ReHumanizing Education Through Anti-Racist and Anti-Bias Practices

Establishing a historical context and exploring a framework

Lorena Germán
Academic Director at Multicultural Classroom
Let us begin with ourselves.

"Who do you bring with you when you walk into the room?"

Dr. Django Paris
Let us begin with ourselves.

I am an immigrant from Dominican Republic.

I am a woman.

I am a mother.

I am a descendant of Africans and Taínos.

I am an educator.

My work is infused with all of these truths.
Our Educational Journey
an exercise
Step 1
Create a list of important moments/turning points in your educational journey.
Step 2

Circle all of the moments/turning points that are related to issues of culture, race, and/or societal issues.
Step 3

On the back, jot down how you might see some of these issues 'showing up' today in your own practice.
Our Collective Experiences

an overview
A brief history of U.S. schooling...

Indigenous communities

African American community

Latinx communities

Asian communities
49.5 million
34 were preK to 8th
15.4 were in 9-12th

National Center for Education Statistics - 2022
"Back to School Statistics"
PAUSE & REFLECT.

What changes need to take place in our content and practice(s) so we meet the needs in front of us and move our institutions toward healing?
"The classroom remains the most radical space of possibility in the academy."

bell hooks
School has existed to "forward the largely assimilationist and often violent and white imperial project, with students and family being asked to lose or deny their languages, literacies, cultures, and histories, in order to achieve in schools."

(Alim, Paris 2017)
Our Duties & Opportunities

an exploration
What are our duties? What are the opportunities before us?

Let us consider our academic ancestors. There is good news!
The head, heart, and hands of ABAR teaching & learning
Every subject area is implicated. We have been indoctrinating students.
Frameworks & Theories

Good news: We have work we can build on.

Dr. Kimberlé Crenshaw
Dr. Gloria Ladson-Billings
Dr. Geneva Gay
Dr. Django Paris
Textured Teaching

A Framework for Culturally Sustaining Practices

Student-driven & community-centered

Interdisciplinary

Experiential

Flexible
You will brainstorm a Textured Teaching unit/lesson/activity.
What will students drive in this unit and how will their communities be centered? (student-driven & community-centered)

- Research
- some readings
- final assessment
- stations

Listen to Miccosukee and Seminole voices

What other studies will you integrate in this study? (interdisciplinary)

- other subjects: math, science, anthropology, sociology
- supplementary materials: Sociology studies, ourt proceedings, Historical podcasts
- terms to discuss: Indigenous, Race, Racism, Social construct, quantum
- collaborations: between ELA and Civics, Diversity, Miccosukee, Seminole, other tribes
- diversity of materials

ELA/Civics
8th grade
Literacy skills
Race & Indigeneity

What hands-on learning will you incorporate? (experiential)

- Sight
- Sound
- Smell
- Taste
- Feel

- Watch videos
- Listen to narrations
- Listen to speakers
- Feel what it's like to be on a reservation

Enactments:
- A trial
- A debate
- creative interpretation

How will you be flexible? (flexibility)

- Offering choice to increase engagement
- Create stations to inspire collaboration
- Allow resubmissions
- Field trip
- Stations, partner & small group work
At your tables:

Use the template to brainstorm a Textured Teaching unit/lesson/activity with students or staff.
Thank you!

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@nenagerman (Twitter)

Bonus: Come to Egypt with me next summer.
Here’s a special discount code: TWL99