

Dismantling White Supremacy: Collaborative Art-making to Rebuild, *Elective 2*

AUTHOR(S):	Anat Hochberg, Caroline Rothstein
SUMMARY:	Together, in an effort to heal from racial injustice and build anti-racist spaces, we will physically take apart a machine and turn it into beautiful art while exploring our feelings and experiences around racism in the Jewish world and at large. - <i>Submitted by Anat Hochberg and Caroline Rothstein</i>
TOPIC(S):	Racial justice, experiential education
LEARNING OBJECTIVE:	The goal is for participants to confront, explore, and extrapolate white supremacy and racism from a place of curiosity, integrity, and support, while still feeling grounded and rooted in pleasure and collaboration.
AUDIENCE:	Recommended for age 11 and up; recommended for 10 to 15 participants, but can be more based on your community's make-up and needs.
TIMING:	90 minutes
APPENDICES:	N/A

<p>MATERIALS NEEDED:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bluetooth speaker for playing music ● Tarp ● Appliances (of your choosing) to dismantle: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Toasters ○ Washing machine ○ Computer ○ Landline telephone ○ Any kind of broken machinery ○ An old Ford car (dream!) ● Snack/treats: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chocolate and/or cookies ○ Seltzer and/or lemonade ● Tools: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hammers ○ Screw drivers ● Protection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Work gloves
<p>SET-UP DETAILS:</p>	<p>Recommended to set up as a circle on the ground. Chairs available for people who need chairs. Recommended for outdoors in an open space.</p>

SESSION TIMELINE & OUTLINE:

- Welcome.
- Set up program.
- **Ground in pleasure and connection (15 minutes):**
 - Begin with chocolate and seltzer and lemonade.
 - Offer “Torah” on why beginning this session with snacks/treats.
 - This is hard.
 - It’s helpful to ground in pleasure and connection first.
 - Even in really hard work, there is pleasure and enjoyment.
 - It’s not about saying that bad things are good.
 - It’s about deepening our connection and appreciation of abundance in the world to face things that are really deeply hard and painful.
 - Create an altar:
 - Hevruta/pair/share with a partner; each person shares their intention for the session.
 - Invite everyone back together while beginning to sing/chant a song/niggun (something simple and easy to learn, like Batya Levine’s “May I Be Empty and Open”)
 - Invite people to add objects that can honor their intentions ritually/symbolically, and/or pour some oil or water into a dish as a ritual act, and place each item onto a shawl or cloth. Popcorn style.
 - Participants are invited to name their intention out loud as they put their ritual objects onto the altar.
 - Also an invitation for people to invite in ancestors, elders.
 - Facilitators offer a “Land Acknowledgement” during this time as well.

- **Curiosity and exploring (20 minutes):**
 - Bring machine into group space.
 - Invite participants to look at it. Move around it. Think about and notice what they see and feel.
 - NOTE: Now is a great time to play some music in the background.
 - Questions to consider (written out on a large poster or handed out as small slips of paper):
 - How was this made?
 - Who was impacted in this machine's being made?
 - What does this machine do?
 - How does it work?
 - Why does this machine exist?
 - When is it used?
 - Who designed it?
 - Invite participants to join into groups of three to discuss their answers to these questions.
 - Invite everyone back together and ask everyone:
 - What was the process like?
 - What was the experience like - looking at a machine and thinking about it?
 - Discussion/conversation.

- **Experiential and trying things (20 minutes):**
 - Tell participants the now, the goal is to take the machine apart as a group.
 - NOTE: Now is a great time to play some music in the background.
 - Note that all pieces will need to be laid out so that they are accessible for everyone to witness.
 - Lay out tools that can help support the “taking apart” process.
 - Invite participants to put on work gloves for protection and self-care if they'd like.
 - Allow participants to begin taking the machine apart.
 - When machine is finished being taken apart and all pieces are laid out, invite participant into a circle around the parts to have a brief discussion.
 - Questions to consider:
 - What did that process feel like?
 - What did you notice?
 - About yourself?
 - About the group?
 - What is it like having all of the pieces of a formerly “constructed” machine broken apart?
 - What does this have to do with white supremacy?
 - Deepen conversation with support and curiosity.
 - We have the power to take things apart, but it takes work together.
 - Everyone has a role in taking the machine apart.

- **Rebuilding (20 minutes):**
 - Invite participants to put the machine back together as a design on the ground.
 - NOTE: Now is a great time to play some music in the background.
 - Invite everyone to each take ownership of the process
 - One at a time, each person places a part or piece on the ground
 - (Similar to the altar/intention process)

CORNERSTONE 2020 RESOURCE

- A piece of art begins to emerge
 - After piece is rebuilt, invite participants to reflect:
 - What did that feel like?
 - What does this look like?
 - How does it make you feel?
- **Bringing it back to camp (10 minutes):**
 - Invite participants to consider what it's like to bring these concepts back to camp:
 - What are the cultures of our camps?
 - Are they inclusive or exclusive?
 - How do we make them better?
- **Closing (5 minutes):**
 - Sing same chant/song/niggun from opening as people are invited to take back their objects/time from the altar.
 - Invite everyone to share one final thought on something they're taking with them.

ADDITIONAL NOTES FOR BRINGING IT BACK TO CAMP:

- NOTE: This is a larger conversation and journey than a 90 minute session. We recommend working with your camp community at every level to ensure this conversation and work is being done all summer and year round.
- We recommend checking out these organizations and resources to feel as equipped as possible to guide and lead your camp community in this work:
 - Jews for Racial and Economic Justice: <https://jfrej.org/>
 - Be'Chol Lashon: <https://globaljews.org/>
 - Tzedek Lab: <https://www.thetzedeklab.com/>
 - Jews of Color Field Building Initiative: <https://jewsofcolorinitiative.org/>