# EQUITY WORKBOOK 

## DEVELOPED BY: BETTER

 HEALTH TOGETHER
## $\mathrm{rcs}^{5} \mathrm{~S}_{\text {betier }}$

health together

## DEFINITIONS

HEALTH<br>"A STATE OF COMPLETE PHYSICAL, MENTAL AND SOCIAL WELL-BEING AND NOT MERELY THE ABSENCE OF DISEASE OR INFIRMITY"

## HEALTH EQUITY

A STATE OF BEING WHERE EVERY PERSON HAS THE BEST CHANCE TO REACH THEIR FULL HEALTH POTENTIAL, REGARDLESS OF IDENTITY, ENVIRONMENT, OR EXPERIENCE. WE ACHIEVE HEALTH EQUITY WHEN INSTITUTIONS SUPPORT EVERY PERSON IN ACHIEVING THEIR INDIVIDUAL FULL HEALTH POTENTIAL, SO THAT NO PERSON EXPERIENCES NEGATIVE HEALTH OUTCOMES AS A RESULT OF IDENTITY, ENVIRONMENT, OR EXPERIENCES

HEALTH DISPARITY
ANY DIFFERENCE IN HEALTH OUTCOMES BETWEEN TWO GROUPS OF PEOPLE

## HEALTH INEQUITY

ANY DIFFERENCE IN HEALTH OUTCOMES BETWEEN TWO GROUPS OF PEOPLE THAT IS IMMORAL OR UNJUST

## CULTURAL APPROPRIATION

THE UNACKNOWLEDGED OR INAPPROPRIATE ADOPTION OF THE CUSTOMS, PRACTICES, IDEAS, ETC. OF ONE PEOPLE OR SOCIETY BY MEMBERS OF ANOTHER AND TYPICALLY MORE DOMINANT PEOPLE OR SOCIETY.

IJEOMA OLUO, SO YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT RACE "IT DOESN'T SEEM FAIR ON THE SURFACE, THAT WE HAVE TO WAIT FOR A BETTER WORKED BEFORE WE CAN START BORROWING AND ADAPTING FROM OTHER CULTURES WITH ABANDON. AND IT DOES NOT SEEM FAIR TO THOSE WHO FEEL OTHERS CAN TAKE FROM WHITE CULTURE WITHOUT IT BEING LABELED APPROPRIATIVE. BUT, WHAT IS ACTUALLY NOT FAIR, IS THE EXPECTATION THAT A DOMINANT CULTURE CAN JUST TAKE AND ENJOY AND PROFIT FROM THE BEAUTY AND ART AND CREATION OF AN OPPRESSED CULTURE, WITHOUT TAKING ON ANY OF THE PAIN AND OPPRESSION PEOPLE OF THAT CULTURE HAD TO SURVIVE WHILE CREATING IT."

DOMINANT CULTURE

- CULTURE IS THE BELIEFS AND VALUES HELD BY ANY GROUP OF PEOPLE
- CULTURE DEFINES HOW A GROUP OF PEOPLE DEFINE WHAT IS NORMAL
- THE DOMINANT CULTURE REPRESENTS THE SOCIAL NORMS THAT GOVERN A GROUP WHERE MULTIPLE CULTURES ARE PRESENT
- IT MAY REFER TO A LANGUAGE, RELIGION/RITUAL, SOCIAL VALUE, AND/ OR SOCIAL CUSTOM

HUMAN IDENTITY IS DEFINED BY MANY DIFFERENT AND OVERLAPPING SOCIAL CATEGORIZATIONS - RACE, CLASS,GENDER, RELIGION, ETC....INTERSECTIONALITY RECOGNIZES THAT ANY ONE OF THESE SOCIAL IDENTITIES SHAPES AND INFLUENCES OTHER SOCIAL IDENTITIES - AND SO ONE FORM OF OPPRESSION AND DISCRIMINATIONS SHAPES OTHER FORMS OF OPPRESSION AND DISCRIMINATION. INTERSECTIONALITY CHALLENGES US TO LOOK CRITICALLY ABOUT OUR DIFFERENT AND OVERLAPPING LAYERS OF PRIVILEGE AND RECOGNIZES THAT TO ACHIEVE HEALTH EQUITY WE MUST COMBAT ALL FORMS OF OPPRESSION.

