

RAW FILE

MAKING-VISIBLE

DAVID WOO  
JUNE 23, 2021  
7:00 P.M.

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>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: HELLO, WELCOME, EVERYONE. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR BEING HERE TONIGHT WITH US.

>> ANNIE MAHON: SO GOOD TO SEE YOU ALL.

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: IF YOU WANT TO WRITE YOUR NAME AND WHERE YOU ARE CALLING FROM, WE ARE REALLY HAPPY TO HAVE YOU HERE IN MAKING-VISIBLE, SHARING THIS SPACE WITH US.  
  
THANK YOU.

>> WHAT DID WE SAY, NAME, WHERE YOU ARE CALLING FROM IN THE CHAT. YES, WE HAVE, DON IS HERE, OUR CAPTIONER, IF YOU WANT LIVE CAPTIONS YOU CAN CLICK ON LIVE TRANSCRIPT, AND, AND -- SHOW SUBTITLES.

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: THANK YOU, EVERYONE FOR BEING HERE. WE HAVE A GREAT SPEAKER TONIGHT. SO, WE ARE DELIGHTED TO HAVE YOU ALL HERE AND, ALSO, TO, TO BE HERE TO LEARN TOGETHER. WE WILL, LOVE TO -- THIS IS A SPACE WHERE WE LEARN TOGETHER. SO, THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE. AND, BE PART OF THIS ADVENTURE OF LEARNING TOGETHER. THANK YOU SO MUCH.

>> ANNIE MAHON: YES, WELCOME, ANNE, CLAIRE, JILL, AND SARAH. AND SUSAN. AND, ALTHEA, WELCOME. WELCOME. AND WE WILL START, A COUPLE MINUTES, WE WILL BE STARTING.

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: IF YOU WANT TO HAVE CLOSED-CAPTIONING, YOU NEED TO GO BELOW IN YOUR SCREEN. AND GO TO SHOW SUBTITLES, AND YOU WILL BE ABLE TO HAVE CLOSED-CAPTIONING, LIVE. THANK YOU SO MUCH.

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: ALTHEA IS BEING ABLE TO SHARE HER SCREEN? I DON'T KNOW WHY --

>> ANNIE MAHON: SORRY, WHAT?

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: ALTHEA IS SHARING HER SCREEN.

>> ANNIE MAHON: NO, I DON'T SEE THAT.

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: I DON'T KNOW WHY I AM SEEING --

>> ANNIE MAHON: IS ANYBODY ELSE SEEING ALTHEA'S SCREEN.

>> NO.

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: I DON'T KNOW --

>> ANNIE MAHON: ARE YOU ON SPEAKER VIEW OR GALLERY VIEW.

>> ANNIE MAHON: ALTHEA WAS UNMUTED. THAT MAY BE WHY.

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: PERFECT. OKAY. THANK YOU,  
EVERYBODY FOR BEING HERE TONIGHT. WE ARE ASKING PEOPLE WHO  
IS JOINING US IF YOU WANT YOU CAN WRITE YOUR NAME IN THE  
CHAT AND, LET US KNOW WHERE YOU ARE CALLING FROM. THANK YOU  
SO MUCH.

>> ANNIE MAHON: IT IS GOOD TO SEE EVERYONE, SO NICE. SO WE  
PROBABLY ARE GOING TO GET STARTED. AND, OUR EVENING TONIGHT  
WE ARE GOING TO HAVE A BELL, WE ARE GOING TO HAVE A  
MINDFULNESS BELL AND HAVE A CHANCE TO SETTLE. AND, THEN I  
WILL READ A LITTLE QUOTE FROM THICH NHAT HANH AND INTRODUCE  
OUR MAIN SPEAKER FOR THE EVENING AND THEN WE WILL HAVE  
CHENXING IS WITH US TONIGHT, SPEAKER FROM LAST MONTH AUTHOR  
OF THE BOOK, "BE THE REFUGE:RAISING THE VOICES OF  
ASIAN-AMERICAN BUDDHISTS" AN AWESOME BOOK, HAVEN'T READ IT  
YET? I HIGHLY RECOMMEND IT. I WILL PUT IT IN THE CHAT IN A

SECOND. SHE WILL THEN SHARE A LITTLE BIT, CHENXING CURATED THIS TALK AND NEXT MONTH'S TALK AND MAY SHARE A LITTLE CONTEXT OF THAT FOR TONIGHT'S SPEAKER AS WELL AFTER WE INTRODUCE HIM. SO, WITH THAT, I WILL SAY HELLO TO THE OTHER PEOPLE WHO ARE WRITING IN. PHIL, RHONDA. AND, LET'S SEE, -- AND, BARBARA. WELCOME. AND I WILL BEGIN WITH THE SOUND OF A BELL THEN. UNLESS, ADRIANNA, ANYTHING ELSE YOU WANT TO SAY BEFORE WE DO THAT?

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE. FOR THOSE WHO JUST ARRIVED. WE HAVE CLOSED-CAPTIONING YOU NEED TO --

TO HAVE -- SHOW SUBTITLES IN YOUR SCREEN.

>> ANNIE MAHON: I WILL ADD THAT WE ARE GOING TO BE RECORDING TONIGHT AS WE ALWAYS DO. AND WE WILL DO OUR VERY BEST TO SPOTLIGHT THE SPEAKER SO THAT YOU ARE NOT SHOWN ON THE SCREEN. BUT IF YOU REALLY DON'T WANT TO BE ON THE RECORDING, THAT WILL BE SHARED ON OUR WEBSITE, YOU CAN ALWAYS TURN OFF YOUR VIDEO. BUT -- WE WILL DO OUR UTMOST BEST TO BE SPOT LIGHTING THE SPEAKER AS WE RECORD.

>> RECORDING IN PROGRESS.

>> ANNIE MAHON: OKAY. I NEED TO TURN ON MY SOUND, I AM SORRY. SO AS WE LISTEN TO THE SOUND OF THE BELL, WE CAN --

WE CAN SETTLE INTO OUR SEATS. ARRIVING HERE TOGETHER. THIS PRACTICE OF INVITING THE BELL COMES FROM OUR -- VIETNAMESE TEACHER, THICH NHAT HANH, THIS COMMUNITY WAS CREATED OUT OF THIS PRACTICE OF MINDFULNESS THAT, WE HAVE BEEN PART OF THIS, MINDFULNESS COMMUNITY AND THE TRADITION OF THICH NHAT HANH FOR YEARS. AND THIS COMMUNITY AROSE OUT OF THAT AS A WAY TO TRY TO BROADEN OUR UNDERSTANDING OF ALL PEOPLE, ALL BEINGS, SO THAT WE CAN BETTER TAKE CARE OF EACH OTHER. AND SOMETIMES THIS PRACTICE IS CALLED ENGAGED BUDDHISM, THIS PRACTICE OF BRINGING OUR BUDDHISM OUT INTO THE WORLD, OUR PRACTICE OUT INTO THE WORLD. I WILL JUST SHARE A VERY SHORT QUOTE FROM THICH NHAT HANH, ON ENGAGED BUDDHISM. HE SAYS, ENGAGED BUDDHISM IS JUST BUDDHISM. WHEN BOMBS BEGIN TO FALL ON PEOPLE, YOU CANNOT STAY IN THE MEDITATION HALL ALL OF THE TIME. MEDITATION IS ABOUT THE AWARENESS OF WHAT IS GOING ON NOT ONLY IN YOUR BODY AND IN YOUR FEELINGS BUT ALL AROUND YOU. AND THAT'S THICH NHAT HANH FROM LION'S ROAR. A FEW YEARS BACK. SO WITH THAT I AM GOING TO TURN IT OVER TO ADRIANNA TO INTRODUCE TONIGHT'S SPEAKER.

