



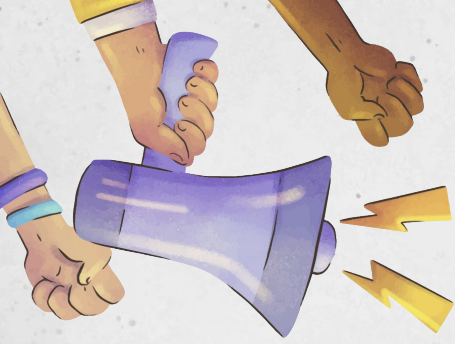
Unit #3: Joy and Justice

Lesson 2: Visioning a Just Society



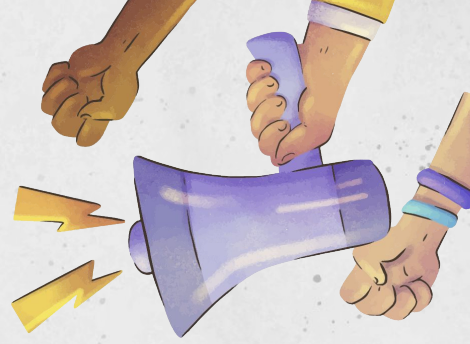
Ancestor Acknowledgement and Cultural Energizer





*"[N]ow is the time to think like poets,
to envision and make visible a new society,
a peaceful, cooperative, loving world
without poverty and oppression,
limited only by our imaginations."*

--Robin D.G. Kelley, *Freedom Dreams: The Black Radical Imagination* (2002), 196.



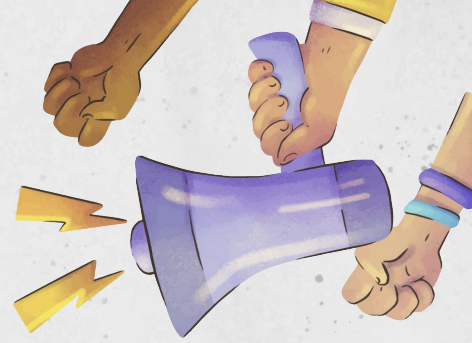


*Who is someone that you know that
has advocated for social change?*

What do you know about this person?

What did they advocate for?

Why should we remember them?

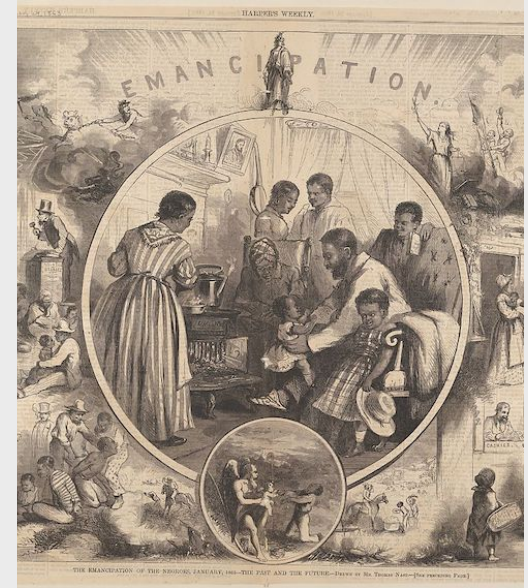


Background Information

Overview: Before movements for social change can grow, there needs to be a **shared vision** of an alternative. This applies to organizing around limited reform goals to visions of alternative social foundations and structures.

Too often, though, we are trapped by the belief that the world that we experience is fixed. This activity is designed to help us generate and reflect upon expansive, **unlimited visioning of a world** in which we want to live.

Justice: Justice is the broad concepts of ‘fairness’ and ‘what’s right’, and underpins societies’ definitions of ‘rights’, ‘freedom’ and ‘liberty’. It is not limited to political or legal systems, but can encompass economic structures, social relations and practices. This activity centers the concept of justice by asking students to complete the sentence: ***“In a Just Society ...”***.



