

# **When Politics Kills: Malaria and the DDT Story**

**Richard Tren**

**Roger Bate**



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Malaria and the DDT Story –  
Richard Tren and Roger Bate**

Malaria, an age-old foe of mankind, kills over a million people every year and results in sickness and suffering in over 300 million worldwide. While the disease is normally associated with tropical developing countries, this was not always the case; malaria affected much of the developed world, but was eradicated, primarily using the pesticide DDT. While this pesticide is no longer needed in developed countries, it is still crucial in disease control in developing countries.

When Politics Kills examines the history of malaria control policies and the politics and ideologies that have driven them. The publication highlights the inappropriate responses to the disease in the past and how these practices continue today. The authors have shown how donor agencies and environmentalist pressure groups have played a role in determining malaria control policies, largely to their benefit at home and to the detriment of malarial countries.

This publication comes at a time when the UNEP and other environmentalists are attempting to ban the use and production of DDT worldwide. DDT is not only needed in many developing malarial countries, it is better and cheaper than many of the alternatives and so the impacts on many poor countries will be catastrophic. When Politics Kills focuses on injustice and environmental imperialism that is cloaked in political correctness.

**'This book is a must read for policy makers' – Prof. Themba Sono**

**'Tren and Bate have done an admirable job of exposing the follies of a DDT ban' – Admiral H. M Koenig (former US Navy Surgeon General)**

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