Social Justice & Youth Development

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Agenda

• Introduction
• Key Concepts & Context
• Social Justice + Youth Development
• Discussion: Implications & Applications for Your Work
“Research that Matters for Regions”

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Comprehensive Community & Regional Development
Equality, Equity & Social Justice
Social Justice

Artwork by Angus Maguire: http://beclouded.net/
Redlining

- “Presence in large numbers of subversive racial elements.”
- “Infiltration of Orientals has occurred.”
- “The particular hazard is ‘racial’; 30% of the populace is foreign, including Orientals, Mexicans, and low-class Italians.”
- “Without deed restrictions.”

https://dsl.richmond.edu/panorama/redlining/
Figure 2. Map of areas with racially restrictive covenants prior to 1950 and mortgage-deficient areas in Sacramento County in 1974. (Sources: Covenants: author’s review of public records. Mortgage-deficient areas: State of California (1977) (Department of Savings and Loan Fair Lending Report 2 (1). State of California Library, Sacramento. Figure updated from an earlier version published in Hernandez 2009.)

Figure 5. Percentage of single-family residential parcels receiving notices of default in Sacramento County, by Census Tract for 2007. (Source: author’s calculation of DataQuick “Notice of Default” raw data for 2007.)

CalEnviroScreen 3.0

Regional Opportunity Index: People

Regional Opportunity Index: Non-Hispanic White Population

(Hernandez, 2014)
“Just as in adult society, [youth] access to power occurs through the filters of race, class, gender, sexual orientation, and ability. These factors often influence which youth are already succeeding within the systems, and it is these youth who have traditionally been sought as leaders.”

(Libby, Sedonaen & Bliss, 2006, p. 22)
The most vulnerable youth tend to come from low-income households and “are more likely to be youth of color, immigrant youth, LGBTQ youth, or youth who have sustained experience with foster care, homelessness, or the juvenile justice system.”

(Erbstein, 2013, p. 109)
Intersectionality

“A way of thinking about identity and its relationship to power.”

We all carry a number of intersecting social identities that may be privileged or marginalized—including race, sex, gender expression, class, age, sexual orientation, ability, religious affiliation, etc.

“Acknowledging privilege is hard—particularly for those who also experience discrimination and exclusion.”

(Crenshaw, 2015)
Impacts of Systemic & Institutional Injustices

**Structural Inequality** – perpetuating a society in which certain groups reap benefits and privileges as a result of other groups’ oppression

+ 

**Social Trauma** – impact that living in a racially and economically unequal society has on the physical, emotional, spiritual, and psychological well-being of people

(Chavez-Diaz & Lee, 2015)
Power in Proximity: Fostering Critical Consciousness & Social Action

Those closest to the issue are closest to the solution.

- Sammy Nuñez, Fathers & Families of San Joaquin

“[Researchers] practicing community-based participatory research must show a long-term commitment to the education and empowerment of marginalized communities...This is a call for repositioning the university to belong to the most marginalized and underserved communities, instead of being aloof and separate from them.”

(Deeb-Sossa & Martinez, 2018)
Healing

“A regenerative process that is inclusive of the mind, body, and spirit and that aims to restore and renew the individual and collective emotional and spiritual well-being of youth, families, and the broader community.”

(Chavez-Diaz & Lee, 2015, p. 3)
“Rather than viewing healing as simply an individual act of self-care, healing justice organizers view the practice of healing as a political act that makes communities more whole while empowering people to bring about changes in the system.”

(Chavez-Diaz & Lee, 2015, p. 4)
Healing Justice

“...aims to describe the relationship between social justice work and spirit by focusing on both the consequences of systemic oppression on the hope and agency of community members as well as how communities can heal and be restored to vibrant ways of living.”

(Chavez-Diaz & Lee, 2015)
Cultural Competence vs. Cultural Humility

**Professional Development**

Cultural competence is traditionally seen “as a detached mastery of a theoretically finite body of knowledge.”

(Tervalon & Murray-Garcia, 1998)

**Continual, intentional practice of action & reflection**

Cultural humility “incorporates a lifelong commitment to self-evaluation and critique, to redressing power imbalances...and to developing mutually beneficial and non-paternalistic partnerships.”
How do you envision this analysis informing your work?

https://trentsworldblog.wordpress.com/2017/01/05/throwback-thursday-e-10/thinker-bw/
https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/d/dd/Cher_-_Casablanca.jpg/1200px-Cher_-_Casablanca.jpg
https://c1.staticflickr.com/4/3543/3346503419_5ede7a6039_b.jpg
Now What?

What are the implications and applications for:

1. Your organizational structure, staffing & operations?
2. Populations you engage with & how you engage with them?
3. Programs & partnerships you pursue?
4. Your own personal journey, growth & commitments?
References


