



CHALLENGING INJUSTICE & CONSTRUCTING CO-EXISTENCE

RACISM

MD Rehabilitation Conference

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OBJECTIVES



to the kommender

Learn about historical events, ideologies, and social structures, and their impacts on today's beliefs, bias, prejudice, perception of race, and systems of inequity.

Gain a deeper understanding of systemic racism and intergenerational trauma.

2

Reflect on our own bias, identity, power, privilege,

and prejudice.

Develop nonviolent strategies for challenging systemic oppression in day-to-day interactions.

More theoretical

More practical



Suggested Group Norms

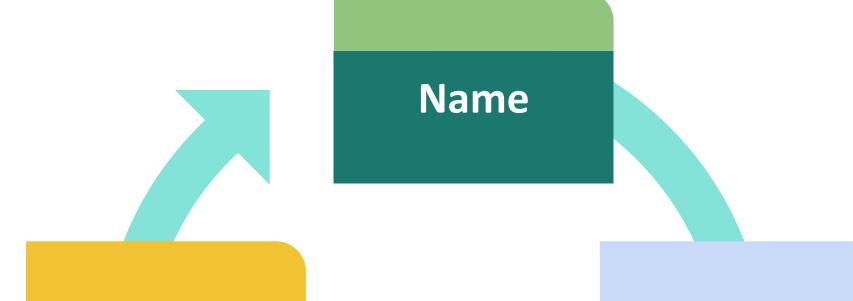


- Step up, step back: Be mindful of your talk time, power, and privilege.
- Follow the Golden Rule: Treat others how you want to be treated.
- Welcome diversity: Embrace multiple perspectives and use I statements.
- Focus on the behavior & not the person: Our goal is learning & accountability, not discipline.
- Support the process: This includes sticking to the topic and giving yourself time to process.
- Be present: Your attention is a gift to yourself and others.
- **Be humble:** Give yourself space to learn, share and grow.
- Take care of yourself.