EX:RACISM CAN BE SEXUALIZED, OR WOMEN'S OPPRESSION CAN BE RACIALIZED - AND THIS HAPPENS IN SUCH A WAY THAT IT BECOMES IMPOSSIBLE TO VIEW DIFFERENT OPPRESSIONS AS SEPARATE.

WHY ISN'T INTERSECTIONALITY MORE POPULAR?
IJEOMA OLUO, SO YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT RACE

- IT SLOWS THINGS DOWN
- IT MAKES YOU FACE YOUR PRIVILEGE
- DECENTRALIZES PEOPLE WHO ARE USED TO BEING THE FOCUS OF THE MOVEMENT
- FORCES PEOPLE TO REALLY LISTEN TO EACH OTHER

WHY ISN'T INTERSECTIONALITY MORE POPULAR? IJEOMA OLUO, SO YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT RACE

- COULD DIFFERENCES IN IDENTITIES BE IMPACTING THIS CONVERSATION?
- AM I LOOKING FOR WHAT I DON'T KNOW?
- AM I LISTENING TO PEOPLE WHO ARE DIFFERENT THAN ME?
- AM I SHIFTING POWER AWAY FROM THE MOST PRIVILEGED IN THE ROOM?


## MICROAGRESSIONS/MACROAGRESSIONS

- MICRO: "REAL OR PERCEIVED EVERYDAY VERBAL, NONVERBAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SLIGHTS, SNUBS OR INSULTS THAT COMMUNICATE NEGATIVE OR HOSTILE MESSAGES TO MARGINALIZED OR PERCEIVED MARGINALIZED PEOPLE"
-"LOOK DIFFERENT; YOUR ENGLISH IS SO GOOD" VIDEO
- HOW MICROAGRESSIONS ARE LIKE MOSQUITO BITES GUICR UERE TO WATCH
- MACRO: AN ACT OF RACISM TOWARDS EVERYONE OF THAT RACE
- MICROASSAULTS: CONSCIOUS AND INTENTIONAL DISCRIMINATORY ACTIONS: USING RACIAL SLURS OR JOKES, DISPLAYING WHITE SUPREMACIST SYMBOLS - SWASTIKAS, OR PREVENTING ONE'S SON OR DAUGHTER FROM DATING OUTSIDE OF THEIR RACE.
- MICROINSULTS: VERBAL, NONVERBAL, AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNICATIONS THAT SUBTLY CONVEY RUDENESS AND INSENSITIVITY THAT DEMEAN A PERSON'S RACIAL HERITAGE OR IDENTITY. AN EXAMPLE IS AN EMPLOYEE WHO ASKS A COWORKER OF COLOR HOW HE/SHE GOT HIS/HER JOB, IMPLYING HE/SHE MAY HAVE LANDED IT THROUGH AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION OR QUOTA SYSTEM.
- MICROINVALIDATIONS: COMMUNICATIONS THAT SUBTLY EXCLUDE NEGATE OR NULLIFY THE THOUGHTS, FEELINGS, OR EXPERIENTIAL REALITY OF A PERSON OF COLOR. FOR INSTANCE, WHITE PEOPLE OFTEN ASK LATINOS WHERE THEY WERE BORN, CONVEYING THE MESSAGE THAT THEY ARE PERPETUAL FOREIGNERS IN THEIR OWN LAND.

DISCOMFORT AND DEFENSIVENESS ON THE PART OF A WHITE PERSON WHEN CONFRONTED BY INFORMATION ABOUT RACIAL INEQUALITY AND INJUSTICE.

