

# OUR CIRCLE



Center for Restorative Justice  
at Suffolk University

JULY 20

Property of the  
TRANSFORMATIVE JUSTICE:  
Center for Restorative Justice  
SYSTEMIC HARM & RESTORATIVE JUSTICE  
at Suffolk University  
WHY TRUTH TELLING MATTERS



Center *for* Restorative Justice

# WHY TRUTH-TELLING MATTERS

1:00 - 2:00

Presentation by

Malcolm Clarke  
& Olivia Strange



# AGENDA – JULY 20<sup>TH</sup>, 2023

## 9 AM – 11AM

- Opening
- Check-in
- Transformative Justice:  
Systemic Harm &  
Restorative Justice

LUNCH BREAK

## 1PM – 2PM

- Northeastern University  
School of Law, Civil Rights  
and Restorative Justice  
Project, presentation Olivia  
Strange and Malcolm  
Clarke

## 2PM - 4PM

- Reflections
- Check-out
- Closing

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OPENING

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## CHECK-IN

What made you smile this morning?

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# VALUES

Resiliency Strength Respect Humility Wonder Awe

Change Curiosity Communication

Openness of possibility Importance of our Roots

Appreciation for gifts that brighten our lives and our new days

Everything is connected / beauty in reciprocity Dignity

Everything has value Being present Beauty in lived experience

Humor Connection Appreciation

Listening for subtleties Inherent worthiness

We are all part of the earth - we send and receive energy

Gratitude Appreciation of stillness Community

Power of connecting to nature Respect Generosity

Be patient and be mindful Healing presence of nature Power in growth

Beauty where you find it Open Mindedness Patience

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# *Our Guidelines:* What do you need from yourself and others in our circle in order to fully participate?

- Honor the talking piece to speak, and listen
- Power to pass, respect silence as a voice
- Speak and listen from the heart
- Be You
- Express as much vulnerability as you want to offer
- Take the lesson / Leave the story and details
- Give Grace to self and others in our learning process and taking care of needs
- Allow time to process, allow a moment before a round starts
- Courage
- Willingness to be vulnerable
- Curiosity
- Be present
- Patience with self and others
- Come open to learn
- Take care of self in balance with taking care of the circle
- Good Humor/ Good Faith
- Reserve judgement
- Freedom to think out loud without judgement
- Be aware of defenses to staying open
- Be open to the need for questions/clarification
- Trust you know what you are saying
- Be mindful of Mind, Body, Soul and Emotions
- Trust each other and Trust the circle
- Be aware and work toward more awareness of biases
- Separate individuals from the systems they work for
- Honesty and acceptance of honesty
- Come open to learn and unlearn
- Openness to be called in to these guidelines and to understanding each others' interpretation of them
- We bring issues to the group to collectively resolve
- Space to reach out to the keepers/facilitators directly about issues



# FIRE

**Spiritual**  
Values (soul)

- Values that direct behavior
- Connection with what matters

# EARTH

**Physical**  
Sensory Supports (body)

- Taking care of physical needs: personal and for the group
- Body language

# WATER

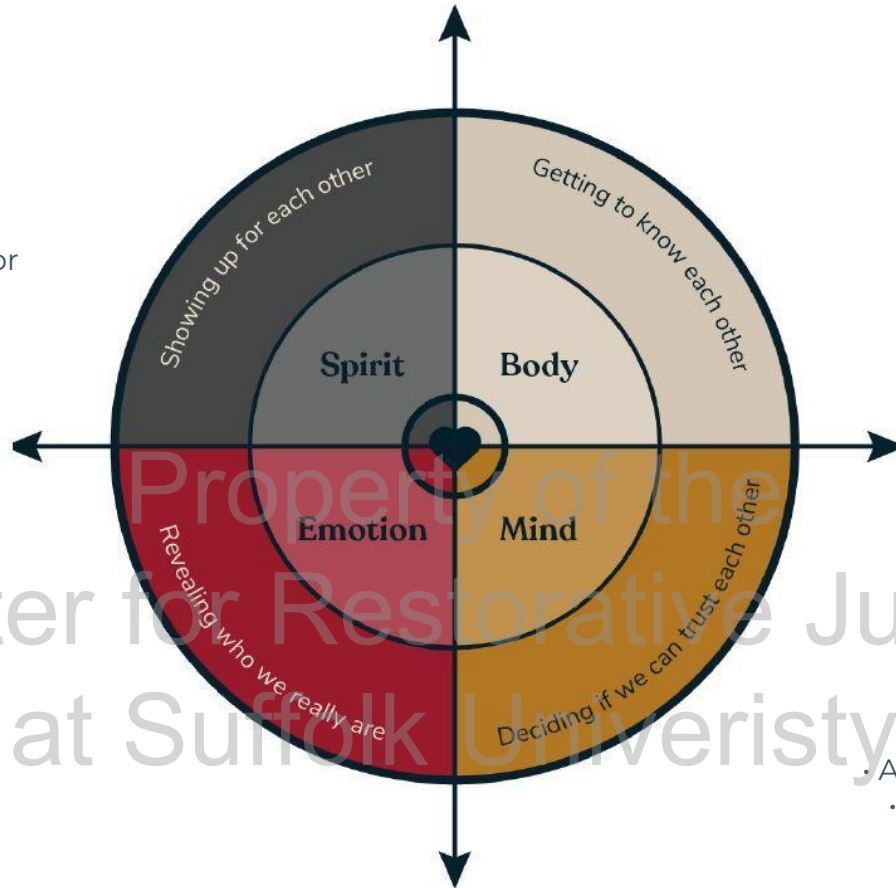
**Emotional**  
Feelings (heart)