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: THANK YOU, THANK YOU SO MUCH, ANNIE. THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE TONIGHT. WE ARE REALLY DELIGHTED TO HAVE TONIGHT, DAVID WOO SECOND SPEAKER OF THE

THREE SPEAKER SERIES ON ASIAN-AMERICAN, ASIAN PACIFIC ISLANDER AMERICANS. THE INTENTION IS TO COUNTER, ERASURE, STEREOTYPING OF ASIAN-AMERICAN BUDDHISTS BY CELEBRATING DIVERSITY OF THE GROUP AS IN INDISPENSABLE STEWARDS AND SHAPERS OF AMERICAN BUDDHISM. DAVID WOO WORKS AS A CARE SPECIALIST AT HOMEBOY INDUSTRIES, NONPROFIT THAT SERVES HIGH RISK, RECENTLY INCARCERATED FORMERLY GANG INVOLVED YOUTH AND ADULTS. HE HAS ALSO SERVED AS COUNSELOR AND MENTOR AT NANOOM, A FAITH BASED ADDICTION TREATMENT CENTER, LOCATED IN KOREATOWN, AND, AS A MINDFULNESS MEDITATION GROUP FACILITATOR FOR YOUTH SERVICES AT JUVENILE INCARCERATION FACILITIES. DAVID IS IN HIS FINAL SEMESTER OF BUDDHIST SEMINARY, PURSUING A MASTER OF DIVINITY DEGREE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST. RECIPIENT OF THE 2020 SEMESTER OF JUSTICE SOCIAL JUSTICE GRANT, BY KALEIDOSCOPE INSTITUTE. AND, RECOGNIZED AS RISING FAITH LEADERS OF COLOR. DAVID WILL SPEAK ON THE CONDITION OF WHY SO MANY ASIAN AMERICANS HAVE BEEN MADE INVISIBLE. HE WILL ADDRESS ISSUES FACING ASIAN GANGS, MANY WHO SUFFER FROM A KIND OF VIOLENCE THAT IS ALSO INVISIBLE. THE STIGMA OF VIOLENCE MAKES IT LESS LIKELY TO BE SEEN OR RECOGNIZED. THANK YOU SO MUCH, DAVID. THANK YOU SO MUCH, CHENXING FOR BEING HERE. NOW I WILL PASS

THE SPACE TO CHENXING WHO WILL, TELL US MORE ABOUT, ABOUT DAVID, AND, INTRODUCE THE TOPIC, THANK YOU SO MUCH, CHENXING.

>> HI, EVERYONE. REALLY WONDERFUL TO SEE YOU OUT HERE.

THANK YOU TO THOSE OF YOU WHO CAME TO THE FIRST TALK IN THE SERIES LAST MONTH. AND IT IS JUST WONDERFUL TO SEE SO MANY PEOPLE HERE TODAY. AS YOU CAN TELL FROM ADRIANNA'S BIO, GIVES US A SMALL GLIMPSE INTO DAVID'S LIFE, HE IS EXTRAORDINARY BUSY AND ACCOMPLISHED AND SOMEONE THAT I REALLY -- VERY MUCH RESPECT, AND ADMIRE, AND I KNOW WHEN THEY APPROACHED ME TO CREATE A SERIES ONE OF THE FIRST PEOPLE THAT CAME TO MIND WAS DAVID. BUT I ALSO FELT QUITE SHY BECAUSE THERE IS SO MUCH GOING ON. DAVID IN HIS LIFE. AND I FIRST CAME TO KNOW DAVID ACTUALLY THROUGH THE STANFORD HEINZ FORUM LECTURE ON THE WEBSITE FOR THIS PARTICULAR EVENT IT IS ONE OF THE VIDEOS THAT DAVID PROVIDED A LINK FOR. AND I JUST THOUGHT, THAT DAVID WAS VERY, JUST EXCEPTIONALLY THOUGHTFUL AND COMPELLING IN HIS SPEAKING AND THAT PARTICULAR PANEL WAS ON -- PERSPECTIVES ON ANTI-ASIAN RACISM, FAITH AND IDENTITY. IT WAS ALSO, I REMEMBER CLEARLY IT WAS THE SAME DAY AS MY BOOK LAUNCH FOR MY BOOK BE THE REFUGE. FELT THERE WAS THIS KIND OF KARMIC

CONNECTION. I WAS FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO HEAR DAVID SPEAK AT  
BUDDHIST COMMUNITY AT STANFORD. HE PRESENTED THERE -- ON  
INTERJUSTICE PRACTICE WITH A FRIEND OF HIS. AND SO, I DON'T  
WANT TO TACK UP TOO MUCH TIME, BUT, I WILL SAY THAT -- I  
HAVE BEEN VERY HONORED TO BE ABLE TO HAVE SOME ZOOM TEA  
CONVERSATIONS WITH DAVID JUST ABOUT DIFFERENT THINGS AS IN  
THE ASIAN-AMERICAN BUDDHIST WORLD, THIS IS A TOPIC THAT  
MANY OF US HAVE BEEN THINKING ABOUT A LOT MORE,  
ASIAN-AMERICAN BUDDHISTS THINKING ABOUT THE ISSUES POSSIBLY  
FOR OUR ENTIRE LIVES. AND THOSE OF US, LIKE MYSELF AND  
DAVID WHO CAME TO BUDDHISM LATER IN OUR LIVES. THINKING  
ABOUT BUDDHISM SINCE WE HAVE ENCOUNTERED IT AND THE  
INTERSECTION OF THAT. RACIAL JUSTICE. AND CULTURAL AND  
RELIGIOUS IDENTITIES. I KNOW THE MANY PEOPLE HERE ON THIS  
CALL PROBABLY HAVE A THE LOT OF REFLECTIONS ON THIS TOO. I  
THINK I JUST WANT TO TURN IT OVER TO DAVID AND, AND I AM  
VERY EXCITED TO LEARN FROM HIM, TO LEARN TOGETHER ALL OF US  
IN COMMUNITY.

