

## **Decolonizing 101/Decolonizing Our Resiliency Movements**

Tuesday 10/17/17 4pm

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### **Who's land are you currently on? What are these people's struggles?**

**Resiliency Movements** (Transition, Permaculture, Re-skilling, etc.)

#### **Colonization:**

The action or process of settling among and establishing control over the indigenous people of an area.

#### **Settler Colonialism:**

A distinct type of colonialism that functions through the replacement of indigenous populations with an invasive settler society that, over time, develops a distinctive identity and sovereignty.

#### **What is decolonizing?**

- 1) Undo the harms of genocide and theft perpetrated on Indigenous Peoples.
- 2) Apply that same undoing to other groups marginalized and oppressed by the very same colonial system and its continuing legacy (white supremacy, patriarchy, economic system, western thought, etc.).

#### **Problems with Permaculture:**

"the cutting edge of a 10,000 yr technology"

- Whose "technology"? Who tended this knowledge?
- removed from cultural context
- branded and commodified; who profits?
- proper recognition and reciprocity/reparations
- those more privileged buying/owning land in places that are foreign-to-them
- problems with "homesteading" and "primitive skills"

#### **Cultural Appropriation vs. Appreciation**

- Is there equal reciprocity? Reparations?
- Are proper and genuine relationships built first?

#### **Be wary of...**

- "But we're just one race and one people. Our focus should be on being united peacefully together."
- Check feelings of Rightfulness and Entitlement (privilege)

### **What are the problems within Transition movement? (or your community working towards resiliency)**

#### **Ways to practice Decolonization and move towards right relations**

- Support and solidarity with the Indigenous folks who have tended the place you currently call home. These folks very much still exist, are modern and struggle with trying to retain land, sovereignty and culture.

- “Requests of POC Caucus of NorthAm Permaculture Convergence” (Aug 2014)
- “35+ Things to Create More Inclusion & Diversity at Your Permaculture Event” (2016/17)
- “Ask First! A Better Practices Guide For Indigenous Engagement” (a comprehensive guide in the works)

[An updated version of this will be sent to you including thoughts and notes from our talk, as well as a resource list.]