIFIED BLACK-OWNED BRANDS
without these harmful chemicals:



2 GIRLS WITH CURLS	MELANIN HAIRCARE	MERAKI ORGANICS	
BASK AND BLOOD	SHEA RADIANCE	UHA!	
DR LOGS	SIENNA NATURALS	SUKI SUKI NATURALS	
JIM & HENRY			

Safer Beauty Resources



EWG's Skin Deep®



SILENT SPRING INSTITUTE
Researching the Environment and Women's Health



Thank you!

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