>> THANK YOU, GREETINGS TO EVERYBODY. JUST, JUST --

GLAD WE ARE, WHERE WE ARE IN THIS --

IN THIS -- HOPEFULLY, JUST, CONTINUING TO JUST BE STEPS  
FORWARD OUT OF THIS PANDEMIC. MOVING TOWARDS JUST, THIS,



WITHIN THIS RACIAL RECKONING AS WELL AND HOPEFULLY JUST GOING FORWARD AND NOT BACKWARDS. JUST VERY GRATEFUL TO BE HERE. THANK YOU FOR ALL OF THE ORGANIZERS OF THIS WONDERFUL, MAKING-VISIBLE SERIES, HAD THE PLEASURE OF SORT OF MEETING YOU VIRTUALLY BEFORE. AND, GOOD TO SEE YOUR FACES AGAIN. CHENXING, I JUST MUST HAVE KNOWN YOU IN A PREVIOUS LIFETIME BECAUSE JUST IN KOREAN, IT IS IN-YUNG, RELATIONAL KIZMUT, SO GRATEFUL FOR, MY LIFE HAS BEEN SO IMPACTED. MOST IMPORTANTLY, EVERYBODY HERE PRESENT. AND, JUST, VERY, VERY GLAD TO MEET YOU ALL. I HOPE THIS IS JUST THE SEED AND WE WILL BENEFIT, AND BE ABLE TO, TO SEE THE FRUITS OF THIS IN, FOR THE REST OF OUR LIVES. I AM A LITTLE, I AM IN BETWEEN THIS, I JUST, LITERALLY JUST LEFT WORK. SO FOR, I AM WITH HOMEBOY INDUSTRIES IN THE YOUTH, YOUTH RE-ENTRY CENTER. THAT MEANS WE WORK WITH THE AGES OF 14-21. SO STRANGE JUST LOOKING AT MYSELF. LET ME SEE IF I CAN JUST --

THERE WE GO. ALL RIGHT, SO -- YEAH, WE WORK WITH AGES FROM 14-21. AND -- ALL OF OUR YOUTH HAVE BEEN SYSTEM IMPACTED THEY'RE EITHER, DIRECTLY INVOLVED WITH, WITH GANG LIFE OR THEY'RE FORMERLY THEY HAVE GROWN UP IN SITUATIONS REGARDING GANGS, POVERTY, MANY OF THEM HAVE BEEN INCARCERATED, YEAH,

WE, WE KIND OF, WE HAVE A SUMMER PROGRAM, BUT, THEY'RE  
KICKING OFF NEXT WEEK. AND -- WE HAVE -- JUST, A CONTINUUM  
OF DIFFERENT ACTIVITIES, AND EVENTS AND WORKSHOPS. SO WE  
ARE JUST, REALLY -- WE ARE GETTING READY TO KICK THAT OFF.  
SO --

THIS IS JUST, KIND OF --

ON MY HEART, WE HAD A -- THERE WAS A YOUTH THAT WAS -- PART  
OF OUR PROGRAM. I WOULD JUST SHARING ABOUT HIM. SO --

WE, SO --

WE HAVE YOUTH THAT COME FROM ALL OVER LOS ANGELES COUNTY,  
THEY OVERCOME INCREDIBLE OBSTACLES JUST TO SHOW UP FOR ANY  
GIVEN DAY. AND, THIS PARTICULAR YOUTH --

HE DIDN'T HAVE A RELATIONSHIP WITH HIS FATHER. HIS MOTHER  
WAS WORKING, HIS WHOLE LIFE. THEY HAVE BEEN AROUND TO  
DIFFERENT COUNTRIES AS WELL. AND IT IS JUST HIM AND HIS MOM  
FOR MOST OF HIS LIFE. AND THEN --

SO, HE JUST, HE JOINED THE PROGRAM EARLY THIS YEAR. AND WE  
TOOK HIM TO GO HIKING. TO GRIFFITH PARK. THIS IS JUST A  
SPRAWLING NETWORK OF TRAILS WITH BEAUTIFUL VISTAS OF, BOTH  
SIDES OF L.A. COUNTY. AND --

AND --

SOME OF, SOME OF THE YOUTH ARE NOT IN THE BEST SHAPE. SO, I

HAVE REALLY LOVE, PART OF MY FAVORITE THING TO DO IN TERMS OF, CONTEMPLATIVE TIME IS TO GO HIKING WITH MY DOG. I JUST LOVE THE FEEL OF THE EARTH, JUST THE DIRT UNDERNEATH MY FEET. SO, I AM, I CAN, I CAN, HANDLE THE TRAILS FAIRLY WELL. SO, WE GO TAKE SOME YOUTH AND INCLUDING THIS ONE YOUNG MAN. AND I WOULD KIND OF DOUBLE BACK JUST TO CHECK UP ON HIM SEE HOW HE IS DOING. THERE WAS A TIME I WENT BACK, AND HE WAS, A BIT STRUGGLING AS WE -- AS WE GOT TOWARDS THE PEAK. HE SEEMED --

A BIT REFLECTIVE. AND ASKED HIM, WHAT WAS GOING ON. MY MOTHER USED TO TAKE ME HIKING, GO HIKING WHEN WE WERE YOUNG. WE FINISHED THE HIKE. WE TOOK HIM TO GO EAT AFTERWARDS. THEN HE SAID HE NEEDED A RIDE HOME. IT IS FRIDAY --

WE ARE APPROACHING THE EVENING. AND SO --

I SAID SURE I AM GOING TO GIVE YOU A RIDE HOME. AND MY COWORKER GAVE ME A HEADS UP. HEY, JUST GAVE ME THAT LOOK. I KNOW THAT LOOK. ARE YOU SURE, BECAUSE, HE LIVES REALLY FAR. SO I WAS, LIKE, SURE. LET'S DO IT. SO I, WE ARE IN GRIFFITH PARK AREA, WHICH IS -- JUST RIGHT OFF OF THE 101, HE LIVES OVER IN --

KONOGA PARK, THAT'S ON, A FRIDAY EVENING. IN LOS ANGELES.

