

QMUNITY 2022 FACILITATORS FORUM

CHALLENGING the DISCOMFORT: ANTI-OPPRESSION in EDUCATION



FACILITATED BY
DEE ABDIRAHMAN

DISTANCING DIFFERENCE

- DENIAL OF RACISM
- ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY
- INADEQUATE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN

"SAFE SPACES"

- HIGHLY SUBJECTIVE
- VALUES COMFORT OVER DISCOMFORT

WHO DEFINES
WHAT A SAFE
SPACE IS

"BRAVE SPACES"

EMOTIONAL LABOUR OF
MARGINALIZED STUDENTS
SPEAKING UP
AGAINST INJUSTICE

IT SHOULDN'T
BE THE BURDEN
OF MARGINALIZED
FOLX TO SPEAK UP

CREATE SPACE
FOR THEIR VOICES

CREATE
ANTI-OPPRESSIVE
SCHOOL ENVIRONMENTS

BIAS IN EDUCATION

ANTI-BLACK
RACISM

QUEER YOUTH
+
NEGATIVE SCHOOL
EXPERIENCES

CHILDREN MIMIC
THESE BEHAVIORS

INTERPERSONAL
RELATIONSHIPS

RE-EVALUATING
MATERIALS +
RESOURCES

SCHOOL TO
PRISON PIPELINE

INEQUITY IN EDUCATION



OTHERING
CULTURAL FOODS

ABLEIST APPROACHES
TO MOVEMENT

GRADING
GRAMMAR

HOW
DO THE
MECHANICS OF
OPPRESSION
SHOW UP?

GENDERED
WASHROOMS
+
CHANGEROOMS

CENTERING
ENGLISH
LANGUAGE

CLASSISM:
EXTRA FEES
OR EXCLUSION

LACK OF
DIVERSITY IN
TRAINING +
REPRESENTATION

CLASSROOM ECOSYSTEM

VOICES OF OTHERS

UPLIFT THE

SPACES FOR THE EMPOWERMENT OF YOUTH

THE ACT OF LEARNING
REQUIRES RISK AND DISCOMFORT

LIVE GRAPHIC RECORDING BY CARINA NILSSON

QMUNITY 2022 FACILITATORS FORUM

FACILITATORS



QANI



SHANIA
CROSS



KEITU
MALATSI

AMPLIFYING QTBIPOC VOICES: INTERSECTIONAL CONVERSATIONS + COLLECTIVE REFLECTIONS

REDISTRIBUTION
AND
REPARATIONS
STORYTELLING

SURVIVING COLONIAL INSTITUTIONS

BY DOING THIS WORK
TOGETHER

BIPOC to IBPOC

THE LANGUAGE
WE USE CAN
BE REFLECTIVE
OF THIS

STRUCTURES OF
HIERARCHY +
OPPRESSION

BIPOC ACKNOWLEDGES THE
WORK OF BLACK FOLX IN
BLACK LIBERATION
INDIGENOUS SOVEREIGNTY

AS ALLIES
AND ADVOCATES

WHERE DO YOU SHOW UP?
WHERE DO YOU NOT SHOW UP?

HONOURING OURSELVES
+ THOSE IN OUR
COMMUNITIES



EXPECTATION OF YOUTH

- REVITALIZATION
- FREE EMOTIONAL
LABOUR

BRING
QUEER
ENERGY

TO EVERYTHING!

