

# I.N.C.A.S.E.

## OF BIAS EMERGENCE FRAMEWORK

Individual and Institutional Strategies for Combatting
Occurrences of Bias

COHHIO | September 24, 2019



## ABOUT THE KIRWAN INSTITUTE

"We work to create a just & inclusive society where all people and communities have the opportunity to succeed."



@KirwanInstitute

@Preshusleemade



/KirwanInstitute

# ABOUT THE KIRWAN INSTITUTE

#### HOW KIRWAN APPROACHES OUR WORK

#### RACE AND COGNITION

The role of individual-level thoughts and actions in maintaining discrimination.

# @KirwanInstitute

# STRUCTURAL RACIALIZATION

The influence of our country's racial history on policies, practices and values that perpetuate racial inequity.



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# Our Work



#### **DEFINING IMPLICIT BIAS**



Attitudes or stereotypes that affect our understanding, actions, and decisions in an unconscious manner.

#### WHY IMPLICIT BIAS?

- Implicit bias can be a better predictor of behavior and decision-making than our explicit beliefs.
- Implicit bias gives us a framework for understanding the underlying factors driving overt racism.

Challenging implicit bias can help us align our good intentions with our desired outcomes.

 Discussing implicit bias does not mean ignoring other causes of disparities—it helps us see the entire picture.



# The I.N.C.A.S.E. of bias emergence framework



Increase Knowledge Narrative Guidance Cultural Humility Active Bystander Safe Spaces Empowerment

"You have to act as if it were possible to radically transform the world. And you have to do it all the time."



#### What is it?

- Provides transformative, research-based strategies for mitigating bias at the individual and institutional level.
- Helps facilitate cultural changes within the workplace
- Is committed to social justice and equity

#### **TODAYS GOALS**

- Provide Individual and Institutional Strategies to mitigating bias through the I.N.C.A.S.E. Model
- Increase understanding of Implicit Bias
- Increase understanding of Narrative Guidance
- Increase understanding of Cultural Humility
- Learn strategies for being an Active Bystander
- Learn of strategies to create Safe Spaces
- Increase understanding of the Empowerment Model

## **Ground Rules**

Respect others opinions

Open mind to learning

Personal experiences and our own truths is what we speak on, not others experiences

Expect Discomfort

**S**afe Spaces include being brave enough to engage



# Workbook Key Guide



**Discussion Post** 



**INCASE Notes: Self-Reflection** 

Reminder



Informs of worksheet in your workbook







- The vast majority of our cognition is unconscious.
- Our associations may be formed based on skewed, overgeneralized, or distorted beliefs and stereotypes.
- Our implicit associations may not necessarily align with our explicit beliefs.

"If I can see the ways I am perpetuating systemtic oppression, if I can see where I learned the behavior and how hard it is to unlearn it, I start to have more humility as I see the messiness of the communities I am part of, the world I live in."—Adrienne Maree Brown



- Education and training are the first steps to changing our biases.
  - We must know what our biases are and how they operate.
- Research shows that increasing knowledge of bias and its effects can lead people to be more bias conscious in their decision making and behaviors.
- Self-reflection is vital to mitigating our biases and creating a more just and inclusive society.

# Implicit Attitudes & Decision Making

- We have a natural human tendency to categorize others (in-group vs outgroup)
- We use the messages we hear about others and the social cues we see from others to make quick judgements about those in our out-groups.
- We begin developing biases as early as age four from mimicking those who are closest to us.



## **Discussion**

If our implicit biases can be suppressed, why do we often fail at mitigating our biases?



# REASONS WE OFTEN FAIL AT IMPLICIT BIAS MITIGATION

- Generally we are unaware of the causes of our behaviors.
- Our interventions do not affect our associative pavlovian and model-free systems that guide our behavior.
- When we lack awareness of our biases we are compelled to act based off our implicit processing.
- Our biases are reflective of the society we live in.

"Many implicit attitudes are situational adaptations that are attuned to features of the racist, sexist, and heteronormative communities in which we are immersed."