THAT'S LIKE --

QUITE A JOURNEY. HE WAS LIVING AT A RANDOM APARTMENT, HE IS YOUNG, DOESN'T HAVE A DRIVER'S LICENSE, DOESN'T HAVE A CAR, BARELY HAS ENOUGH TO GET BY. ABOUT TO DROP, LITERALLY, ON THE STREET ABOUT TO TURN IN. AND HOW ABOUT, I GET YOU SOME GROCERIES WOULD THAT HELP OUT? HE SAID, YEAH, THEN, SUDDENLY JUST -- JUST KIND OF PERKED UP. HEARD THAT. AND HE KNEW EXACTLY THE GROCERY STORE HE WANTED TO GO TO. TOOK HIM THERE. AND, AND, TOOK COORDINATION, BECAUSE I HAD MY DOG WITH ME. AND COVID HAPPENING, JUST COMING OFF THE PEAK OF THE PANDEMIC IN LOS ANGELES. SO WE TRADED PLACES ONCE THE CART WAS READY. I WENT IN. SCANNING THE ITEM. AND I WAS REALLY IMPRESSED. WOW THIS YOUNG MAN, HE HIS SELECTION OF GROCERIES.

HE HAS LIKE RAW CHICKEN. HE HAS SPICES. HE HAS MUSTARD. HE HAS CHERRIES. JUST LIKE, NOT WHAT I WAS EXPECTING FOR, FOR HIM TO BUY. AND THEN -- SO, I ASKED HIM ABOUT IT. DRIVING HOME. AND HE TELLS ME WHAT HE HAS PLANNED. TO COOK. YEAH. HE SAYS, HE IS GOING TO GET THE CHECKEN. GOT THE SPICES. HE LIKES TO RUB THE MUSTARD, BECAUSE, THAT, IS LIKE, TENDERIZES IT. GIVES IT A CERTAIN FLAVOR. AND I WAS LIKE, WOW, I WAS REALLY IMPRESSED. BY WHAT HE IS SAYING. BUT

UNDERNEATH THAT, THERE IS ALSO THIS -- THE REMNANTS OF THE TRAUMA OF HAVING TO GROW UP, AND HAVING TO FEND FOR HIMSELF, YEAH. STILL THOUGH, IT WAS JUST -- I WAS GLAD TO HAVE, YOU KNOW, SEEN THIS OTHER PART OF HIM. AND EVEN WHEN HE, HE WAS EMOTING, DESCRIBING WHAT HAS BEEN EATEN, IT IS GOING TO BE DELICIOUS WITH THE MUSTARD. AND --

SO, JUST LISTENING TO HIM. ALL RIGHT, YOU KNOW WHAT. HOW ABOUT WE SET UP A, A COOKING WORKSHOP FOR YOU ALL. YEAH, THAT WOULD BE GREAT. BECAUSE, WITH THE YOUNGER YOUTH, IT WOULD BE NICE IF WE COULD ARRANGE INTO, GROUPS LIKE THIS. AND INTO SOMEKIND OF, PRACTICE, JUST OPEN UP. BUT, THAT DOESN'T TEND TO WORK OUT THE BEST, WITH, WITH THE YOUNGER POPULATION. SO, YEAH, TRY THIS COOKING WORKSHOP. IT TOOK THEM MONTHS TO GET IT GOING. I ACTUALLY RAN INTO A FRIEND WHO, IN LITTLE TOKYO, SHE, SHE IS --

OWNS AND RUNS ALOHA CAFE, GREAT LITTLE BRUNCH -- HAWAIIAN, RESTAURANT. IN THE MIDDLE OF DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES. AND, SHE IS LIKE, THRILLED WITH THE IDEA -- WHICH, LET'S DEFINITELY DO IT. SO WE SET IT UP. OUR TEAM SET IT UP. YOUTH TEAM. WE ARE GOING TO DO THIS COOKING WORKSHOP. WE LITERALLY LIVE A MILE FROM THE NEIGHBORHOOD. NEVER CROSSED THE BRIDGE. MANY HAVE NOT. WE SET UP THE WORKSHOP.

UNFORTUNATELY, THE YOUNG MAN WAS --

DID NOT --

DID NOT CONTINUE WITH OUR PROGRAM. A MONTH AGO HE OVERDOSED  
AND HE DIED. BUT, WE STILL, WE STILL DID THE WORKSHOP. AND,  
AND --

THE WORKSHOP WAS TOUCHING. THEY ARE RUNNING THE CAFE.

PRIVATE SPACE FOR US. THERE WAS YOUTH THERE. THERE WAS  
ALSO, WE HAD OTHER, RECENT PAROLEES, ONE GUY, DID 30 YEARS  
IN PRISON. 15 YEARS, IN SOLITARY CONFINEMENT, HE IS COOKING  
UP. MAKING, AMAZING FOOD. WE HAD ONE YOUTH, TRIED THE FOOD  
AFTER HE COOKED IT. THEN HE SAID --

HE GOES -- I HAVE BEEN EATING SHIT MY WHOLE LIFE. HE WAS  
JUST SO THRILLED WITH THIS EXPERIENCE, YOU KNOW? AND I  
JUST, I STILL LIVE IN A CERTAIN REALITY WHERE THAT YOUNG  
MAN WAS THERE. YEAH. BUT ALSO, JUST, JUST --

JUST SO GRATEFUL FOR THE INSPIRATION AND I THANK HIM THAT,  
THAT WE CAN GO FORWARD AND --

STILL SHOW UP AND STILL DO THE BEST WE CAN. AND, AND DOING  
THIS, THIS WORK. AND I SAY ALL OF THIS JUST, ALSO,  
BECAUSE --

YOU KNOW, FOR ME, THE -- THE VERY FRAMEWORK. I AM, YOU  
KNOW, CHAPLAIN TRAINED AT UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST. AND

FURTHERMORE, WE ARE BUDDHIST CHAPLAIN TRAINED. AND SO --  
JUST -- HOW TO SERVE AND HOW TO --  
IT'S ONE THING TO SAY BE PRESENT. ANOTHER TO PRACTICE IT.  
AND EVEN FOR THIS, I JUST WOULD EVEN INVOKE, YOUR FAMILIAR  
WITH ZEN PEACE MAKERS. AND, YOU KNOW, IN TERMS OF, IT IS  
NOT JUST PRESENCE, BUT MINISTRY OF PRESENCE. AND THERE IS  
THREE TENETS, THREE CORE TENETS FOR, ZEN PEACEMAKER  
TRAINING. IT IS, THE FIRST IS NOT KNOWING. THE SECOND IS  
BEARING WITNESS. AND THEN THE THIRD IS, IS TAKING ACTION.  
OR AS SOME WOULD SAY, LOVING ACTION, YEAH. SO IN THIS  
CONTEXT, I, I --

WHEN I TOOK THE YOUNG MAN HOME I HAVE IDEAS ABOUT -- HOW TO  
BE A CARE PROVIDER OR HOW TO BE THERE. HOW TO DRIVE HIM,  
RIGHT? AT THE SAME TIME. THAT KIND OF GOES OUT ALL, ALL OF  
THAT GOES OUT THE WINDOW. AND IT WILL EMERGE. IT WILL BE  
JUST AS IT IS. IT'S LIKE -- FATHER GREG, THE FOUNDER --  
FATHER GREG FOR THOSE WHO DON'T KNOW, A JESUIT PRIEST.  
FOUNDER OF -- OF OUR ORGANIZATION. AND HE HAS A QUOTE, HE  
SAYS --

