

Disrupting White Supremacy Through **BIPOC** Solidarity



APALA Webinar
February 26, 2020



Land Acknowledgement

Whose land are you on?

How should you, as a guest, behave on those lands?

What action can you take in solidarity?



Hello!

I'm **Sofia Leung**

She/hers


Chinese American Facilitator + Librarian

You can find me at **@sofiayleung** on Twitter



What we'll talk about today

- ⦿ White supremacy
- ⦿ Anti-black racism
- ⦿ Our complicity in systems of oppression
- ⦿ Solidarity



Who are you? Why are you here?

Please use the chatbox to enter your name and what brought you to this webinar.



What is solidarity?

Please use the chatbox to enter your responses.

When we identify where our
privilege intersects with
somebody else's oppression, we'll
find our opportunities to make
real change.



“

(Oleo 2019, 65)

*Asian Americans have not been racialized in a vacuum, isolated from other groups; to the contrary, Asian Americans have been racialized **relative to and through** interaction with Whites and Blacks. As such, the respective racialization trajectories of these groups are profoundly interrelated”*

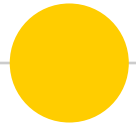
“

(Kim 1999, 106)

whitening

“refers to the way the white race has expanded over time to swallow up those previously considered non-whites, such as people of Irish, Italian, and Jewish heritage.”

(Kuo 2018)



What is white supremacy?

“By ‘white supremacy’ I do not mean to allude only to the self-conscious racism of white supremacist hate groups. I refer instead to a political, economic and cultural system in which whites overwhelmingly control power and material resources, conscious and unconscious ideas of white superiority and entitlement are widespread, and relations of white dominance and non-white subordination are daily reenacted across a broad array of institutions and social settings.”



“

(Ansley 1989, 1024)



Whiteness as property is based on

1. Black people are a form of property that white people are entitled to.
1. All land belongs to white people, Indigenous peoples are not entitled to property or even allowed to be on property.

(Dumas and
ross 2016)

It is...premised on **the subjugation of people who are not White**. That subjugation takes on an infinite number of forms and is enforced with varying degrees of physical violence, mental abuse, and robbery...White supremacy establishes, upholds, and normalizes **hierarchy** on the premise that the less Black you are the closer you are to God.

“

(Solomon and Rankin 2019, vii)

There's no hierarchy of oppressions where race is concerned, but **anti-black racism** is the **fulcrum** of white supremacy.




“

(Nakagawa 2012)



White Supremacy Culture Characteristics

- ⦿ Perfectionism
- ⦿ Defensiveness
- ⦿ Either/Or Thinking
- ⦿ Fear of Open Conflict
- ⦿ Objectivity
- ⦿ Right to Comfort



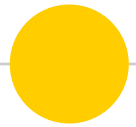
**How do you see these
characteristics playing out in
your daily work or life?**

Please use the chatbox to enter your responses.



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Refuse white supremacy



How we can stop contributing to anti-blackness

- ① Stop perpetuating white = the ideal
- ② Recognize and reject negative portrayals of Black people
- ③ Educate ourselves & our families
- ④ Understand that the fight for social justice for Black people is directly tied to our own struggles for justice

(Chung 2016)

Oppression is **interlocked**. You can only account for the experiences of violence if you understand all of the ways that different kinds of violence **reinforce** each other.

“

(Richie 2015, 266)



What is solidarity?



solidarity:

unity (as of a group or class) that produces or is based on community of interests, objectives, and standards


David Stovall clip





The BIPOC Project's Solidarity Principles

1. **Decolonize Stories** - Seek, learn, share and affirm the distinct histories of BIPOC communities; and unlearn dominant narratives
2. **Develop a Power Analysis** - Consider how each BIPOC community is differently situated in the racial hierarchy and differently affected by issues
3. **Uplift Native and Black Humanity** - Honor the legacies of Native and Black resistance to colonization and white supremacy; and actively examine how disparities and injustices uniquely affect Native and Black communities
4. **Organize Your People** – ‘Call in’ your communities to deeper understanding and empathy for all BIPOC communities with love and compassion
5. **Build Intergroup Connections and Relationships** – Build just relationships; and invest in one another’s liberation
6. **Commit to Personal and Collective Healing** – Practice both individual and community care; acknowledge ruptures and invite connection; and center healing and transformative justice



What are some challenges or opportunities you've encountered?

Please use the chatbox to enter your responses.

Every member of the community
holds pieces of the solution, even if
we are all engaged in different
layers of the work.



“

(brown 2017, 63)

Tiffany Loftin clip



“nothing that we do that is
worthwhile is done alone.”

“

(Mariame Kaba)



Thanks!

Any **questions** ?

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