

May 2019 Most Current Thoughts about Whiteness and Racism:

***Transforming the Meaning of Whiteness is a revolutionary act of defiance against compliance."***

***~ Kaolin***

I have worked in several political, educational and social service organizations and the arts. I have been a witness to the vast contradictory forms of pain, reversals, complacency in whites about racism. And the sublime heroic gestures of sacrifice and activism to dissolve the ignorance, fear and pain of racism in all of our lives.

So far this is what I have learned:

1. If you are white and in the battle you are in it.
2. There is no 'in' and 'out'. There is only an 'in'.
3. Surprising to many, a white person's activism regarding racial equality is not dependent upon anyone's approval.
4. It is instead a staple in ones constitution.
5. No POC knows what it is to be white
6. No white person knows what it is to be a POC.
7. We are interpreter's of one another's reality in this work we are giving voice to.
8. That is it. That is all. And that is plenty.
9. Approval while welcome is not necessary.
10. Agreement while delightful is lovely but not necessary.
11. Recognition matters but does not define you nor your abilities in this work.

12. There is no right or wrong way to be an activist in this realm of work and racial healing.
13. All one must do is agree to discourse with the self then with others.
14. I identify with the root causes of racial inequality knowing racism is a social construction based upon a perversion of power which is the root cause of many an illness we can attribute to it.
15. The world is transforming. We are undergoing changes so much about racism is transparent now. It is as if the times have shown us an x-ray of how utterly sick and demeaning racism is. How masochistic and parasitical it is and has always been.

In these times we have been mercilessly invited to see not only with our eyes but our hearts, to work not only with our bodies but our souls.

We have been called upon to participate in nothing short of a vocation: Transforming the Meaning of Whiteness is a revolutionary act of defiance against compliance. The only way to get thru this part of our collective and universal healing is to be yourself. Pay attention. Accept the pain you are in.

This work should not be easy on us. How could it be?

~ Kaolin