

Conference Name: HuSoc Istanbul – Humanities & Social Sciences International Conference, 06-07 October 2025

Conference Dates: 06-Oct- 2025 to 07-Oct- 2025

Conference Venue: Nippon Hotel, Taksim, Istanbul, Turkey

Appears in: PEOPLE: International Journal of Social Sciences (ISSN 2454-5899)

Publication year: 2025

Francis Paul Kerre, 2025

Volume 2025, pp. 523-524

DOI- <https://doi.org/10.20319/icssh.2025.523524>

This paper can be cited as: Kerre, F. P. (2025). Narrating Repair: Testimonial Justice and Idiomatic Healing as Ethical Intervention in Climate-Affected Communities. HuSoc Istanbul – Humanities & Social Sciences International Conference, 06-07 October 2025. Proceedings of Social Science and Humanities Research Association (SSHRA), 2025, 523-524

NARRATING REPAIR: TESTIMONIAL JUSTICE AND IDIOMATIC HEALING AS ETHICAL INTERVENTION IN CLIMATE-AFFECTED COMMUNITIES

Francis Paul Kerre

Department of Sociology, Gender and Development Studies, Kenyatta University, Nairobi –
Kenya

Kerre.francis@ku.ac.ke

Abstract

This paper examines testimonial justice and idiomatic healing as sociological responses to climate injustice and symbolic rupture. In communities facing environmental degradation and gendered displacement, trauma manifests not only physically but narratively. The research aims to explore how narrative practices—rooted in African idioms, ritual storytelling, and testimonial pedagogy—can serve as ethical interventions that foster communal repair and climate resilience. Methodologically, the study draws on participatory fieldwork in peri-urban Kenya, engaging elders, youth, and displaced families in dialogic rituals of memory and healing. Comparative reflections with Eurasian traditions of ethics and symbolic governance enrich the analysis. Findings reveal that narrative acts—when culturally grounded—enable communities to reconstitute dignity, agency, and ecological consciousness in the face of epistemic violence. The paper contributes to interdisciplinary debates on media ethics, cultural rehabilitation, and climate justice by proposing a framework where symbolic repair becomes central to sociological

intervention. Future scope includes scaling idiomatic healing models across climate-affected regions and integrating testimonial pedagogy into policy and education platforms.

Keywords:

Climate Justice, Testimonial Ethics, Idiomatic Healing, Symbolic Repair, Participatory Sociology