Breakout: Introductions



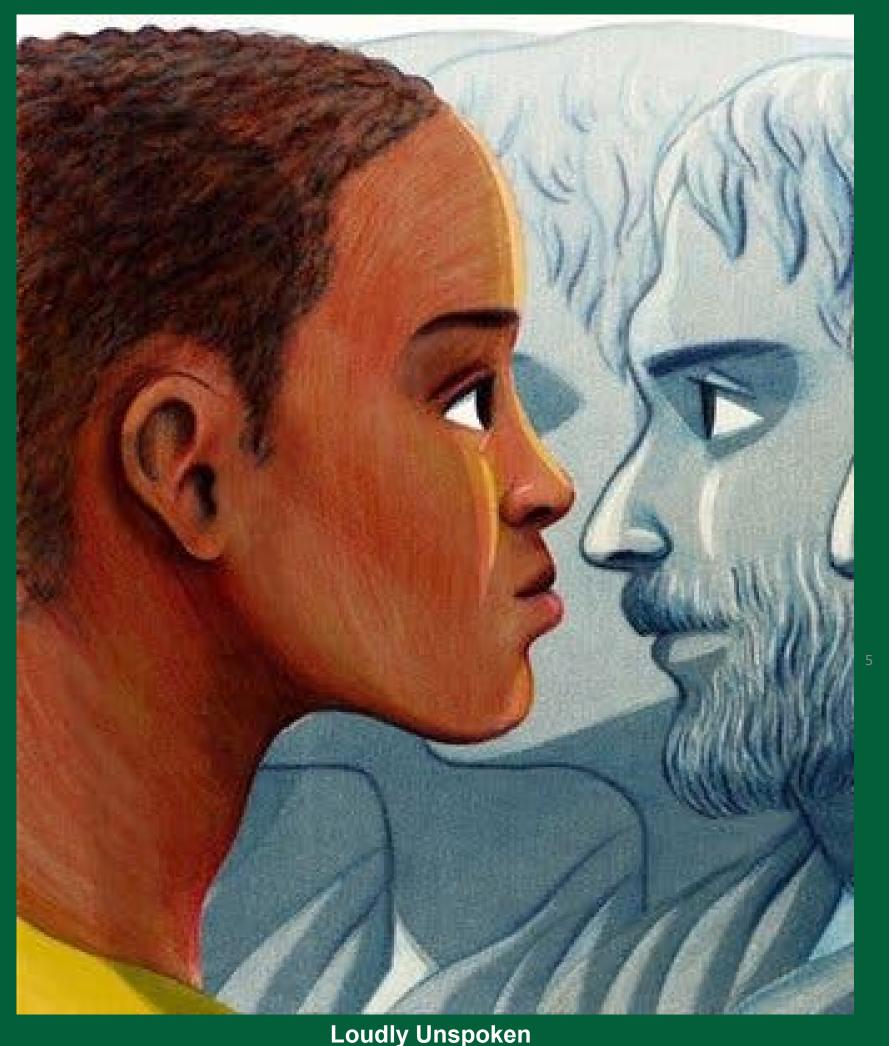


Location

Why are racial equity conversations stuck?

What you hope

to learn today





Working Definitions



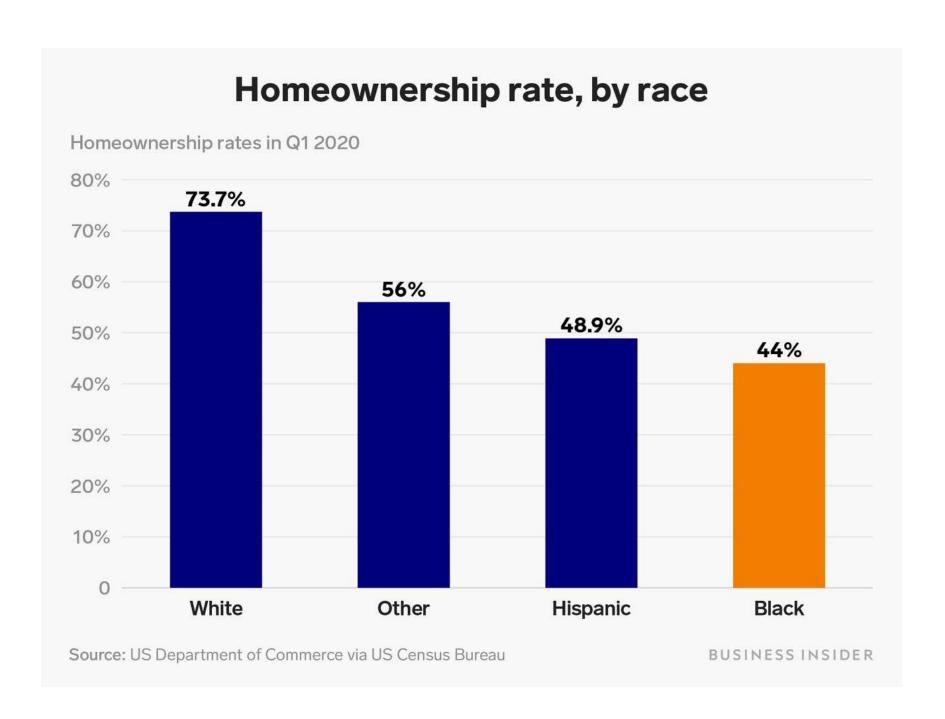
Racism: Prejudice, discrimination, or antagonism directed against a person or people on the basis of their membership to a particular racial or ethnic group, typically one that is a minority or marginalized and the power to exert said prejudice, discrimination, or antagonism.

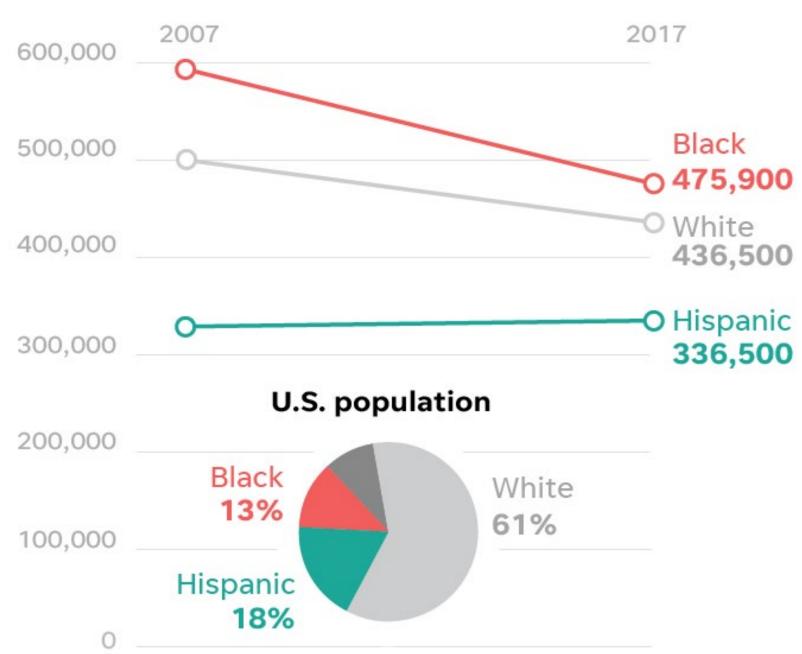
Systemic Racism: Systems and structures that have procedures or processes that disadvantages people based on their race. The ways in which the operation of institutions produce racialized outcomes.











