

Thoughts on Why Inclusivity Is Imperative

Black people and their lives matter. They matter to all of us.

Everyone, no matter their race, gender, ethnicity or background matters and they are important. We must stop defining people with divisive and thoughtless definitions.

Each of us is incapable of existing alone. We are dependent on one another. We cannot select whom we rely on to be sustained and to live, from those who provide us our food, who help maintain our infrastructure, our safety or our health. We are all part of the fabric of life regardless of our backgrounds, our experiences and the ways we think and believe.

We must learn to hear to each other, to listen to what we have to say, to take the time to understand the background from which our opinions are formed. It will only be then that we can begin to communicate and come to resolution, to begin to understand what we are explaining to each other. And then to begin to come to appreciate what is unique about each one of us so that we can begin to live in peace with each other. Live not only in peace but to enjoy our differences and to benefit from those differences, to enrich each other with them. Enrich each other whether or not we agree with everything we say to each other.

Violence is not the way to make change. Although it can be understandable when it is motivated from a point of longstanding frustration and disempowerment and rage. It will only likely engender further violent retaliation and more violence. Self defense can be justified at times when one is attacked, but violence for violence's sake cannot. We must find ways to listen and communicate with those who have been forgotten and over looked for generations. Violence or force to control or attempt to control those who are different or have different beliefs from us is wrong.

Those of us born into privilege and ease must look into our hearts and find ways to help make changes, to make a difference. Then we must act and reach out to make that difference.