Critical Vocabulary





Directions

1. Look at the list of words below. What do they mean to you?
2. Look up and discuss the definitions in your dictionary.
3. Discuss how they are related? How are they different?

Liberty

Freedom

Justice

Rights

Critical Concepts





Brainstorm using the sentence starter:



- Create 1 'sticky note' per idea
- Brainstorm characteristics of an ideal, just society by completing the sentence:

“In a just society...”

- Write each response on a 'sticky note'

basic needs met -
food, shelter,

a balance of
wealth

No sense of
entitlement or
supremacy

Religious
Freedom

true democratic
leadership

Everyone has
affordable
housing

Worker owned
and controlled
businesses

Women's
reproductive
rights

racial / social
hierarchies don't
exist

education
accessible for all

Collective care &
responsibility

right to speak
one's mind

equal treatment
under the law

free health care

no exploitation of
labor

Cultural Production





Prioritize the sticky notes into 3 categories

- Sort the vision statements based on the approach that you select from below.
- There are 3 different ways to sort the sticky notes. Select one “way” and use the same “way” for all the steps.

Here are the 3 ways. Select one:

1. Base: Sorts by “Essential”, “Desirable”, and “Icing on the Cake”
2. Alt-1: Transformation: Sorts by “Short Term”, “Long Term”, “Via Deep Transformation”
3. Alt-2: Good/Better/Best: Sorts by ranking.

Essential	Desirable	Icing on the Cake
<div data-bbox="150 287 425 416">basic needs met - food, shelter,</div> <div data-bbox="434 303 714 432">racial / social hierarchies don't exist</div> <div data-bbox="150 461 425 590">Everyone has affordable housing</div> <div data-bbox="434 461 714 590">No sense of entitlement or supremacy</div> <div data-bbox="150 607 425 736">education accessible for all</div> <div data-bbox="434 607 714 736">Religious Freedom</div> <div data-bbox="311 812 585 941">Women's reproductive rights</div>	<div data-bbox="875 319 1149 448">right to speak one's mind</div> <div data-bbox="875 478 1149 607">no exploitation of labor</div> <div data-bbox="875 647 1149 776">free health care available for all</div> <div data-bbox="875 805 1149 934">Worker owned and controlled businesses</div>	<div data-bbox="1445 334 1719 463">a balance of wealth</div> <div data-bbox="1445 490 1719 619">true democratic leadership</div> <div data-bbox="1445 646 1719 775">Collective care & responsibility</div>



Evaluate the concepts of justice

- Evaluate how these concepts of justice are held and realized (or not) in our real-world, contemporary society.
- Color Code the sticky notes:
 - **Green** - Foundational, widely held and enjoyed by almost all
 - **Yellow** - A stated principle, but in practice only for a few
 - **Red** - Not a part of our societies concept of justice

Essential	Desirable	Icing on the Cake
<div data-bbox="214 292 467 437">basic needs met - food, shelter,</div> <div data-bbox="214 448 467 594">Everyone has affordable housing</div> <div data-bbox="214 626 467 772">education accessible for all</div>	<div data-bbox="494 292 747 437">racial / social hierarchies don't exist</div> <div data-bbox="494 448 747 594">No sense of entitlement or supremacy</div> <div data-bbox="494 626 747 772">Religious Freedom</div> <div data-bbox="494 793 747 939">Women's reproductive rights</div> <div data-bbox="823 301 1076 446">right to speak one's mind</div> <div data-bbox="823 490 1076 635">no exploitation of labor</div> <div data-bbox="838 675 1091 821">free health care available for all</div> <div data-bbox="838 853 1091 999">Worker owned and controlled businesses</div>	<div data-bbox="1348 492 1601 637">true democratic leadership</div> <div data-bbox="1348 675 1601 821">Collective care & responsibility</div> <div data-bbox="1582 821 1835 966">a balance of wealth</div>

Conclusive Dialogue





Reflect on your ideal society



Write a paragraph outlining your **ideal just society** and comparing it to the society that you live in today.