Incarceration



Historical Events, Ideologies, and Social Structures



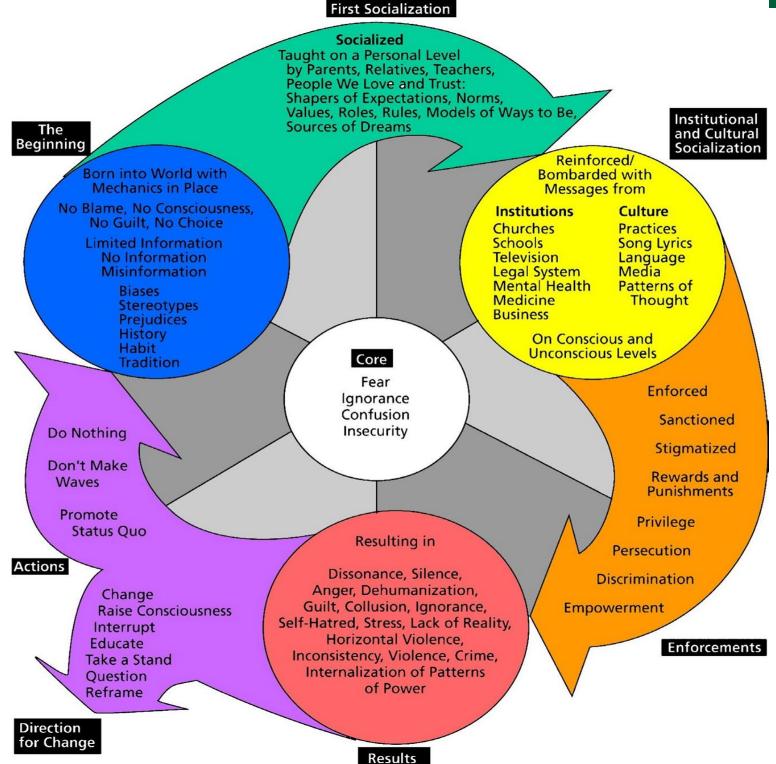
- Slavery
- Segregationist ideas (nature)
- Assimilationist ideas (Nurture)



Replying to @Drlbram

Assimilationist ideas are racist ideas because they are based on the assumption there is something wrong with another racial group that needs changing or something right with our racial group that doesn't need changing.







Breakout: Reflection

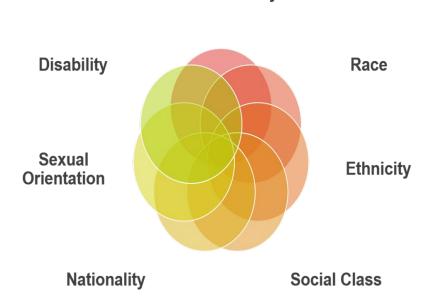


Quote for reflection:

"I think it's important for us to understand that the phrase 'Black Lives Matter' simply refers to the notion that there's a specific vulnerability for African-Americans that needs to be addressed. It's not meant to suggest that other lives don't matter. It's to suggest that other folks aren't experiencing this particular vulnerability."

— Barack Obama

- How does this quote resonate with you?
- When you think about the impact of systemic racism on intergenerational trauma, what comes to mind?



Gender Identity



Challenging Systemic Racism





An antiracist is one who supports antiracist policies and systems through their current actions or expresses antiracist ideas.

An antiracist idea is any idea that suggests the racial groups are equals in all their apparent differences.