# STRATEGIES FOR MOVING BEYOND BIAS

- Changing our Implicit
   Associations
  - Education and Training
  - Intergroup Contact
  - Mindfulness
     Meditation
  - Exposure to Counter Stereotypes

- Institutional Strategies
  - Reduce conditions that make us most susceptible to our biases
  - Expand Data Collection
  - Increase Accountability
  - Prioritize Diversity and Inclusion initiatives





#### NECESSARY CONDITIONS FOR PERSONAL REDUCTION OF BIAS

- Desire: One must want to uncover their unconscious bias.
- Acceptance: Once we become aware of our biases perhaps from taking several Implicit Association Tests, we need to accept the feedback rather than becoming defensive or denying the validity of the feedback.
- Commitment: To become more aware of all of the hidden biases that we may be carrying will take time and energy to understand how you came to hold that biases. This is a continuous process.
- *Introspection:* Digging deep into your past, becoming more self-aware of those events or teachings which may have produced the bias is a critical step in the process.
- **Exposure:** Often our biases are based on stereotypes from very little understanding of the group that we are biased against. Learning more about the group, being exposed to data and experiences which counter those beliefs is necessary part of the process.

# 5 R's of Self-Reflection

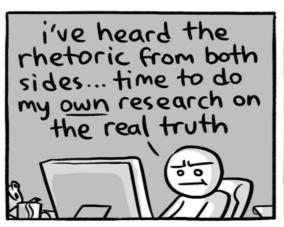
Level 1: Reporting	Describing what happened with little or no comment or interpretation of the event(s) attempted.
Level 2: Responding	Describing our <b>feelings about the event(s)</b>
Level 3: Relating	Tying current <b>experiences to similar personal experiences</b> ,
Level 4: Reasoning	Gaining a <b>better understanding</b> of what happened by considering outside sources (people, literature).
Level 5: Reconstructing	Deciding <b>how to respond to similar challenges</b> in the future based on whole reflection piece.

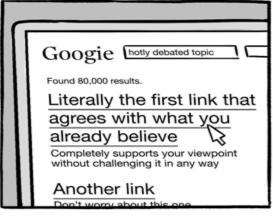
# Types of Bias

- ConfirmationBias
- Affinity Bias
- SelectiveAttention Bias
- Anchoring Bias

#### **CONFIRMATION BIAS**

Tendency to see evidence to support what you implicitly think while overlooking other evidence.





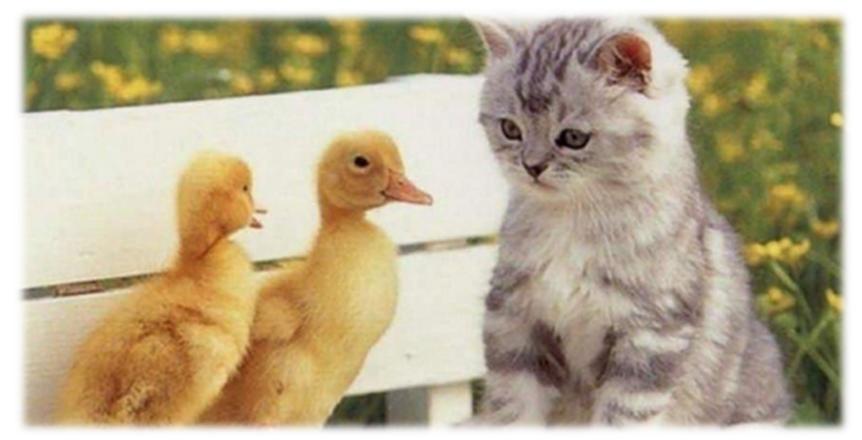


Ross, H. (2014). Everyday Bias: Further explorations into how the unconscious mind shapes our world at work.: Cook Ross Inc.

# The Circle of Trust

- On a blank piece of paper write down the initials of 10 people who you trust that are not family members.
- As I read this list, put a check mark next to each person's initial that it applies to that is similar to you.
- What did you notice about the people you trust?
- How do you think this realization will affect your life?

# AFFINITY BIAS

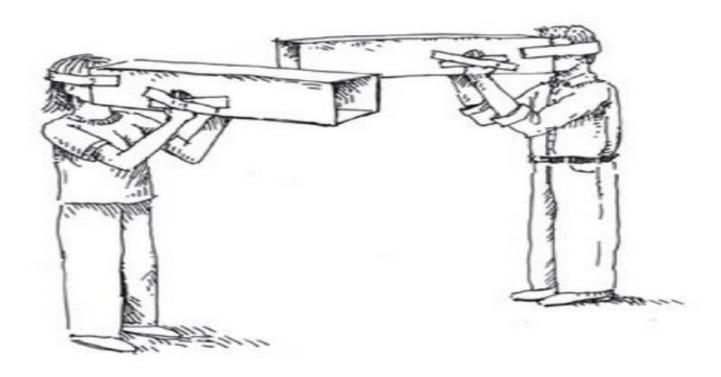


Implicit preference for people similar to you.