CLOSE BOTH EYES AND SEE WITH THE OTHER ONE. AND TO ME  
THAT'S -- WHAT IT MEANS TO -- TO NOT KNOW. THE LIFE WILL  
EMERGE ON ITS OWN. THE RELATIONSHIP, THE CONNECTION THAT WE

HOPE FOR. AND THEN, YOU KNOW, THAT'S --

THAT'S BEARING WITNESS TO IT ALL. NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS,  
NO MATTER WHAT COMES. I WOULD LOVE TO SAY, THAT ALL, ONCE,  
ONCE ANY ONE COMES TO OUR PROGRAM. THERE ARE GREAT FORCES  
AT WORK. AND JUST KIND OF --

WORKING WITH --

PROVIDING THE, THE CHANGE IN CAUSES AND CONDITIONS, SO THAT  
THE CHANGE THAT WE HOPE FOR, THE LIFE THAT WE SEEK OR THE  
NEW LIFE THAT WE SEEK, MAY COME TO LIGHT. AND THEN OF  
COURSE, THE, THE LOVING ACTION OR THE TAKING ACTION. TO ME  
IT'S LIKE --

WHEN WE ARE IN A -- A SORT OF --

CAUGHT IN THIS KIND OF STORM OF CONCERN AND WORRY AND, AND,  
BEING AWARE OF WHAT -- WHAT MAY HAPPEN --

THERE CAN BE THIS SORT OF -- SELF-WILL URGENCY THAT TAKES,  
NO, NO, YOU MUST DO THIS. THIS MAY HAPPEN. BUT IT'S,  
IT'S -- THERE IS MORE TO IT THAN JUST THAT. IT IS NOT SO  
MUCH THE RESULT -- BUT JUST BEING THERE FOR, FOR --

I JUST WANTED TO SHARE THAT. JUST TO SHARE THIS, THE -- YOU  
KNOW THIS IS SORT OF WHAT THE WORK LOOKS LIKE. FOR US OVER  
HERE. THANK YOU, THANK YOU FOR THAT. I WATCHED THAT ONE. IN  
THE YOUTUBE THERE IS A CLIP FROM A HOMEY. HOMEBOYS IS NOT A



PLACE FOR SECOND CHANCES. HOMEBOYS IS A PLACE FOR FIRST CHANCES. THAT'S WHAT I LOOK TO SEE. YOU KNOW, LIKE WE ALSO WORK WITH PROBATION, WE ALSO WORK WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT AND -- AND I WAS JUST I WOULD LIKE TO SAY THAT WE -- WE ARE DOING IT RIGHT. I WOULD LOOK TO SAY THAT WE ARE SEEING IT MORE CLEARLY. YEAH? IN THE RIGHTFUL PATH IT SHOULD BE RIGHT VIEW. WE ARE AT THIS POINT IN THE RACIAL RECKONING, I SAW THIS MEME SORT OF KIND OF CAPTURED THE, MAYBE -- THE CONCERNS OF WHERE SOME OF US ARE AT. WITH, IT IS GREAT THAT JUNETEENTH WHICH JUST PASSED, IT'S GREAT THAT JUNETEENTH WILL BECOME A FEDERAL HOLIDAY, BUT LET'S NOT SKIP OVER ALL OF THE WORK THAT STILL NEEDS TO BE DONE, YEAH? SO, JUST, WANTED TO SHARE, SOMETHING ABOUT MYSELF. SO, I AM KOREAN-AMERICAN, I GREW UP IN THE LOS ANGELES AREA. MY, MY FATHER AND MOTHER, MY DAD AND MOM ARE, FROM KOREA, THEY WERE BORN AND RAISED THERE. AND MY DAD WHEN -- WHEN MY GRANDFATHER, HIS DAD, WAS ABDUCTED BY NORTH KOREAN TROOPS DURING THE KOREAN WAR. AND MY DAD WAS 11 AND, HE WITNESSED -- MY GRANDFATHER BEING TAKEN AWAY BY NORTH KOREAN TROOPS. THEY WERE TAKEN, HE WAS TAKEN TO A LOCAL JAIL. AND, THE LAST INSTRUCTIONS THAT MY GRAND MOTHER AND MY DAD WERE

GIVEN, WERE, BRING WINTER CLOTHING. BECAUSE THEY WERE GOING TO TACK THEM SOME WHERE ELSE.

SO THEY DID THAT. AND --

THERE WAS, NEVER -- A TRACE AFTERWARDS. LIKE, NEVER HEARD FROM AGAIN. AND --

MY FATHER SORT OF KIND OF --

TOOK THE HOLE OF -- NOT QUITE PROVIDER BUT WORKED TOWARDS THAT. AND, AT THE --

THEY WERE VERY POOR IN THAT AREA THE ONLY --

SERVICES THAT WERE AVAILABLE WERE PROVIDED BY MISSIONARIES, CHRISTIAN MISSIONARIES. SO, HE, HE WENT THERE, AND, HE LEARNED --

SOME ENGLISH AND WAS FED THERE. AND IN THAT PROCESS, HE, HE --

HE BECAME CHRISTIAN. HE WAS THE FIRST IN OUR FAMILY TO CONVERT. PRIOR TO THAT, WE WERE BUDDHISTS, MY FATHER WAS ABLE TO SCHOLARSHIP AND COME TO THE UNITED STATES. AND STUDY AT UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA. BUT DROPPED OUT, BECAUSE HE COULD NOT AFFORD TUITION. AND BECAME -- BECAME A DRY CLEANER, OPENED A DRY CLEANING SHOP. PARTNERED WITH SOMEBODY. IF YOU ALL AREN'T AWARE, THAT'S SORT OF THE KOREAN-AMERICAN GET DOWN, THEY BECOME DRY CLEANERS, THAT