Ibrahim X Kendi, How To Be an Antiracist



Breakout 4: Brainstorming



Oftentimes, there are perceived or real structural barriers in place in our community to prevent antiracist work.

- What are the barriers to change within your community?
- What steps have you taken so far to address structural racism?
- Identify practical steps we can take collectively to end systemic racism.
- Identify a nonviolent action you will take to advance racial equality.

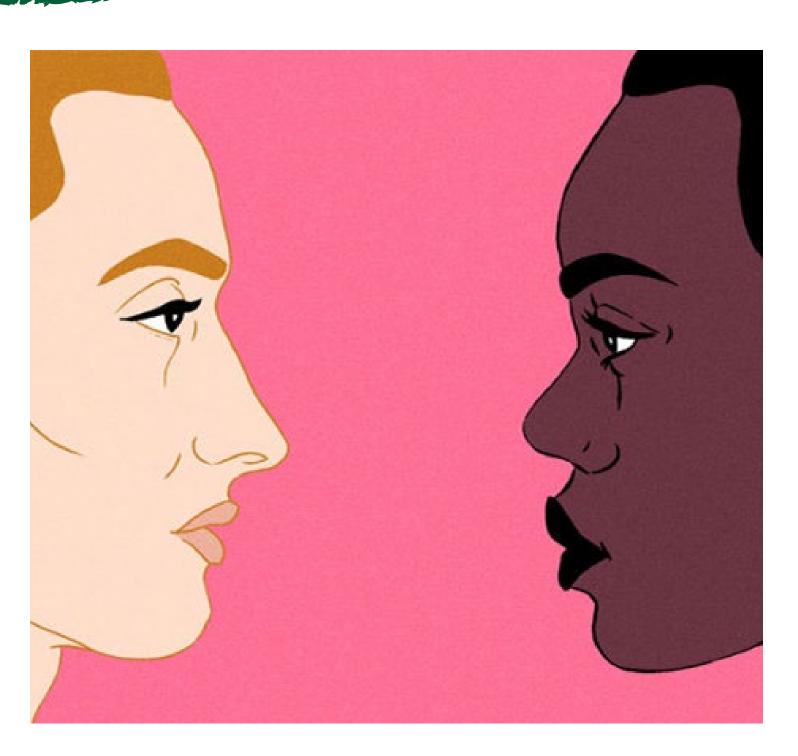


"Color Blindness"



Well, I'm color blind.
People are just people.
I don't see color."

Is color blindness a problem? Why?





Becoming Antiracist



I identify how I may unknowingly benefit from Racism.

I recognize racism is a present & current problem.

I promote & advocate for policies & leaders that are Anti-Racist.

I deny racism is a problem.

I seek out questions that make me uncomfortable.

I sit with my discomfort.

I avoid

hard questions.

I understand my own privilege in ignoring racism.

I speak out when I see Racism in action.

Becoming Anti-Racist

Fear Zone Learning Zone

Growth Zone

I strive to be comfortable.

I educate myself about race & structural racism.

I educate my peers how Racism harms our profession.

I talk to others who look & think like me.

I am vulnerable about my own biases & knowledge gaps.

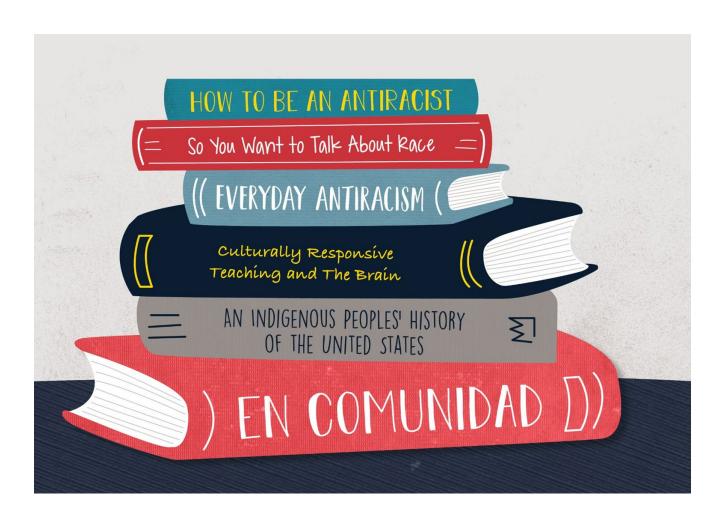
 I don't let mistakes deter me from being better.

