

**No Educator is Neutral:
What's ABE's role in
promoting racial equity?**

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Things we believe

1. Identity is complicated, and talking about it can be both rewarding and uncomfortable.
2. Considering how power and privilege related to race affect teaching and learning in ABE is essential for programs to be both effective and equitable.
3. We won't solve the country's racial tensions today.

Our Assumptions

But we can start an important conversation, one that has not been prevalent in adult education yet.

Session Objectives

1. Articulate the differences in purpose among diversity work, cultural competency work, and racial justice work.
2. Consider ways that we as educators can use our privilege and access to create more racially equitable climate in ABE.
3. Create a network of adult basic educators interested in equity work.
4. Identify ways we can continue this conversation and move forward.

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What drew you here?

Talk with a partner for 1 minute.

A little about us...

Gayle



Patsy




Book group this year



Abby Roza
Kristin Knudson
Gayle & Patsy

*The New Jim
Crow,*
by Michelle
Alexander



How is racial justice work different from diversity work and cultural competency work?

Why is that distinction important?

Diversity?

Cultural Competency?

Racial Justice?

How do these approaches to building a more equitable society differ?

Diversity Work

- goal is awareness of and appreciation of difference



How do these approaches to building a more equitable society differ?

Cultural Competency

- goal is to learn skills to work well with people from people from a variety of cultures



How do these approaches to building a more equitable society differ?

Racial Justice Work

- always about race, racism, whiteness
- varied access to power
- privilege & resources



Who are our students in MN ABE?

African American	34.3%
Hispanic	24.5%
Asian	15.6%
Native American	3.3%
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0.2%
White	20.7%
Mixed Race	1.3%

NOTE: Data from MDE report for 2014, courtesy of Todd Wagner, State Director

Who are our teachers in MN ABE?

NOTE: NO data on the racial identities of MN ABE teachers is available from the state ABE office. Such data is not collected.



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Discussion in small groups--12 mins

1. PINK- What is our role as adult educators in creating a more equitable society?
2. PURPLE - What questions related to race and racial justice do you want to dig into more deeply and learn more about?

Resources

Link to the google doc for more!

For Teachers: <http://bit.ly/1OQwW6e>

For Use with Students: <http://bit.ly/1INq2Q6>

Moving this work forward

Wiggio?

Private Facebook group?

Book studies?

Workshops?

Other?

What are you interested in?