Awareness Test



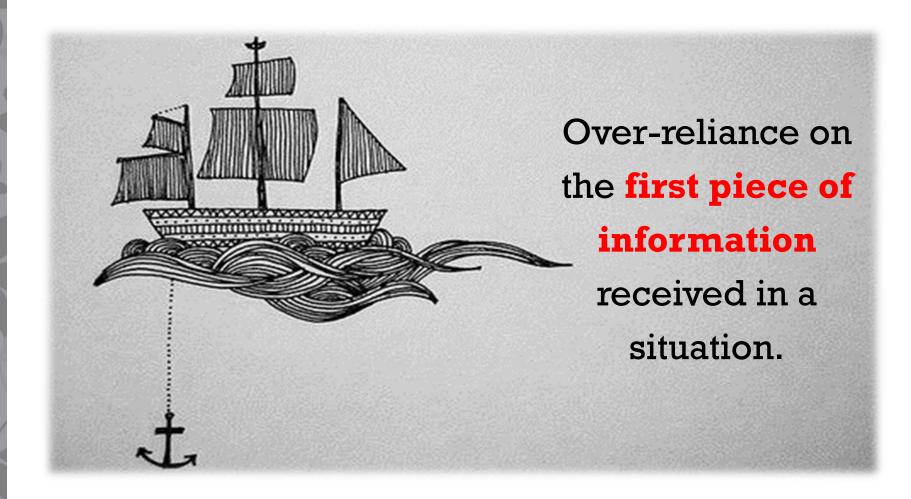
# SELECTIVE ATTENTION BIAS

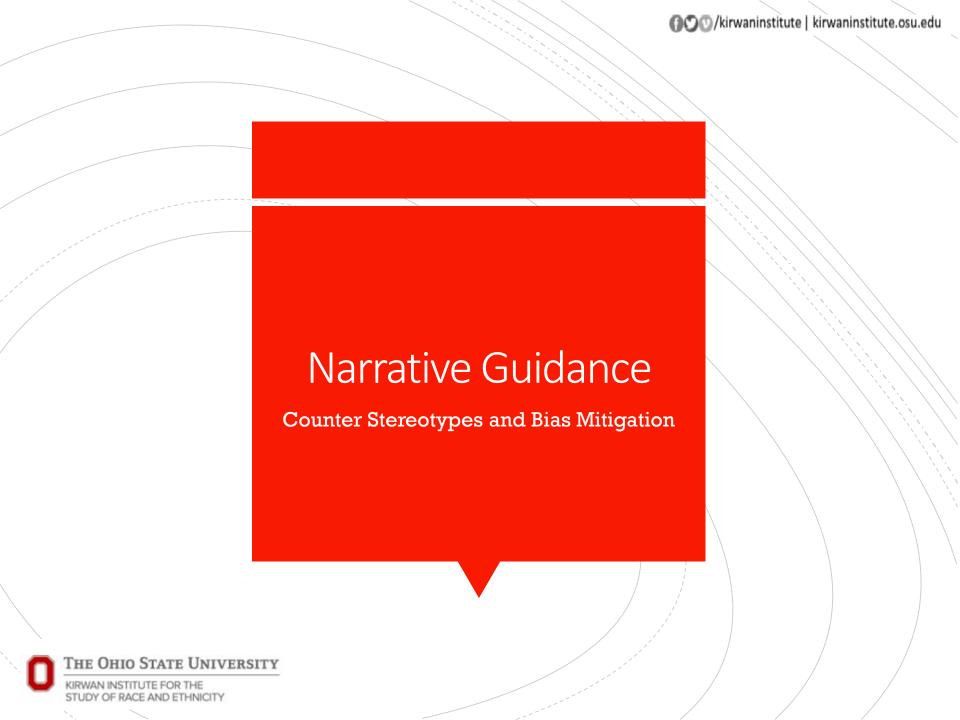


Narrowing our focus in an attempt to eliminate irrelevant details that might interfere with our ability to discern important elements of a situation or issue.



