Learning How to be Anti-Racist 7/1/20

Slides and materials from the discussion held on 7/1/20

COMMUNITY EXPECTATIONS

- 1) Please change your name in Zoom to include your pronouns.
- 2) Prepare to get uncomfortable and lean into that.
- 3) Use the "raise hand" feature if you would like to speak next.
- 4) Assume good intentions when others are speaking and take a breath before responding.
- 5) Use "I" statements and speak from your own experiences.



HERE'S HOW WE #DEFUNDTHEPOLICE

FIRST. Demand that lawmakers support reparations for all families of those killed and survivors of police violence.

SECOND. Demand that every State, city and municipality spend LESS on law enforcement and incarceration. Period. FINALLY. Demand investment into Black communities. It is not enough to defund the police, we need to put in place systems to uplift and protect Black communities.



SCHOOLS TEACHERS &

COUNSELORS

POLICE IN

CRIMINALIZING Mental Health

MENTAL HEALTH & RESTORATIVE SERVICES

MILITARY WEAPONS Against citizens

COMMUNITY-LED HARM REDUCTION



More about the "Spoons Theory"

By Manda May (abridged) https://www.facebook.com/amanda.letts.10/posts/10104618986376232

Something I talk about in therapy with my clients is the Spoon Theory that Christine Miserandino coined back in 2003. It was originally created to help explain the daily toll of chronic illness. I apply it to mental health all the time.

The Spoon Theory says that every day, each person wakes up and is allotted 20 spoons to spend that day. Everything you do costs spoons. Getting dressed. Cooking. Taking care of your children or pets. Even self-care, like going for a run, costs spoons. Some things cost more spoons than others, having a chronic disability, or a special needs child, or severe depression, all cost an immense number of spoons every day. Many people run out of spoons even just trying to survive the day. To make big advances in your life and to achieve your goals above basic needs, you *HAVE* to have spoons available at the end of the day. Studying all night for months to crush the SATs costs many, many spoons.

More about the "Spoons Theory"

By Manda May (abridged)

https://www.facebook.com/amanda.letts.10/posts/10104618986376232

I cannot tell you how many of my white friends are exhausted from the emotional toll of the protests. Growing as a person costs spoons. Digesting what's happening in our country right now, aka tuning in, costs spoons. Deciding you want to take action steps costs spoons. Having it out with a family member or friend who doesn't get it costs spoons. Yep. Fighting racism internally and externally is hard. It's been a hard week. That's true. And that's white privilege. That it's been hard this week and not every week.

It costs spoons, every single day, to be a person of color. It costs spoons when race is at the top of every headline and it costs spoons when it's not in the news at all. The loss of all of these spoons adds up and it puts white people at even more of an advantage. We have more spoons to do well in school and work. More spoons to dedicate to our family. More spoons to achieve our goals at every age. You can't see them, but some of those spoons you have leftover each day are white privilege.

More about the "Spoons Theory"

By Alex Jenny (abridged)

https://www.facebook.com/alexjenny/posts/10224183744520190

I've been getting questions from white folks that basically amount to "What if I want to be an ally but I'm mentally ill and traumatized?" Here is my response as a trauma therapist and anti-oppression educator: It is time y'all seriously take a look at ways to increase your distress tolerance and emotional regulation skills, if not for your own healing, then for the cause. Mental illness and PTSD is not an excuse, it is a very real barrier, yes, AND it is absolutely something that can be worked on.

Black people are being actively and acutely traumatized continually and are still showing up to fight because they have no other alternatives. So no, mental illness does not give you an excuse to disengage completely. There are many ways to participate, but looking away altogether is, again, a privileged decision.

I can if I wish arrange to be in the company of people of my race most of the time.

If I should need to move, I can be pretty sure of renting or purchasing housing in an area which I can afford and in which I would want to live.

I can be pretty sure that my neighbors in such a location will be neutral or pleasant to me.

By Peggy McIntosh

I can go shopping alone most of the time, pretty well assured that I will not be followed or harassed.