A CRITICAL EYE



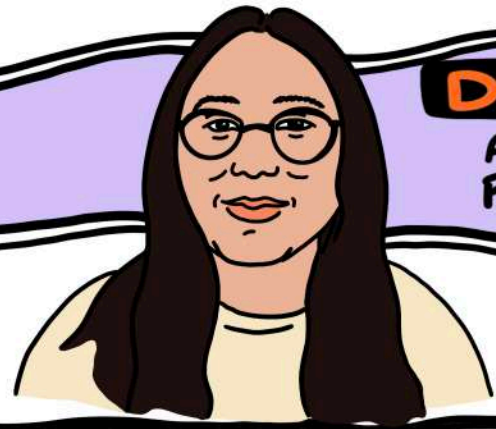
CONSTANT
ASSESSMENT OF STRUCTURES
RELATIONSHIPS +

PRIORITIZE

PERSONAL
ACCOUNTABILITY

LIVED EXPERIENCES
MUST BE PRIORITIZED

WE DON'T NEED THESE SPACES
TO BE CENTERED ON WHITENESS



DISCOMFORT
A NECESSARY
PART OF **UNLEARNING**

FACILITATED BY
CARMEN WATSON

DISMANTLING
UNCONSCIOUS
BIAS



RECOGNIZING
POWER DYNAMICS
IN ACTS OF CONSENT

SLOWING DOWN
TO AVOID MENTAL SHORTCUTS

NOT ASSUMING YOU KNOW
WHAT PEOPLE NEED

MY COMFORT DOES NOT
INVALIDATE YOUR DISCOMFORT

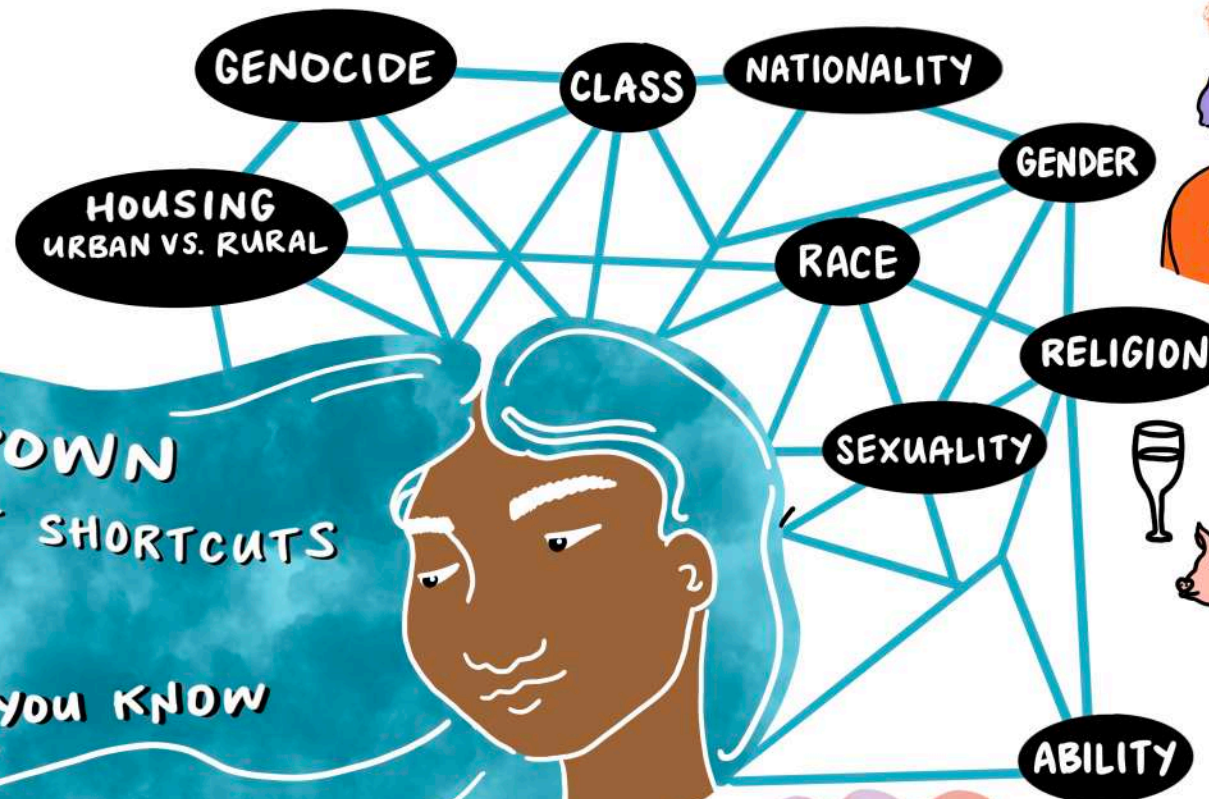
**DISRUPTING
UNCONSCIOUS
BIAS** IN THE
HIRING PROCESS

UNCHECKED
UNCONSCIOUS BIAS
LEADS TO
MICROAGGRESSIONS

• AFFINITY BIAS •
• GENDER BIAS •
• HALO EFFECT •



DISRUPTING SYSTEMS
OF OPPRESSION



RECOGNIZING A
SPECTRUM OF
LOVE STORIES



CONSIDERING
RELIGIOUS OR
CULTURAL
FOOD NEEDS



NOT ALWAYS
PHYSICAL OR
VISIBLE



QMUNITY 2022 FACILITATORS FORUM

ETHICAL ENGAGEMENT WITH MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES + TRAUMA



FACILITATED BY
WHITNEY WELSH

CULTURE OF
COMMODIFICATION
OF STORIES

A CULTURE OF
TRANSPARENCY

ONE PERSON
CANNOT
REPRESENT
THE MANY

HONESTY ABOUT
WHAT WILL BE
DONE WITH INFO

EMPOWERING
WITH DECISION
MAKING

COLLABORATIVE

WHAT DOES IT MEAN
TO BE ASKED TO
SHARE YOUR STORY?

EMOTIONAL
LABOUR

BRIDGING
EMPATHY

TOKENISM

EXPLOITATIVE

UNPAID
WORK

TO CREATE
A "SAFE SPACE"

WHO IS CARING
FOR THE STORYTELLERS?

WHO CONTROLS THE
NARRATIVE?



THE
PRESENTATION

THE
FOLLOW-UP

THE
ASK

ONGOING
CONSENT
THROUGHOUT
THE PROCESS



WHAT IS REALLY
BEING ASKED?

WHAT WILL BE
DONE WITH IT?

IDEALLY

SUBSTANTIATING
EXPERTISE

STORYTELLERS

PERSPECTIVE
RATHER THAN
JUSTIFICATION

DON'T NEED TO
PROVE THEMSELVES

DON'T NEED
TO RELIVE
TRAUMA

DON'T NEED TO
PROVIDE
EMOTIONAL
LABOUR

IT'S
OKAY TO
SAY
NO

WHAT ARE THE EXPECTATIONS
AROUND MY STORY?



WHAT FOLLOW-UP AND
SUPPORTS ARE AVAILABLE?

- TO EFFECT POLICY CHANGE
- TO EFFECT SOCIAL CHANGE
- TO INSPIRE OTHERS



WHAT VALUE IS PUT ON...
LIVED EXPERIENCE?

LIVE GRAPHIC RECORDING BY CARINA NILSSON