# ANCHORING BIAS







- Debunking stereotypical myths can alter automatic prejudices.
- Our Implicit Biases are malleable and able to be shifted.
  - Primers and IAT results
- Since our biases are reflective of our environments, if we can change our environment, we can shift our biases.
- Narrative guidance and engagement is a common strategy used to mitigate implicit bias.

#### **Strategies for Narrative Guidance**

# Counter Stereotypes

#### Moderators of automatic stereotypes

#### Counterstereotypes

- Perceivers can hear messages that promoting opposing narratives that challenge the dominance of stereotypes in our processing
  - Positive and collaborative <u>Intergroup contact</u> can help reinforce positive implicit associations therefore counteracting st ereo-types

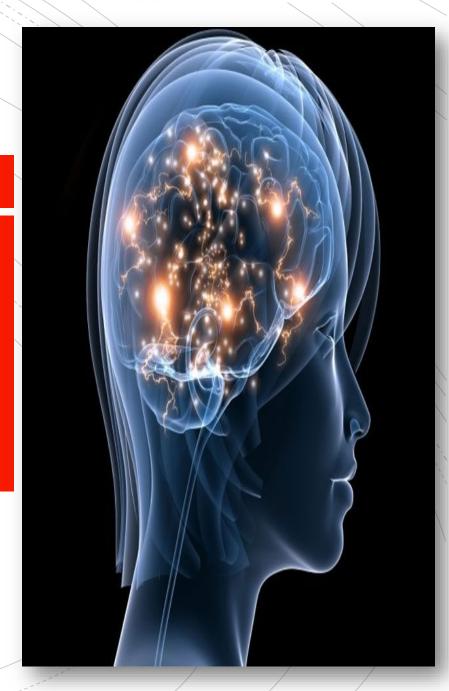
#### Suppression

- This can be a successful mitigator if its accompanied by a specific implementation intention
  - "if,then" statements x3





Counter stereotypical information can *briefly* mitigate bias but ultimately we will *revert* back to our automatically biased processing.

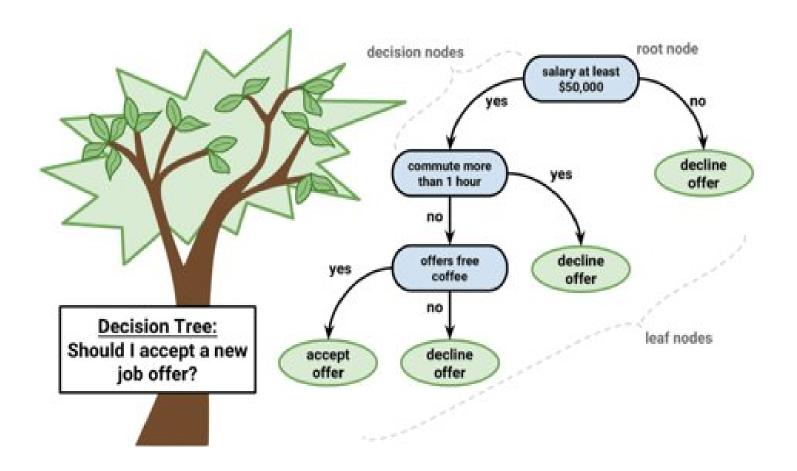


#### Strategies for Narrative Guidance

# Niche construction

- Humans are niche constructors meaning we can manipulate our world in ways that make it represent new things for us.
- We cannot be content with living in world dominated by biased associations because ultimately it will continuously influence our processing.

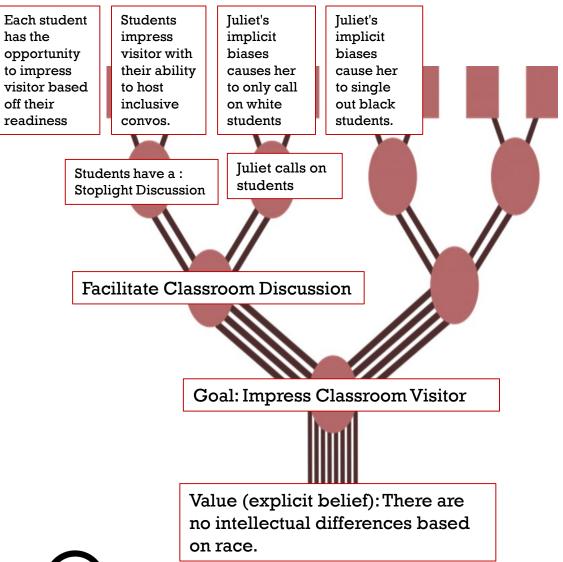
### A DECISION TREE





## A DECISION TREE

Use the Values
 Rooted Decision
 Tree to help chose
 the decisions and
 outcomes that align
 with your values.