BECOMES LIKE THE PRIMARY BUSINESS, YEAH, SO THEN WE WERE  
RAISED, WE WERE RAISED CHRISTIAN. BUT, FOR ME --  
SO, JUST, I SHOULD SAY, JUST --  
CHENXING'S BOOK, BE THE REFUGE IN THE TIMING AND ALL OF IT  
JUST KIND OF KIZMUT OF ITS EMERGENCE HAS BEEN THIS GODSEND.  
IT IS LIKE, THIS, VALIDATES THIS WHOLE LIFE EXPERIENCE FOR  
SO MANY OF US. AND SO IN THAT REGARD I WOULDN'T SAY THAT  
I'M A CONVERT TO BUDDHISM. I WOULD, MAYBE MORE ACCURATELY,  
SURE, CONVENTIONAL USAGE OF THAT WORD, SOMETHING MORE ABOUT  
A REVERT. YEAH. SO GROWING UP CHRISTIAN, IT WAS -- FOR  
BEING -- IMMIGRANT IN THE U.S., IT PROVIDED A CRITICAL  
SOCIAL NETWORK AND THAT'S WHERE MANY OF THE KOREAN  
FAMILIES, WENT TO THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH. YEAH. IT TAUGHT ME  
ABOUT HOW TO BE A -- KOREAN-AMERICAN, BUT -- IT DIDN'T  
TEACH ME ANYTHING ABOUT KOREA. SO THERE WAS -- THERE WAS --  
I HAD A TROUBLED YOUTH. AND I WAS -- I JOINED A GANG WHEN I  
WAS 13. AND I WAS ABLE TO I WAS ABLE TO ACCESS A CERTAIN  
POWER THAT I HAVE BEEN THIRSTY FOR MY WHOLE LIFE. AND --  
UNFORTUNATELY THE FIRST PERSON I EVER, I EVER, IN A FIT OF  
VIOLENCE, REALLY HURT WAS MY OWN FATHER. AND I, I HIT HIM  
PAST THE POINT OF CONSCIOUSNESS. AND I WAS VERY YOUNG. I  
WAS 13. AND THIS RESULTED IN ME BEING IN THE STREET. FOR,

FOR AN EXTENED PERIOD OF TIME. SO, MY HIGH SCHOOL YEARS,  
IT'S FOGGY. BUT IT WAS REALLY JUST GETTING CAUGHT UP AND,  
FOR ME, IT'S -- IT --

WITH THE GANG, WHAT GANGS PROVIDED FOR ME WAS, WAS A SENSE  
OF POWER THAT I FEEL I HAD BEEN TAKEN FROM ME. OF COURSE, I  
WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO ARTICULATE THIS PRIOR. BUT IT  
OFFERED -- A CERTAIN -- COMMUNITY THAT I NEEDED MY WHOLE  
LIFE. YEAH. I COULD BE WITH OTHER PEOPLE LIKE ME. I  
WOULDN'T HAVE TO HEAR RACIAL SLURS, I WOULDN'T HAVE TO  
WORRY ABOUT THAT. I WAS UNDERSTOOD. I IMMEDIATELY DEFACTO  
FIT IN. YEAH. AND, YOU KNOW, LOS ANGELES AT THE TIME, THE  
AREA WAS, THE GANG CAPITAL OF THE ENTIRE WORLD, YEAH. EVEN  
WHEN THE KOREAN RIOTS HAPPENED IN 1982, EVEN THOUGH I  
COULDN'T UNDERSTAND IT -- STILL I, I FELT IT. THERE WAS  
THIS PROFOUND FELT SENSE ABOUT THE RACIAL STRIFE THAT I WAS  
SURROUNDED BY, YEAH. IT WAS LIKE -- IT FELT LIKE, EVERYBODY  
WAS AGAINST KOREANS. DURING THE RIOTS OF 1982, YEAH. IT  
WASN'T LOOK, WASN'T JUST THE STAB LOGEMENT, ALSO BLACKS,  
LATINOS, THAT WAS THE EXPERIENCE FOR ME. (ESTABLISHMENT) I  
SAW THAT THE ONES THAT WERE GOING TO DEFEND KOREANTOWN WERE  
THE GANG MEMBERS, YOU KNOW, AND THAT'S THE OTHERS LIKE  
THAT'S -- THE PERCEPTION THAT I FELT. THAT I SAW. YEAH. SO

I WOULD SAY THAT, THAT, THAT'S WHEN, DURING THE TEENS AND 20s, NO, EVEN JUST THE TEENS IT WAS ABOUT -- KIND OF -- BEING IMMersed IN THIS GANG CULTURE. IN THE 20s IT WAS JUST A. BUT BEING CRIMINAL. LIKE THE SHIFT OF, KIND OF, WHY WE ARE PARTICIPATING AND WHAT WE ARE PARTICIPATING IN. I GREW UP WITH THIS -- SENSE OF -- NEVER GOOD ENOUGH. I AM ALWAYS GOING TO BE A SECOND CLASS CITIZEN. I DON'T BELONG ANYWHERE ELSE. I SHOULD JUST STAY IN THE ETHNIC ENCLAVES, ASIAN NEIGHBORHOODS. MY SENSE OF WANTING TO TAKE POWER BACK WAS -- TAKE POWER BACK WAS DEFINED BY A DESIRE FOR REVENGE. YEAH. AND, THIS DROVE ME INTO DEEPER AND DEEPER LEVELS OF SUBSTANCE ADDICTION. I BECAME, JUST BECAME ONE DRUG AFTER THE OTHER. AND EVENTUALLY, THE -- THE COMMUNITY THAT GANGS PROVIDED ALL OF THAT IT JUST -- IT WAS, FAR OVERPOWERED BY THE DESIRES FOR EUPHORIA, NUMB MYSELF, JUST TO BE ABLE TO FORGET EVERYTHING, YEAH. AND OVER THE YEARS, YOU KNOW, BEING, ALSO ASIAN-AMERICAN, IT IS JUST THIS AMAZING THING THAT I OHM SEE OCCUR IN, AMONGST, AMONGST THE -- AMONGST ASIAN GANG MEMBERS, IT IS LIKE, THEY CAN PARTICIPATE IN THE CERTAIN LIFESTYLE, BUT STILL GET STRAIGHT As. I DON'T SEE THAT IN ANY OTHER, I DON'T KNOW WHY THAT IS, BUT IT JUST IS, YEAH.

WE ARE JUST SO HARD WIRED TO JUST, HAVE SCHOOL. SO IN MY SENSE, MINE BELIEF, ALSO, AS A RESULT OF GROWING UP IN THE FAMILY THAT I DID, IT WAS --

JUST DO WELL IN SCHOOL. AND ALL WILL BE FORGIVEN. LIKE THAT WAS THE MESSAGE THAT I GOT. RIGHT, JUST, FIGURE OUT SCHOOL. AND I WAS -- LIKE MY, LIKE MANY OTHERS -- THE FIRST BOOK I ACTUALLY READ, READ, THAT, THAT REALLY PLANTED A SEED IN ME WAS, THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF MALCOLM X, THAT I WASSEN A REMEDIAL ENGLISH CLASS -- WAS IN A REMEDIAL ENGLISH CLASS IN COLLEGE. AND JUST SEVERELY, GREATLY IMPACTED MY LIFE. AND I STILL, I STILL -- I HAD ONE FOOT IN, ONE FOOT OUT. SCHOOL WAS IN FITS AND STARTS. BUT I ALSO APPRECIATED, IT JUST CREATED SOMETHING, IT KIND OF SPARKED SOMETHING IN ME. YEAH. AND --