DR. ROBIN DIANGELO: "...A STATE IN WHICH EVEN A MINIMUM AMOUNT OF RACIAL STRESS BECOMES INTOLERABLE, TRIGGERING A RANGE OF DEFENSIVE MOVES. THESE MOVES INCLUDE THE OUTWARD DISPLAY OF EMOTIONS SUCH AS ANGER, FEAR, AND GUILT, AND BEHAVIORS SUCH AS ARGUMENTATION, SILENCE, AND LEAVING THE STRESS INDUCING SITUATION. THESE BEHAVIORS, IN TURN, FUNCTION TO REINSTATE WHITE RACIAL EQUILIBRIUM AND PREVENT ANY MEANINGFUL CROSS-RACIAL DIALOGUE."

## PRIVILEGE

- A RIGHT, ADVANTAGE, OR IMMUNITY GRANTED OR AVAILABLE ONLY TO A PARTICULAR PERSON OR GROUP
- THINKING SOMETHING ISN'T A PROBLEM BECAUSE IT DOESN'T IMPACT YOU PERSONALLY
- WHAT PEOPLE DON'T HAVE TO THINK ABOUT AS THEY WALK THROUGH LIFE



## COMMON LANGUAGE

## WHEN TALKING ABOUT EQUITY

WHEN ENGAGING IN YOUR OWN EQUITY JOURNEY WITH FAMILY, FRIENDS, OR CO WORKERS, IT IS IMPORTANT TO ESTABLISH COMMON LANGUAGE. NORMS AND GROUND RULES ARE EXAMPLES OF COMMON LANGUAGE THAT CAN BE A FOUNDATIONAL TOOL WHEN HAVING CONVERSATIONS ON EQUITY TOPICS. LISTED BELOW ARE BHT'S NORMS AND GROUND RULES THAT ARE USED THROUGHOUT OUR EQUITY JOURNEY.

## NORMS

- ASSUME GOOD INTENT
- DIALOGUE NOT DEBATE
- SPEAK FROM YOUR OWN EXPERIENCE, NOT ONE'S YOU HAVEN'T HAD
- ITS' OKAY IF WE DON'T KNOW HOW TO TALK ABOUT IT YET
- LET TRUST TAKE TIME

GROUNDRULES

- OUCH/OOPS
- USE "I" STATEMENTS
- GET THE RIGHT VOICE IN THE ROOM IF WE FIND OURSELVES ASSUMING/NOT KNOWING/SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF OTHERS
- WORK TOWARDS COMMON LANGUAGE (EQUITY VISION, "HOW TO TALK ABOUT IT")
- LEADERS TOUCH BASE ON SILENT/SILENCE PARTICIPANTS


## WHIITE SUPREMACY CULTURE

BELOW IS A LIST OF THE CHARACTERISTICS OF WHITE SUPREMACY CULTURE FROM
DISMANTLING RACISM: A WORKBOOK FOR SOCIALCHANGEGROUPS, BY KENNETH JONES AND TEMA OKUN, CHANGEWORK, 2001

PERFECTIONISM
SENSE OF URGENCY

DEFENSIVENESS

QUANTITY OVER QUALITY

WORSHIP OF THE WRITTEN WORD

> ONLY ONE RIGHT WAY

PATERNALISM

EITHER/ORTHINKING

## POWER HOARDING

FEAR OF OPEN CONFLICT

INDIVIDUALISM

PROGRESS IS BIGGER, MORE

> OBJECTIVITY

RIGHT TO COMFORT
CRICK MEREFOR DESGRIPTIONSLAMTIDOTES

## DOMINANT CULTURE

## TABLE



PERSONAL CULTURE
IS THE COLLECTION OF CULTURES THAT YOU BELONG TOAT A POINT INTIME.

INSTITUTIONAL CULTURE
IS COMMON IDEAS, VALUES, AND STANDARDS THAT PERMEATE THE EVERYDAY LIVES OFITS MEMBERS, AND THAT AREPERPETUATED BY INSTITUTIONAL INDOCTRINATION, ACTIONS, AND LEADERSHIP.

## DOMINANT CULTURE

THE DOMINANT CULTUREREPRESENTS THE SOCIAL NORMS THAT GOVERNA GROUP WHERE MULTIPLE CULTURES AREPRESENT.