#### CREATING OUR NEW WORLD

- Solely working on eliminating our negative biases is not enough. We must also commit to restructuring our environments which inform our biases.
- We can cultivate egalitarian commitments; and we can construct relationships with like-minded people who will help us defend and promote egalitarian attitudes.
- Transformative Justice can help us create our new world while also beginning to heal ourselves the generational wounds of our society.

"In order to resist one size fits all justice, we have to resist the idea that every process looks the same. The goal is for us to embody these values so that our creativity can guide our healing and our drive for treating each other with true justice" -Adrienna Maree Brown



# Transformative Justice

A tool for equitable and just
Narrative Guidance

- Acknowledges the reality of state harm
- Looks for alternative ways to address/interrupt harm, which do not rely on the state.
- Relies on organic, creative strategies that are community created and sustained.
- Transforms the root causes of violence, not only the individual experience.







# Jemez Principles

Be Inclusive

**Emphasis on Bottom-Up Organizing** 

Let People Speak for Themselves

Work Together In Solidarity and Mutuality

Build Just Relationships Among
Ourselves

Commitment to Self-Transformation





Resource: Jemez Principles Handout

# Cultural Humility

Bias mitigation and Self-Awareness





"Ability to maintain an interpersonal stance that is other-oriented (or open to the other) in relation to aspects of cultural identity that are most important to the [person]"

#### 3 Dimensions

- Having a lifelong commitment to self-evaluation and selfcritique
- 2. Having a desire to **fix power imbalances** where none ought
  to exist
- 3. Aspiring to develop

  partnerships with people and
  groups who advocate for
  others

# WHY CULTURAL HUMILITY MATTERS

- ✓ Understanding clients by recognizing the richness of their experiences and perspectives.
- ✓ Recognition of intersectionality: none of us are just one "identity."
- ✓ Acknowledgement of unspoken power dynamics (elephants in the room)
- ✓ Greater understanding of personal and institutional norms and assumptions.
- ✓ Development of more fruitful, healthy, and trusting relationships with diverse communities.



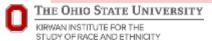
# Cultural Humility & Implicit Bias

- There are 4 theorized contributing factors to implicit association formation
  - Early Childhood experiences
  - Affective Experiences
  - Cognitive Consistency Principles
  - Cultural Biases



# CULTURAL COMPETENCE VS. CULTURAL HUMILITY

Cultural Competence	Cultural Humility	Both
Develop awareness of one's culture, values, and biases	Understand Self and Other Recognize one's biases & prejudices	Self-Awareness
Acquire knowledge of normative behaviors and beliefs of cultural groups	Engage in on going evaluation of ourselves and allow ourselves space to grow	Knowledge of self and others
Acknowledge diversity as normative and diversity as a resource	Recognize others as experts of their lives and experiences and be open to learning	Positive attitudes towards learning from others
Demonstrate ability to combine awareness and knowledge in a professional manner	Challenge power differentials to promote transformative justice	Skill attainment
Continuing education	A lifelong commitment	Acknowledges that culture is fluid and dynamic



# Practical Cultural Humility

# Practicing Cultural Humility

Ask questions in a humble, safe manner

∫eek Self-Awareness

<u>∫uspend</u> Judgment

Express kindness and compassion

∫upport a safe and welcoming environment

 $\int$  tart where the patient is at

- Lisa Boesen





# Discussion

What does humility mean to you?

How have you practiced cultural humility?

How has your culture influenced your approach to work?