By Peggy McIntosh

I can turn on the television or open to the front page of the paper and see people of my race widely represented.

By Peggy McIntosh

When I am told about our national heritage or about "civilization," I am shown that people of my color made it what it is.

By Peggy McIntosh

I can be sure that my children will be given curricular materials that testify to the existence of their race.

I can be pretty sure of having my voice heard in a group in which I am the only member of my race.

I can be casual about whether or not to listen to another person's voice in a group in which they are the only member of their race.

I can go into a music shop and count on finding the music of my race represented, into a supermarket and find the staple foods which fit with my cultural traditions, into a hairdresser's shop and find someone who can cut my hair.

By Peggy McIntosh

Whether I use checks, credit cards or cash, I can count on my skin color not to work against the appearance of financial reliability.

I can talk with my mouth full and not have people put this down to my color.

I can swear, or dress in second hand clothes, or not answer letters, without having people attribute these choices to the bad morals, the poverty or the illiteracy of my race.

I can do well in a challenging situation without being called a credit to my race.

I am never asked to speak for all the people of my racial group.

I can worry about racism without being seen as self-interested or self-seeking.

If I declare there is a racial issue at hand, or there isn't a racial issue at hand, my race will lend me more credibility for either position than a person of color will have.

I can easily buy posters, post-cards, picture books, greeting cards, dolls, toys and children's magazines featuring people of my race.

I can expect figurative language and imagery in all of the arts to testify to experiences of my race.

I am not made acutely aware that my shape, bearing or body odor will be taken as a reflection on my race.

I can be late to a meeting without having the lateness reflect on my race.

I can think over many options, social, political, imaginative or professional, without asking whether a person of my race would be accepted or allowed to do what I want to do.

I will feel welcomed and "normal" in the usual walks of public life, institutional and social.

Read the entire paper here:

<u>https://nationalseedproject.org/Key-SEED-Texts/white-</u> privilege-unpacking-the-invisible-knapsack

THAT'S NOT OKAY WITH ME.

RACISM INTERRUPTER







RACISM INTERRUPTER

G G I DIDN'T REALIZE YOU THINK THAT.

RACISM INTERRUPTER

GG WHAT YOU JUST SAID Is harmful.

RACISM INTERRUPTER

G G WE DON'T SAY Things like that Here.

RACISM INTERRUPTER

GG HOLD ON. I NEED TO PROCESS WHAT YOU JUST SAID.

RACISM INTERRUPTER

GG HELP ME UNDERSTAND YOUR THINKING.

RACISM INTERRUPTER



RACISM INTERRUPTER



RACISM INTERRUPTER

G G I'M NOT Comfortable With that.

RACISM INTERRUPTER

Watch Hamilton the Musical (Available on Disney+, July 3rd)

OR

At the very least, listen to the **entire** soundtrack (Available on Spotify, iTunes, Amazon Music, YouTube)

Identify 2-3 problematic things within/about the musical.

Email them to <u>christina.ramos@csulb.edu</u> by **5pm on Tuesday, July 7**th.

Start reading the book you selected last week.

Sign up for the SURJ phone zap to defund the police.

Webinar TOMORROW July 2nd, 12pm PST

WING RACIAL JUSTICE **Defund The Police Phone Zap**

Thursday July 2nd 12 pst/3 est Register: bit.ly/SURJDefundPhoneZap

Join SURJ to make calls to our local officials together, demanding that they defund the police

If you missed the Webinar, you can still take action!

Contact your local officials and demand that they defund the police.

Reference Sheet provided by SURJ:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/17yefFJhHH9 fMUuckS0Rd2uSQXajGaV-FfGyJ0wbPx8g/edit

Make your own autobiographical list of your privileges in regards to:

Sexual Orientation Gender Identity Physical Ability Nation of Origin Employment Language Class Gender Handedness Ethnicity Religion

Families' relation to education, money, housing, & neighborhoods Families' languages of origin