TO DETERMINE DOMINANT CULTURE OF ANY PLACE,
ASK YOURSELF WHAT THE PEOPLE IN POWER USUALLY LOOK LIKE AND HOW THEY USUALLY BEHAVE.


# PEOPLE'S <br> <br> ACKNOWLEDGMENT 

 <br> <br> ACKNOWLEDGMENT}

## WHAT ARE LAND / PEOPLE

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

- AT NATIVE GATHERINGS, IT IS CUSTOMARY WHEN INTRODUCING OURSELVES, TO DO IT IN A WAY THAT REPRESENTS OUR TRIBE/BAND, FAMILY, AND COMMUNITY RATHER THAN FOCUSING ON OURSELVES AS AN INDIVIDUAL.

TRADITIONAL INTRODUCTIONS INCLUDE WHERE WEAREFROM AND WHO OUR FAMILY IS. OUR BELIEFIS THAT PLACE IS IMPORTANT AND WE GIVETHANKS/PRAYERSFOR LAND, LIFE, AND RESOURCES, BUT "WHO" WE ARE IS WHAT TIES US TO THELAND. GROWING UP, THIS INSTILLED A SENSEOF BELONGING IN ME.

- INDIGENOUS PEOPLE HAVELONG ACKNOWLEDGEDEACH OTHER WITHINTHE TERRITORIES IN WHICHTHEY LIVED AND TRAVELED.

ACROSS THE SPOKANE URBAN AREA, THERE ARE OVER 300 TRIBES/NATIONS REPRESENTED WITHIN THENEAR 14,000 ESTIMATED POPULATION.

FOR THIS REASON, WE'VEDECIDEDTOCALL OUR ACKNOWLEDGMENT, A PEOPLE
ACKNOWLEDGMENT. IT SNOTABOUT THE LAND; IT'S ABOUT THERELATIONSHIP WITH THELAND THAT INDIGENOUS PEOPLE HAVE.

WHY DO ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

- 2008 CANADATRUTH AND RECONCILIATION COMMISSION; DOCUMENTEDHISTORY AND IIMPACTOF ABUSE-TOWARDFIRST, NATIONS PEOPLES. THIS WORKIS SLOWLY BEING DONEIN THEUS.
-COUNTERS THE 'DOCTRINE OF DISCOVERY', ACKNOWLEDGING THE TRUE STORYTHAT INDIGENOUS PEOPLE WERE ALREADY HERE.
- OFFERS A NEEDED RECKONING
-IS A MINIMUM FIRST STEP WHEN ATTEMPTING TO BEGIN OR IMPROVERELATIONSHIPS WITH TRIBES/TRIBALORGANIZATIONS

CONTROVERSY OF ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

- MANY TRIBAL AND NON-TRIBAL PEOPLE BELIEVE THATIT TOKENIZESINDIGENOUS PEOPLE.ONE WAYTO AVOIDTOKENISMIS FOLLOWINGTHE HOW-TO GUIDELINES BELOW.
-THERE'S ALSO A BELIEF THAT DOING ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS GIVESNON-WHITE PEOPLE/ENTITIES THE POWER TO ERASE WHITE GUILT.
- SOME THINK THAT WITHOUT A FULLTRIBAL HISTORYLESSONOR KNOWLEDGE, IT'S MEANINGLESS AND PATRONIZING

WHO/WHEN SHOULD DOAN
ACKNOWLEDGMENT:

- ALL SYSTEMS THAT WERE BUILT ON OPPRESSION SHOULD CONSIDER DOING AN ACKNOWLEDGMENT; HEALTH AND EDUCATION, ETC.
- THOSE SYSTEMS OR ORGANIZATION MUST BE DOING THE WORK OF ANTI-RACISM/OPPRESSION; WHO ARE WORKING TO UNTANGLETHE 'HISTORICAL KNOTS OF COLONIALISM'
-CEREMONIES, PUBLIC EVENTS
-EXAMPLE: SPOKANE PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARDREADS A PEOPLE'S ACKNOWLEDGEMENTATTHE BEGINNING OF EACH REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING. THE BOARD PASSED A RACIALEQUITY RESOLUTION IN JUNE 2020 , OUTLINING SPECIFIC ACTIONS TO BEGIN TO ADDRESS OPPRESSION WITHIN THE LARGE SCHOOL DISTRICT. ONLYUPON'DOING'THE WORK, H WQUYDOIDHNYE OEENA APDRCOMADTEFTOA NHEBOARD

