

The People's Institute for Survival & Beyond

Undoing Racism™

FACT SHEET

The People's Institute For Survival & Beyond is a non-profit collective of multi-cultural, anti-racist community organizers and educators with national and international reach. It provides a process that emphasizes critical analyses of systemic oppression. The People's Institute for Survival & Beyond offers training and technical assistance to persons of diverse backgrounds and races, encouraging them to organize for social transformation and selfdetermination. Workshop participants carry these tenets into their personal lives and more importantly, into communities in which they work. They are challenged to be accountable and responsible for creating a longterm shift in the paradigm they use so that their communities are truly served and empowered.

To date, with a team of over 50 trainers, the Institute has impacted over 500,000 individuals and groups nationally and internationally. The People's Institute work is based on the following premises :

1. Racism is not about individual deficiencies but is a social construction biased in favor of people who have over generations come to be called white.
2. The foundation of American society is rooted in a belief in the perceived superiority of white people.
3. Addressing diversity without seeking to address the power imbalance resulting from racism perpetuates systemic inequities in education, social services, health care, legal institutions and all other systems.
4. The historical foundations of our race-constructed society is unknown by many, therefore stereotypes and misperceptions about race are engrained in the American culture and exported internationally.
5. African Americans, Latinos and other People of Color, though oppressed by racism, may assimilate the perceptions of the dominant society in demeaning those with less money, education, and social standing – including other People of Color.
6. Racial oppression is one of the root causes of poverty in this country.

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