ALSO, THAT KIND OF --

WAS THE START OF INTERESTING SOCIAL JUSTICE. BUT AT THE TIME, TOO, THOUGH -- THE ENTIRETY OF THESE, OF SOCIAL, THE ANTHOLOGY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE WAS FROM, WAS FROM, WAS FROM BLACK AUTHORS FROM BLACK LEADERS. AND IT SPOKE TO ME IN A -- TOUCHED ME IN A CERTAIN WAY. BUT I ALSO WAS THIRSTY FOR THOSE THAT LOOKED LIKE ME THAT CAME FROM THE SAME CULTURE, YEAH. SO, I WAS ABLE TO KIND OF STAY ABSTINENT FOR

CERTAIN PERIODS OF TIME AND, I EVENTUALLY, I GOT INTO FILMMAKING. AND, WENT TO USC FOR FILM. AND IT IS A PRESTIGIOUS UNIVERSITY. AND I REMEMBER, THE FIRST LIKE ORIENTATION THERE WERE STUDENTS FROM, FROM, MIT, FROM THE EAST COAST, FROM IVY LEAGUE FROM JUNIOR IVY, ETC, I JUST FELT SO OUT OF PLACE. I REMEMBER JUST, PROFOUND SENSE OF INADEQUACY. BUT LO AND BEHOLD, I HAD A CERTAIN TALENT FOR MAKING FILMS. AND LIKE KIND OF CREATING NARRATIVES BECAME THIS OUTLET FOR ME THAT WAS REALLY IMPORTANT. YEAH. AND I -- I GOT -- I STILL, LED THIS RECKLESS OTHER LIFE AND WAS, ENDED UP IN THIS, MOTORCYCLE ACCIDENT. AND AS A RECALL OF THE ACCIDENT, I -- I HAD MULTIPLE SURGERIES. THEN I GOT MRSA, THEN I GOT A PICK LINE PUT IN ME. AND THEN, AT THAT POINT I JUST, FULLY DESCENDED INTO A ROCK BOTTOM. AND THIS WAS ALSO DURING THIS PERIOD WHERE PAIN MANAGEMENT WAS HIGHLY EMPHASIZED AND IN MEDICINE. SO IT WAS, ALARMING TO ME HOW EASY IT WAS TO HAVE OXYCONTIN AND PRONG OPIATES PRESCRIBED NO PROBLEM. AND I QUIT AWFUL THE OTHER DRUGS. I WAS GETTING THIS HIGH DOSE -- HIGH DOSE OPIATES. BUT AFTER I FINISHED SCHOOL, SUDDENLY MY SENSE OF STRUCTURE AND EVERYTHING JUST COLLAPSED. AND IT WAS TOO EXPENSIVE TO BUY, I WAS HOOKED ON IN THE STREET, SO IT BECAME HEROIN. AND AT

THAT POINT, IT, I JUST, IT TOOK ME DOWN VERY, VERY FAST. I  
HIT AN ABSOLUTE BOTTOM. AND --

I JUST, I WAS, I WAS BARELY A RECOGNIZABLE PERSON. AT THAT  
POINT. SO FOR MYSELF I -- I TRIED TO GO TO 12 STEP  
FELLOWSHIPS. BUT --

THERE WAS A CERTAIN RACISM THAT WAS PRESENT. AND IT WASN'T  
NECESSARILY AN INTENTIONAL RACISM. IT WAS, I WOULDN'T EVEN  
REALLY CALL THEM MICROAGGRESSIONS. IT FEELS TOO, BENIGN OF  
A TERM. YEAH. IT WAS JUST THIS CONSTANT THEME OF LIKE,  
OTHERRIZING THAT I EXPERIENCED. I WAS USUALLY THE ONLY  
ASIAN PERSON PRESENT. AND, IT WAS VERY HARD TO -- TO, TO --  
FEEL PART OF. I FELT CONSTANTLY APART. AND THERE IS A  
SAYING. WE SAY --

SEE THE SIMILARITIES, NOT THE DIFFERENCES. BUT, THAT  
EXPERIENCE IS NOT QUITE THE SAME FOR THOSE -- FOR BIPOC,  
BECAUSE THE MESSAGE THAT I GOT WAS -- HOW COULD I FEEL  
SIMILAR WHEN I AM CONSTANTLY BEING TOLD THAT I AM  
DIFFERENT. AND THAT BEING CALLED DIFFERENT CAN BE AS SIMPLE  
AS SOMEBODY ASKING, WHAT IS MY NATIONALITY? IT BE AS SIMPLE  
AS THAT. OR GREATER. IT CAN BE A RACIAL SLUR. AND IN ANY  
CASE IT DIDN'T STICK FOR ME. I DECIDED. I DECIDED THAT --  
THAT THE BEST, SOLUTION --



FOR ME, NOW IN MY LIFE. IS TO KILL MYSELF. I'M DONE WITH THIS. I CAN'T DO THIS ANYMORE. IT IS JUST, IT HAS BEEN, I CAN DO WELL FOR A LITTLE BIT. THEN A BOTTOM COMES. JUST RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER. SO I DECIDED --

ALL I HAD LEFT AT THAT POINT WAS MY DOG. AND I HAD A VERY CLOSE FRIEND WHO WAS LIVING IN CHICAGO. I CONSTRUCTED THIS WHOLE, LIKE SCHEME, LIKE, IF YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT ADDICTS, WE CAN -- WE CAN GO ON THESE REALLY ELABORATE AND AMAZING MISSIONS. AND ACCOMPLISH LIKE AMAZING THINGS AND JUST REALLY BASED ON IMPULSE, SHEER WILL. SO I DECIDED I WAS GOING TO GO, DRIVE ACROSS THE STATES. AND GIVE AWAY MY DOG. AND, CLOSE FRIEND. ALL OF THESE THINGS. JUST, JUST -- TOTALLY JUST BECOME, AS SEVERELY INTOXICATED AS I CAN. JUST END MY LIFE IN NEW YORK -- INTOXICATED AS I CAN. AND JUST END MY LIFE IN NEW YORK CITY. SO IT WAS, HALLOWEEN OF 2014. AND I WAS IN NEW YORK. AND I -- I GOT LOST TRYING TO GO TO MY PLUG, MY SOURCE. I WAS IN SOME AREA OF -- I COULDN'T FIND THE ENTRANCE TO THE SUBWAY. AND THERE WAS LIKE, I THINK, I THINK -- HALLOWEEN THAT YEAR WAS ON A WEEKEND. IT WAS ON A SATURDAY. THE CITY WAS BUZZING. THE CITY WAS BUZZING. AND THIS OLD MAN, HE PROBABLY RESENTS THAT I SAY THAT, HE IS OLD. THIS, BIT OF AN OLDER