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS SHOULD PROCEED REVIEW/MENTION OFNATIVE HISTORY - WHY YOU ORTHEORGANIZATION IS DOING IT.
- TALK ABOUT HOW YOUR PRACTICE OF DOING PEOPLEACKNOWLEDGMENT WAS DEVELOPED
- IN A RESPECTFUL WAY; PEOPLESHOULDPAY AS MUCH ATTENTION ASPLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, ETC.
- TO GENERATECONVERSATION, QUESTIONS ABOUT INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND HISTORY.
- DON'T USE WORDS THAT REDUCECOLONIZATION (WHICHISANONGOINGPROCESS), OR SHYAWAY FROM TERMINOLOGY THAT CALLS OUT VIOLENCE, ETC.
- ALWAYS INCLUDE A CALL TO ACTION; LEARNING, RACIAL JUSTICE.

FOCUS ON THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLE COULD BE AS LONG OR SHORT AS NEEDED;

IDENTIFY WHERE YOU ARE; WHO WERETHE INDIGENOUS/ORIGINAL PEOPLE?

ARTICULATE; WHO/WHERE
SHOULD BE TOWARD THE WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS

## REFLECTIONTOOLS

PERSONAL IDENTIFY PROFILE:
SET ASIDE TIME FOR EITHER YOURSELFOR YOURTEAM TO INDIVIDUALLYFILLOUTTHE
AVAILABLE OPEN SOURCE ONLINE. REMEMBER, NO ONE SHOULD BE REQUIRED TO SHARETHE DETAILS OFTHEIR PERSONAL WORKSHEET. DISCUSS AS A GROUP.
SOME RECOMMENDED PROMPTS INCLODE:

- WHATARE YOOR REACTIONSTOFILLINGOOTTHIS PROFILE?
- WHERE DO YOOR EARLIEST MEMORIES OF DIFFERENT FORMS OF IDENTITY COME FROM?
- ARE THERE SOME TYPES OF IDENTITY YOO THINK ABOOT MORETHAN OTHERS? WHY?
- HOW MAY THESE DIFFERENT TYPES OF IDENTITY HAVE INFLUENCED THE WORK YOO DO?
IMPLICITBIASTEST:
CLICK HERETOTAKETHEIMPLICIT ASSOCIATION TEST - WERE YOU SORPRISED BY YOUR RESULTS? WHYOR WHY NOT?

WHERE DO YOO THINKTHIS ONCONSCIOOS ASSOCIATION COMES FROM?

WHAT ARE THE POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF THIS BIAS?
WHATCOULD YOU DO TO HELP OVERCOME THE IMPACTS THIS BIAS?

ADDITIONAL RESOORCES FOR DISCOSSION:
FOR DIFFERENT TYPE OFIMPLICITBIAS
MICROAGRESSION ACTIVITY:
CLICK ABRETODO THE BREAKING PREJODICE ACTIVITY.
TALKINGABOUTRACE: RESOROORCES ON RACE.
RECOMMENDED QUESTIONS FOR DISCOSSIONON RACE

- WHERE DO YOOR EARLIEST MEMORIESOF RACE COME FROM?
- WHEN WAS THE FIRSTTIME YOO HAD A TEACHER WHO WAS A DIFFERENT RACETHAN YOO?
- WHEN WAS THE FIRST TIME YOU REMEMBER READING A BOOK WHERETHE MAIN CHARACTER WAS A DIFFERENT RACETHAN YOO?

