

Tri-County BIP Network Meeting February 11th, 2020

In Attendance:

Ivy O'Rourke (PSU), Tess Van Doren (PSU), Chris Huffine (Allies in Change), Courtney Greif (A Better Way Counseling), Julie Archibald (A Better Way Counseling), Christopher Lundell (A Better Way Counseling), Marieke Brown (A Better Way Counseling), Magen Wheeldon (A Better Way Counseling), Nancy Kyrie Campbell (A Better Way Counseling), Tina Powell (A Better Way Counseling), Debbie Tomasovic (A Better Way Counseling), Robert Johson (A Better Way Counseling), Dawn Penberthy (Clackamas Co P&P), Linda Castaneda (Castaneda Counseling), Andrew Goodwin (Portland VA), Olga Parker (Modus Vivendi LLC), Jacquie Pancoast (Central City Concern), Kora Kresin (Cedar Counseling), Brennan Edwards (Lutheran Community Services NW), Regina Holmes (A.R.M.S.)

Minutes taken by: Ivy O'Rourke and Tess Van Doren, edited by Chris Huffine

Presentation: Topic: Prejudice Towards and Oppression of Cultural Groups in the U.S.

- Presented by Chris Huffine
- Significant contributions by Dara Snyder, Ozlem Sensoy, Robin Diangelo, and the American Psychological Association January 2019 special issue- *Racial Trauma: Theory, Research, and Healing*
- An individual inquired why 'Deaf' was its own category on the slide identifying various different cultural groups. The conclusion was that there is a significant and distinct Deaf culture that must be recognized as unique.
- The importance of considering intersectional identities/cultures was expanded upon with the 3 black lesbians example, which is as follows: the 1st woman - identifies most with her gender identity, being a woman, the 2nd woman identifies most with her racial identity, being black, and the 3rd woman identifies most with her sexual orientation, being a lesbian. This useful example highlights that although identities may appear to be the same, there is vast individual differentiation.
 - o How to be between cultures. Example: having a white mom and a black father.
- The question arose of how one might explain that not all oppression is the same. The most satisfying answer, as discussed by the group, was because of racism. For example, people of African descent experience racism differently than those of Asian descent in the U.S.
Examples of cultural appropriation: Cinco de Mayo, mindfulness. It was noted that context and intentions are incredibly important when considering appropriation.
 - o appropriation/ tokenism vs. real acknowledgment and understanding
- Clarification regarding what makes a microaggression distinct from racist, sexist, etc. discourse. The answer lies in whether or not the marginalized individual whom the aggression is directed at, is present.

- The concept of dominant culture supremacy was discussed. It suggests that our society is itself, a white supremacist society. White, male, English speaking, heterosexual, Christians are dominant in our culture. This discussion led to the question: If we are a white supremacist nation, how do we identify those specific hate groups or historically “white supremacist” groups? From this, a distinction between white supremacy vs white supremacist was made.
- Someone pointed out that people should not be able to label themselves allies; someone from the subordinate group has to acknowledge you as an ally. Activist (active) vs. ally (passive).