



This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/).

Buy Nothing Project Community Agreement

- We believe the best way to build relationships in a community is to treat others as they want to be treated and expect the same in return.
- We welcome anyone who lives within the boundaries of a group and will not create group boundaries or deny membership based on actual or perceived race, ancestry, nationality, class, religion, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or gender identity and expression.
- We believe that building community and a successful gift economy requires an environment that is as welcoming, diverse and as equitable as possible. We will not use threats, harassment, or hate speech.
 - The Buy Nothing Project defines hate speech as words or images that dehumanize another person or group of people by means of racism, sexism, heterosexism, cissexism, ageism, ableism, classism, xenophobia, religious prejudice and other forms of oppression.
- We welcome expressive posts that may come up on the topic of giving, receiving, sharing, or participating in the Buy Nothing Project or other gift economies. We agree to express our responses, reactions and emotions in ways that do not dehumanize, threaten, or make use of hate speech.
 - This includes disagreements or discussions of potentially divisive topics and conversations that might make people feel uncomfortable, frustrated, or angry. Reactions can include emojis, gifs, photos/graphics, and like/dislike reactions.
- We value our groups being “brave spaces” where members are free to be themselves as they learn about the Buy Nothing Project, gift economies and each other.



This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/).

- Communities are encouraged to learn about each others' differences and how they may participate in various ways in Buy Nothing groups while still maintaining the desire for all to be seen as holding the same inherent worth as members.
- We agree to listen and reflect when content is questioned or members state they've been made to feel oppressed, abused, or silenced. We understand that if a post or comment harms a member who is systematically oppressed this will prevent them from participating freely and safely in the group.
 - Members and admins will keep from censoring or tone policing anyone who risks speaking out against posts or comments that break this community agreement. Members may express themselves freely without exposure to threats, harassment, or hate speech in groups.
- We understand that when it comes to building community and connections, impact is more important than intent. We will assume the best intentions from others and pause when we experience something that upsets us before immediately responding to consider this. We will be mindful of our actions and treatment of others and consider the impact of our words, actions, and reactions rather than our own intent behind them.
- Buy Nothing Project groups are intended for adults. Members will remain uncensored provided that the words, images and items posted don't violate the written rules.
 - This includes posts, items, or comments that use curse words, sexuality, sensuality, adult humor, or content that some find offensive or immoral.
- We fully recognize that our local groups are one part of a grassroots movement of individuals who have chosen to put into practice the ideals of the Buy Nothing Project and everyone participates at their own risk.
 - The Buy Nothing Project grants licenses to local individuals who wish to use the open resource materials available. Those individuals become local admins who then use the materials freely as a gift to



This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/).

their community. Group members are key to upholding the principles of the Buy Nothing Project and this Community Agreement. What happens in each community is between the community's members and each is responsible for their own behavior.

Reference of terms used in this agreement:

ableism - a system that allows any barriers or judgements based on one's abilities (mental, neurological, intellectual, emotional, and/or physical) especially into what "work" or understanding they are able to do or not do.

ageism - a system of oppression that creates any barriers or judgements based on one's age, particularly those deemed especially young or especially old.

“Brave Space” - a reference to a poem written by Mickey Scott-Bey Jones:

Invitation to Brave Space

Together we will create brave space

Because there is no such thing as a “safe space”

We exist in the real world

We all carry scars and we have all caused wounds.

In this space

We seek to turn down the volume of the outside world,

We amplify voices that fight to be heard elsewhere,

We call each other to more truth and love

We have the right to start somewhere and continue to grow.

We have the responsibility to examine what we think we know.

We will not be perfect.

This space will not be perfect.

It will not always be what we wish it to be

But, It will be our brave space together,

And we will work on it side by side.



This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/).

cissexism - a system of oppression that creates any barriers or judgements based on one's gender identity, specifically individuals who do not identify with the gender they were assigned at birth and/or within the gender binary of man and woman.

classism - a system of oppression that allows barriers or judgements based on one's real or perceived economic status or background specifically against low income people.

heterosexism - a system that creates barriers and judgements based on one's sexual orientation, specifically individuals who are questioning, lesbian, non-labeling, bisexual, asexual, queer, pansexual, gay, or identify in any other way that is not heterosexual/straight.

marginalized people - those who have been pushed to the edge of society by not being allowed a place within it. A society that labels certain people as outside the norm — “weird, scary, hateful, or useless” — marginalizes those people, edging them out.

racism - a system of oppression that results in barriers based on skin color and ethnicity, real or perceived, specifically by an ethnic group who historically dominates in all levels of society. Racism depends on a superior ethnic group, usually lighter in skin color, over other darker skin colors like brown or black. It is important to understand that “race” is a social construct designed to benefit the oppressor, and for that reason it exists. White supremacy is responsible for creating, perpetuating and maintaining the notion of “race” and racism itself.

religious prejudice - systematic mistreatment in response to one's religious beliefs or affiliations.



This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/).

sexism - a system that creates barriers and judgements based on gender, especially for ANY woman including trans women as well as non-binary people.

xenophobia - a system which creates barriers against those cultures considered somehow "different" in a society especially immigrants.

This document was developed by members of The Buy Nothing Project Equity Team led by DiDi Delgado, Katherine Valenzuela Parsons and Daria Kelsey. 2020.



This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International License](#).



This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International License](#).