# SIT DOWN. BE HUMBLE.

- Honest self-awareness
- Acceptance that we are imperfect beings and able to make mistakes
- Openness to new ideas, contradictory information, and advice
- Centering of others
- Appreciation for the value of all things including diversity
  - Asset based approach
- Sense of self within the context of the world
  - This is bigger than me







# Active Bystander

**Challenging Bias** 



FACTORS THAT CAUSE

# $BYSTANDER \\ EFFECT$

THE KIRWAN INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF RACE AND ETHNICITY



## DIFFUSION OF RESPONSIBILITY

WHEN
RESPONSIBILITY IS
SHARE SOCIAL
PRESURE TO REACT
DECREASES

## DEPENDENT ON PEERS SOCIAL CUES

IF NO ONE IS TAKING ACTION OTHERS WONT EITHER

#### THE ASSUMPTION

ASSUMING THAT
SOMEONE ELSE WILL
HELP OR CALL FOR
HELP

## AMBIGUITY OF A SITUATION

BEING UNCERTAIN OF HOW MUCH RISK IS INVOLVED IN HELPING

## FEELING SOCIALLY AWKWARD

DISCOMFORT FROM HELPING WHILE OTHERS JUST LOOK ON

## THE TENDENCY TO MISINTERPRET

MISINTERPRETING
THE SERIOUSNESS
OF A SITUATION
WHEN THERE'S NO
ACTIVE BYSTANDER

#### THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

# Being an Active Bystander

#### Steps to Being an Active Bystander:

- Identify the emergence of bias
- Decide to address the situation
- Take Action
- Continue the conversation



Resource: Being an Active Bystander Handout

# ADDRESSING BIAS

- Nature of the bias
  - Is the person perpetuating bias? Or are they asking for help in challenging/working through their biases?
- Goal
  - What is the reason(s) for speaking up?
- Audience
  - Who are you speaking with? What are their intentions? How will they best receive the message?



# Addressing Bias

- Use humor
- Be literal/refuse to rely upon the assumption being made
- Ask questions that invite discussion
- State that you are uncomfortable
- Use direct communication
- Remind people of personal and/or institutional values





# Discussion

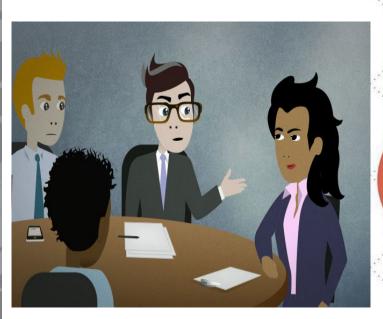
What strategies have you used to be an active bystander?

When have you witnessed bystander effect taking place?

What fears do you have pertaining to being an active bystander?



# BEING CALLED OUT / IN







#### CENTRE YOURSELF

You're not being attacked. You're a good person. This is about your behavior and stopping harm to others.



#### LISTEN

Don't interrupt or think of ways to defend yourself. Focus on learning what was harmful and being empathetic/compassionate.



#### ACKNOWLEDGE/APOLOGIZE

Instead of explaining why you did it, acknowledge what happened and apologize, if needed or requested, for the harm you caused.



#### (INQUIRE)

(If they consent and have the time and resources, ask what you could have done instead and how to make amends for what happened.)



#### MOVING FORWARD

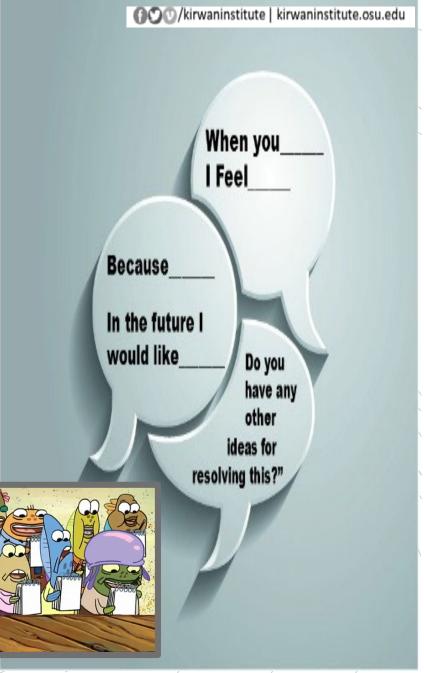
"The best apology is changed behavior." If they gave you reasonable recommendations and amends, do them. Don't do the harm again. Use this experience to help others learn too.

