

Unveiling Collective Consciousness by Dismantling Anti-Blackness Structures

Healing Sessions Series #7

Environmental Racism

Healing Session with John Brooks

Date: Tues, November 17, 2020

Time: 6:30-8:30 P.M. PDT

Link to Feedback Survey [Here](#)

Key Terms & Vocabulary:

From Whiteness to Oneness™: This is a process of change that signifies a transition from a culture built around and promoting the privilege of being white to one that equally recognizes and celebrates the beauty of diverse ethnic backgrounds and dismantles oppressive systems that do not do the same.

Racism: A belief that *race* is a fundamental determinant of human traits and capacities and that racial differences produce an inherent superiority of a particular race

Environmental Racism: The disproportionate impact of environmental hazards on people of color.

The Poverty Line: “The income level below which a person is unable to continually pay for food, shelter and/or clothing.

Fracking: The injection of fluid into shale beds at high pressure in order to free up petroleum resources (such as oil or natural gas) .

Carbon Capture and Storage: The process of capturing waste carbon dioxide and transporting it to a storage site, and depositing it where it will not enter the atmosphere.

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Climate vs Weather: The *climate* is what the Earth experiences over time. The *weather* is what life on Earth experiences on a daily basis.

The Greenhouse Effect: Gases in Earth's atmosphere trap the Sun's heat. Much like in a "Greenhouse."

Blue Water Event: Refers to a majority of the ice being gone in the Arctic region causing a change in weather patterns, worldwide.

Peer Reviewed: The evaluation of research or publications by one or more people with similar competencies testing the conclusions reached.

Mass Extinction Event: The widespread and rapid decrease in the biodiversity on Earth.

Jet Stream: A long narrow meandering current of high-speed winds near the tropopause blowing from a generally westerly direction and often exceeding a speed of 250 miles (402 kilometers) per hour.

Arctic Amplification: Temperatures increasing about twice as fast in the Arctic as in the mid-latitudes, due to increased greenhouse gases.

Whiteness: "Whiteness denotes the status of racial privilege, and all of the nonwhite categories entail statuses formed in the context of the denial of opportunity. Whiteness is thus a relative concept, one that can only be defined by the state of oppression reserved for those designated as nonwhite" (Barlow, 2003, p. 12) - "The construction of whiteness as a racialized discourse and set of material practices preserves the political and economic privilege and power of the capitalist class" (McLaren & Farahmandpur, 2005, p. 105)

White supremacy: "the economic, political, and cultural systems that advance or give credence to white dominance" (Dumas & Anyon, 2006, p.157)

Session Outline & Discussion

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[“Human Nature” \(10 mins\)](#)

[Fact vs Fiction \(10 mins\)](#)

[The Climate “Debate” \(20 mins\)](#)

[Minority Oppression during times of Freedom \(15 mins\)](#)

[First Breakout Session-Group Discussions \(20 mins\)](#)

- What is the Role of Government?
- How might you be contributing to the climate crisis and environmental racism?
- What are you willing to give up to have a better future?

[Being Comfortable with being Uncomfortable \(20 mins\)](#)

[What things can be done on an Individual/Community level? \(10\)](#)

[A Path Forward - Discussion \(15 mins\)](#)

Upcoming Anti-Racism Sessions



Session #8
Mental Health, Trauma,
Challenging the Biomedical
model and Strengthening
Self-care
Nov 24@6:30 - 8:30 PM PDT

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Session #5 (Rescheduled)
Blacks in Tech “Survivor’s
Guide”
Dec 4@12:00 - 2:00 PM PDT

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References

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Special Report. [1.5 Degrees](#)

NASA - Global Climate Change. <https://climate.nasa.gov/>

Climate Con. <https://climatecon.io>

BTMP. <https://www.christopherlafayette.com/BTMP/>

Additional Reading

[Kevin Simler](#), [Robin Hanson](#). *“The Elephant in the Brain”*

[Bonnie Greer](#). *“In Search of Black History with Bonnie Greer”*

[Brené Brown](#). *“Dare to Lead”*

[Jason Reynolds](#). *“Stamped: Racism, Anti-Racism, and You.”*

[John Brooks](#). *“The Meaning of Life and Shit”*