I listen to others who think & look differently than me.

I yield positions of power to those otherwise marginalized.

I surround myself with others who think & look differently than me.

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Working Definition



Allyship is an active and consistent practice of unlearning and re-evaluating, in which a person holding systemic power and privilege seeks to end oppression in solidarity with a group of people who are marginalized.



Ally, Accomplice, & White Savior Complex



Willing to examine own biases

Ally

Willing to offer quiet support.
Focuses more on the person or group.
Risk is rarely involved.

Accomplice

Vocal advocate.
Uses their power and privilege to challenge the status quo. Focuses more on dismantling systems of oppression.

Work is directed by stakeholders in the marginalized group.
Not affraid to take risks



White Savior Complex

A need to save others by "fixing" their problems.

Simply, ally work focuses on individuals, and accomplice work focuses on the structures of decision-making agency.

Dr. Colleen Clemens, Ally or Accomplice? The Language of Activism

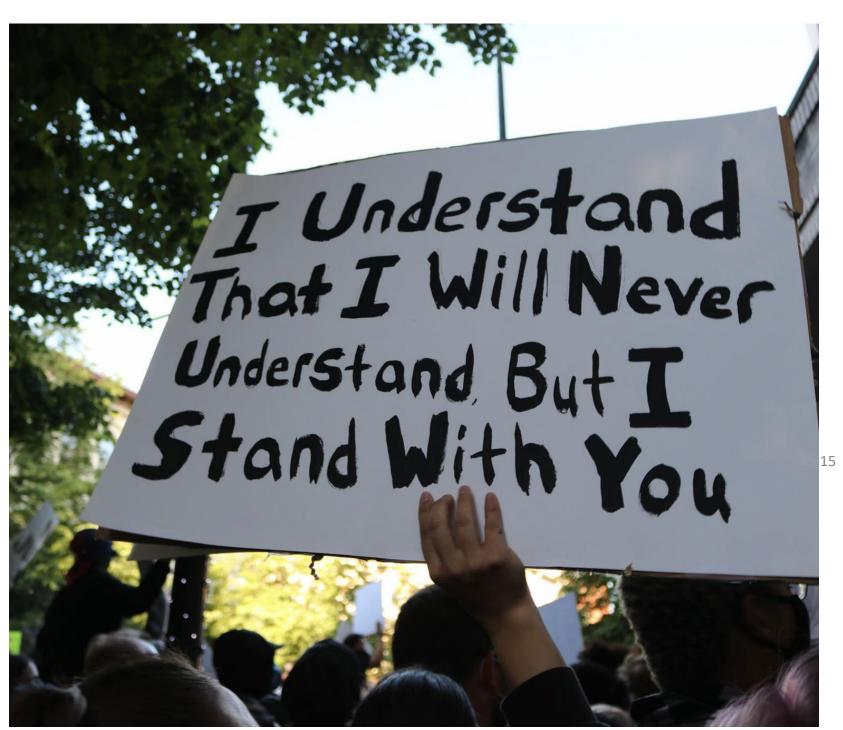
More vocal

Exploring Allyship 14



Tips for Becoming an Ally/Accomplice





- Be open to learn and to make mistakes.
- Practice developing empathy for others.
- Listen to marginalized communities.
- Use your privilege to amplify the missing and marginalized voices.
- Speak up. Do not speak over.
- Recognize that everyone, including your loved ones, holds biases.
- Get comfortable with being uncomfortable.







Imagine that your group is hired to lead an event to promote multicultural sensitivity to an already diverse community where they are planning on opening a new women's shelter for the unhoused. There are certain privileged community members that are concerned the shelter will invite the wrong types of individuals/issues to their neighborhood.

You walk in and find that all the attendees have grouped themselves by race. What might you do to optimize the interaction among them during the next few hours and encourage multicultural co-existence?

Try to be as creative as possible. Assume that time and money are not limitations. You have full cooperation and funding from DCPT & Friendship Place. The local news is covering the event as a potential program for other communities to follow.





DISCUSSION GROUPS

1) How does white supremacy and anti-blackness come up in your school/work/community? Where is this showing up in **YOUR** world and what can you do different?

2) Racial justice often works to deconstruct the system of harm. Transformative justice works to re-create a new system. In what ways can we de-construct and re-construct communities to make them more racially just?





Peace Be With You!