# Continuing the Conversation

-Offer support to people who may have been directly affected by the biased comment

-Consider what could be done in order to prevent the situation next time

-Be a consistent champion of challenging bias



## Learning from Encounters with Diversity

- ✓ Become curious about differences; approach diversity as a learning experience
- ✓ Frame questions as a desire to learn more, rather than a request/demand for information
- ✓ Reflect on biases, motivations, and assumptions before and
  after encounters with diversity
- ✓ Notice your reactions to difference, when you're 'closed off' to something new or different
- THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

  KIRWAN INSTITUTE FOR THE
  STUDY OF RACE AND ETHNICITY

# Safe Spaces

Relationship Building & Self Care



# **Critical Conversations**

- 1. Why do you believe people are afraid to discuss race?
  - 2. When did you begin having ciritixal conversations pertaining to race?
  - 3. What is race? How does it affect us?
    - 4. How do you engage in critical conversations?



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Sy nR1NYcpo



- Effectively engaging and sustaining interracial dialogue is the first step to addressing racial disparity
- Be intentional about setting aside space and time dedicated to courageous and critical conversations pertaining to identity and live experiences
- Create guidelines for dialogue that encourage equity, justice, and self transformation





Resource: The Four Agreements of Courageous Conversations Handout

# THE IMPORTANCE OF QUESTIONS

- What was it like to grow up in your family and how has this affected your viewpoint?
- Can you tell me about some traditions, celebrations or rituals your family participates in?
- What are some incorrect assumptions that people have made about you that have caused problems?
- Can you share about the kind of beliefs are important to you?
- Can you share some ways that you and your family/friends/support network deal with challenges?

"It is the questions that change our life. We all look for answers and all we get in response is more questions. This is why questions confront in ways that statements and answers don't."- Peter Block, Civic Engagement and the Restoration of Community

# Questions change our behavior and expectations



# NORMS OF COURAGEOUS CONVERSATIONS

#### Stay Engaged

- Remain present
- Stay on topic
- Expect discomfort and anxiety
- Remember checking our when you are uncomfortable is a form of privilege protection

#### Speak your truth

- We must create an honest environment
- Everyone should be able to share their thoughts
- Use "I" statements instead of "You" statements
- Expect discomfort and emotions

#### No Fixing!

- Let people experience their own discomfort rather than attempting to fix it.
- If you catch yourself wanting to fix a situation, use introspection to ask "why?".
- If you want to fix a situation explore how your own identity influences those feelings

#### Listen for understanding

- Try to understand a person as best as you can
- Use active listening
- Stay present
- Focus on outcomes not intentions when called out
- Be intentional with your words

#### **Expect & Accept Non-closure**

- You may not get all your answers at once, so continue the conversation later
- Focus on conversation process not product

#### **Experience Discomfort**

- Learn to become comfortable with discomfort
- If experiencing discomfort ask yourself if you are fully engage.
- Decouple safety and comfort
- Avoiding convos for the sake of comfort reinforces white privilege

#### Take Risks!

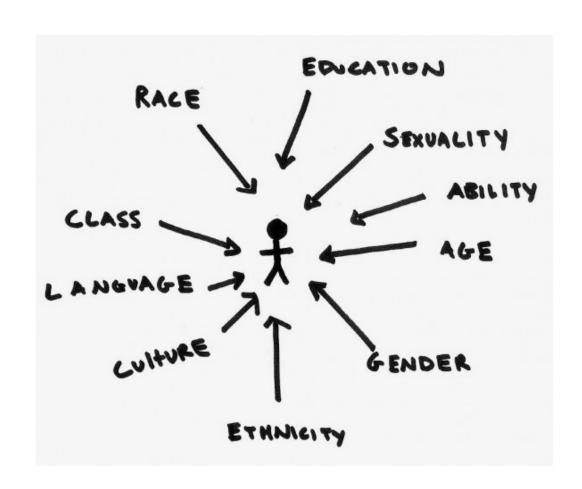
- The more willing you are to take risk, the more potential you have to learn.
- By staying
  silent out of
  fear you miss
  the
  opportunity to
  grow in your
  understanding



# Safe Spaces Acknowledge Power Dynamics

### IDENTITY AND POWER

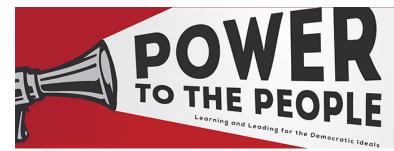
Positionality, Privilege, and Experience



# MITIGATING POWER IMBALANCES

- ✓ Be Honest About the Elephant In the Room
- ✓ Use Everyday Language and Explain 'Wonky' Terms
- ✓ Identify By Sharing Experience of Power Imbalances
- ✓ Open to Shared Agenda Setting
- ✓ No Pressure To Share
- ✓ Start With What's Important to Them





The messages that shape our biases....
A critical conversation topic

- Capitalism: We are taught our value is in what we produce and emotions impeded production.
- Supremacy: We are taught that some are inherently better while others are second class citizens,
- False Peace: We are taught that we live in a post-racial society. We are taught that our truths are disruptive, and that disruption is a negative act.