SUGGESTEDVIDEOSTOWATCHFOR REFLECTION

- ELI SASLOW \& DEREK BLACK;RISING OOTOF HATRED INTERVIEW
-ALLYVS.CO-CONSPIRATOR


## BLACKNATIONAL

## ANTHEM

WHEN WAS THE FIRST TIME YOU HEARD
THIS? WHATIS YOUR REFLECTIONON THELYRICS?

LIFT EV'RY VOICEAND SING,
TILEARTH AND HEAVEN RING
RING WITH THE HARMONIES OF LIBERTY; LET OUR REJOICING RISE
HIGH-ASTHELIST'NING SKIES, LET IT RESOUND LOUD AS THE ROLLING SEA.
SING SONG FULL OF THE FAITHTHAT
THE DARKPAST HAS TAUGHT US SING A SONG FULEOF THE HOPETHAT

THE PRESENT HAS BROUGHTUS; FACING THE RISING SUN OF OUR NEW DAY BEGUN,
LET US MARCH ON'TIL VICTORY IS WON.
STONY THE ROAD WE TROD,
BITTERTHECHASTENINGROD,
FELT IN THE DAYS WHEN HOPE UNBORN HAD DIED;
YET WITH A STEADY BEAT,
HAVENOT OUR WEARY FEET
COMETO THEPEACEFOR WHICHOUR F/ATHERS SIGHED?
WE HAVE COMEOVER A WAY THAT WITH TEARSHAS BEEN WATERED,
WE HAVECOME, TREADING OUR PATH
THROUGH THE BLOODOFTHE SLAUGHTERED,
OUT FROM THEGLOOMY PAST,
'TIL NOW WE STAND AT LAST
WHERE THE WHITE GLEAM OF OUR BRIGHT STAR IS CAST.
GOD OF OUR WEARY YEARS,
GOD OF OUR SILENT TEARS,
THOU WHO HAS BROUGHT US THUS FAR ON THE WAY;
THOU WHO HAS BYTHYMIGHT LED US INTO THELIGHT,
KEEP US FOREVER IN THEPATH, WE PRAY.
LEST OUR FEET STRAY FROM THE PLACES, OUR GOD, WHERE WE MET THEE, LEST, OUR HEARTS DRUNK WITHTHE WINEOFTHE WORLD, WE FORGETTHEE; SHADOWED BENEATHTHYHAND, MAY WEFOREVERSTAND,

TRUETO OUR GOD,
TRUETO OUR NATIVELAND.

## EVOLVING EOUITY JOURNEY

W E<br>HAVEYET TO SEEAN ANTI-RACIST WORLD, BUT WE BELIEVE WE CAN BUILD ONE. WE DO NOT STRIVE FOR PERFECTION IN OUR EQUITY JOURNEY, BUT AN OPENNESS TO LEARN AND WILLINGNESS TO BE MOVED. WE WILLMAKE MISTAKES, AND THOSE MISTAKES WILL HELP US<br>GROW.WE STRIVETO BUILD<br>ACCOUNTABILITY IN OUR WORK THAT WILL<br>PREVENT AND<br>REDUCE THE HARM TO THOSE WHO HAVE ALREADY BEEN IMPACTED BY OPPRESSION ALONG THE<br>WAY。WE OWESO MUCH OF DUR LEARNING TO MEMBERS OF IMPACTED COMMUNITIES WHO HAVE<br>TAKEN ON A GREAT BURDENIN SHARING THEIR EXPERIENGES OF OPPRESSION AND<br>THEIR<br>TOOLS FOR LIBERATION IN ORDER FOR US<br>TO SEE HOW WE MUST DO BETTER. WE DO OUR BEST TOEXPRESS OUR COMMITMENT AS WE<br>KNOW HOW TO LIVE IT OUT TODAY HOWEVER, OUR COMMITMENT TO ANTIE<br>OPPRESS\|ON<br>WORK IS EVOLVING AND HOW WE<br>COMMUNICATE AND ACTIVATEOUR COMMITMENT TO THIS<br>WORK WILLALSO EVOLVEAND GROW.