- Feelings and how they are expressed
- Sharing from the heart.

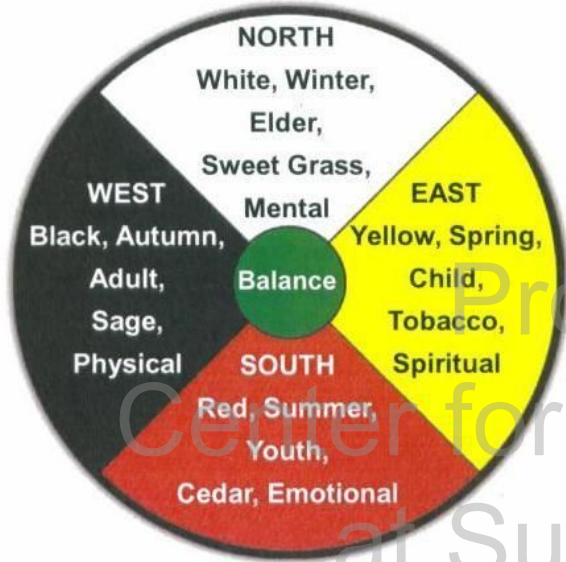
# WIND

**Mental**  
Thoughts (head)

- Self-reflection
- Analyzing & synthesizing
- Recognizing interests needs & differences



# Ojibwe Medicine Wheel



Historically lived in what's now southern Canada, the northern Midwestern United States, and Northern Plains.



Alberta Cree





COMMUNITY BUILDING

HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

CONNECTION

HEALING

REPARATION

RESTORATIVE  
PRACTICES

SHARED VALUES

INDIGENOUS TEACHINGS



# MORNING CIRCLE

Circle Forward: Moving  
Toward Racial Equity:  
Starting with Adults

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14.12 Exploring Our  
Unconscious Social  
Training on Race Circle



# LUNCH, READ & PONDER

1. The Medicine Wheel,
2. The image of the Sacred Tree,
3. and Refresh “The Three Cree Women,”  
Page 2-12, *Returning to the Teachings* by  
Rupert Ross

How do these three relate?

4. *Finish Reading/Skim The Little Book of  
Race and Restorative Justice*

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# DEBRIEF ROUNDS

“Healing interpersonal harm requires a commitment to transforming the context in which the injury occurs: then the social-historical conditions and institutions that are structured precisely to perpetuate harm. This commitment may mean viewing restorative justice as not only healing individual harm, but also as transforming social structures and institutions that are themselves purveyors of massive harm.”

What does Fania mean?

How does Northeastern University School of Law, Civil Rights and Restorative Justice Project work respond?

What does any of this mean for my work?



# CHECK-OUT

What is the most important thing you're taking from today?





# HOMEWORK

## DUE NEXT CLASS:

Question to Ponder or to Journal:

[Continuing our work on *Exploring Our Unconscious Social Training on Race Circle* CF 14.12 DO THE FINAL QUESTION]

- How might we change the social training of the next generation?

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# HOMEWORK

## DUE NEXT CLASS:

- Journaling: I Am the Work When... (Link in Syllabus)
- READ: Article *Looking at the past of restorative justice: Normative reflections on its future* Carolyn Boyes Watson, Ph.D. Forthcoming in Gavrielides, T. (2018). The Routledge International Handbook of Restorative Justice, London: Routledge. ISBN: 978-1-4724-8070-5
- RISE Prog: *An Introductory Guide to the Restorative Justice Program*, United States Probation & Pretrial Services, District of Massachusetts (NOTE: only for use in this program. Do not distribute)
- Opening and Closing on Day 5, Friday, July 21st: **Jahnlsa, Anthony**



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DNISOT

# REFLECTION

Why do we need to tell the truth about our history?





The background of the slide is a close-up photograph of water ripples. The ripples are concentric circles of varying sizes, creating a complex, textured pattern. Interspersed among the ripples are several small daisies with white petals and yellow centers. The overall color palette is light and monochromatic, dominated by whites, greys, and soft blues.

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SHARING IDEAS  
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# Values and Guidelines

(Sharing in Pairs) - 10 minutes

We have to acknowledge unaddressed harm among us

So, keeping in mind our still developing Values and

Guidelines:

- How are you doing?
- What more do you need?