The "welcoming environment"

- Establish group ground rules/norms
- Establish a resource area (counselors, HR, tissues, snacks/drinks)
- Use quotes and posters on the walls that invite discussion and are reflective of the experiences of people who will occupy the space.
- Seating should be arrange in ways that invite conversation
- Music is a great way to offer a passive calming experience to participants
- Meet and Greet the people in the space.
   Provide name tags and ice-breakers to set tone for convo
- Have something for participants to leave with to continue reflection





# Discussion

Do you have a safe space at work?

What barriers keep you from feeling safe enough to live in and share your true self at work?

What safe spaces have you identified in your community? What makes it safe?



# Empowerment

Transformational Leadership and Social Change



# Empowerment Theory

# SOCIAL WORK EMPOWERMENT THEORY

- Is it oriented towards the promotion of human empowerment.
- An intentional process that includes initiative and action of persons in gaining power, taking control of their lives, and gaining a greater access to social resources.
- Helps people become aware of and critically understand structural inequities and support them in the development of these skills and actions, so that they can use those skills to make a positive impact on the world.





# Benefits of Empowering Workplaces

When workplaces are structured in a way that allow employees to get their work done and meet their goals, they are more likely to have:

- higher job satisfaction
- greater meaning in their work
- greater sense of control
- Greater sense of competence
- More influence in their work setting
- Less likely to display biased behavior





# Discussion

Do you feel empowered in your workplace?

What transformational leader is your role model?

How can executives create a top down buy-in for change?

How can employees influence change in challenging workplaces?



# IMPLICIT BIAS AND SOCIAL CHANGE

- Increase knowledge of Implicit Bias
- Awareness of biases creates dissonance
- Individuals self-reflect on biases and engage in explicit behavioral changes
- Individual behavioral changes influence structural changes in the workplace through:
  - Role Modeling
    - Leadership and accountability
  - Communication
    - Speaking in our truths
  - Collaboration
    - Co-creation of knowledge



I.N.C.A.S.E. of Bias Emergence Model

**Strategy Overview** 

Increase knowledge of Implicit Bias and its effects on ourselves and others

Narrative Guidance can be used to rid us automatic stereotypes as well as help us to manifest an equitable and just society in the future

Cultural Humility is a lifelong commitment and is key to understanding our biases and our environment's influence on them

Being an Active Bystander can help us create a bias conscious culture that is committed to equity and justice

Safe spaces allow us to live in our truths, heal and foster courageous conversations that are transformative

Through empowerment we can become transformational leaders that inspires others to grow, be innovators, and change makers





Resource: INCASE Framework Handout



# Discussion

How can you implement the INCASE framework into your workplace?

How can the INCASE framework influence your lifestyle?

How can data be used to support the INCASE framework?

What is the most meaniningful thing you've





# A call to action

"In the face of daunting challenges,
we must summon the courage to
believe we are the ones we have been
waiting for, take risks, and experiment
towards solutions."

-Jodie Tanita

# Questions and Answers

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Increase Knowledge
Narrative Guidance
Cultural Humility
Active Bystander
Safe Spaces
Empowerment

"You have to act as if it were possible to radically transform the world. And you have to do it all the time." Angela Davis



# A WORKFORCE FOR THE MODERN WOMAN

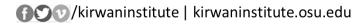
Strategic Planning for a Fair and Equitable Future



KELLY CAPATOSTO SENIOR RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

PRESHUSLEE THOMPSON TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST

CYNN BLACKWELL STUDENT, JOHN GLENN COLLEGE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS





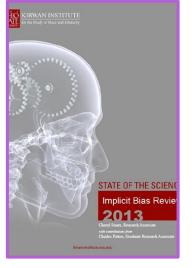
# <u>Additional Resources</u>





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# FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

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Thank You!!