GENTLEMAN. HE HAD BEN ON SKID ROW A NAME WERE OF YEARS,  
TOLD ME ABOUT HIS PRISON TERM. HE TOLD ME ABOUT HOW MEMBERS  
OF THE FAMILY, HAD BEEN MURDERED. HE WAS HELPING ME GET TO  
THE SUBWAY. HE PROBABLY SENT SOMETHING, YEAH. HE PROBABLY  
SENSED SOMETHING, YEAH. HE DIRECTED ME TO WHERE THE SUBWAY  
WAS. IN A THICK NEW YORK ACCENT, HE GOES, HEY, KID, COME  
OVER HERE. I WALK OVER THERE. HE SAID, KID I WILL TACK YOU  
TO WHERE YOU NEED TO GO. HE ASKED ME WHY DID YOU COME TO  
NEW YORK? ONE OF THE MOMENTS. YOU SHARE YOUR DEEPEST SECRET  
WITH A STRANGER. I LOOKED AT HIM. I CAN'T STOP USING DRUGS.  
I CAME HERE TO KILL MYSELF. THAT'S WHAT I TOLD HIM. HE  
LOOKED AT ME AND HE SAID, WOULD YOU BELIEVE THAT I'M A  
RECOVERING ADDICT? AT THAT POINT, WATERWORKS. I BROKE DOWN.  
I WAS OBSESSIVELY SET ON EVERYTHING I WAS GOING TO DO. AND  
EVERYTHING JUST BROKE. WE WERE IN THIS, I STILL WENT -- TO  
THE WEST VILLAGE IN THE SUBWAY, JUST ALL OF THESE  
PARTY-GOERS, REVELERS AND OUTRAGEOUS COSTUMES AND ME AND  
HIM, NO MATTER HOW LOUD IT WAS, EVERY WORD HE COULD SAY, I  
COULD HEAR SO CLEARLY, YEAH. AND SO --  
AT THIS POINT I WAS NOT AT ALL INTERESTED IN 12-STEP  
FELLOWSHIPS. AND SO, INSTEAD, WHAT, WHAT --  
WHAT THE RECOVERY WAS, HE WAS --

HE WAS PART OF A CHURCH. THAT WAS FULL OF 12 STEPPERS. BUT AT THAT TIME I WAS SO CONDITIONED TO BELIEVE -- THAT -- IN A CERTAIN CHRISTIANITY THAT I WAS RAISED IN, IT COULD ONLY BE THROUGH CHURCH. A VIOLATION OF WHATEVER PERVERTED CODE THAT WAS DERIVED FROM LAVIDICUS, YEAH. SO THERE WAS A CHURCH. OKAY, I WENT TO THE CHURCH. HE OFFERED A BED IN DETOX. HE SAID, PLEASE STAY. AT THAT TIME I WAS SO CAUGHT ON THIS, LIKE -- I SAID, THANK YOU, I AM GOOD. I KNOW WHAT I NEED TO DO NOW. THANK YOU FOR THAT MIRACULOUS APPOINTMENT, THAT, THAT RANDOM COINCIDENCE. I AM GOING TO GO BACK TO L.A. NOW. I AM GOOD. YEAH. SO, SET. AGAINST BETTER JUDGMENT I NOT ONLY MYSELF, OTHERS, I JUST DROVE BACK ON MY OWN. AND IT WAS ABOUT INDIO, COUPLE HOURS AWAY, ONCE I GOT THERE, ALL I COULD THINK ABOUT WAS USING. AND IT JUST TOOK ME. IT JUST -- ENSLAVED ME. AND I, ENDED UP USING AGAIN. I, RELAPSED. I SHOULDN'T SAY RELAPSED. BECAUSE IF ONE IS IN COMMUNITY OR PROGRAM IT IS JUST CALLED USING, NOT CALLED RELAPSING, YEAH. SO IN ANY CASE. I, I -- I FINALLY TO A POINT WHERE -- I SAID OKAY, ENOUGH IS ENOUGH. IN ORDER TO CHANGE WE GOT TO DO SOMETHING DIFFERENT. YEAH. SO AT THAT POINT I SURRENDERED. ENDED UP, IN THE 12 STEP FELLOWSHIP, I

AM STILL PART OF TODAY. IN THAT RECOVERY JOURNEY, ONCE I WAS CLEAN OF SUBSTANCES, IT BECAME ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY, TO TRY --

FOR MYSELF, BASICALLY, EVERY, EVERY THERAPY --

OR, RECOVERY PRACTICE AVAILABLE. THE LEVEL OF ANXIETY, STRESS, PTSD, HYPERVIGILANCE, IT WAS SO LOUD. JUST

IMPOSSIBLE, I WAS, EVERYTHING WAS UNMANAGEABLE,

EMOTIONALLY, MENTALLY, PHYSICALLY. AND I KEPT HEARING ABOUT MINDFULNESS PRACTICE. MINDFULNESS THIS. MINDFULNESS THAT.

TED TALKS, WHAT HAVE YOU. IT WAS JUST -- KIND OF NEW

BUZZWORD AND, AND --

IN THERAPY. AND --

AFTER LEARNING ABOUT IT MORE. I SAID, WAIT A MINUTE. THIS IS BUDDHISM. THERE IS SOMETHING, SOMEHOW THAT MESSAGE WAS LOST IN, IN HOW, IT WAS BEING CONVEYED. HOW I WAS HEARING

ABOUT IT. AND THIS COMES TO THE POINT OF THE VERSION --

REVERSION, I STARTED PRACTICING. THERE WERE FELLOWSHIPS AT THE TIME. SUCH AS -- AGAINST THE STREAM AND, OTHER

FELLOWSHIPS, SONGAS, THE FRUITS OF SAY, INSIGHT. SO I WAS

ABLE TO FIND SANGHA, FIND COMMUNITY, AND, HAVE A TEACHER,

AND, PRACTICE. HAD A DRAMATIC IMPACT ON MY LIFE. AND FIRST,

GOT TO RECOVERY. THE FIRST JOB OPPORTUNITY WAS, WAS TO --

TO, BE TO WORK FOR A NONPROFIT THAT GOES INTO JAILS FOR YOUTH, JUVENILE INCARCERATION CAMPS. AND THERE I WAS -- TEACHING, I WAS TEACHING FILM. HAD A FILM BACKGROUND, RIGHT. TEACHING FILM. AND BECAME, IT WAS AN OPPORTUNITY TO -- TO HAVE MINDFULNESS SPACE HEALING CIRCLES. SO I WAS ABLE TO FACILITATE THOSE. PEOPLE ASK ME DO I MISS FILM SOME TIMES, MY FRIEND. I SAY, MAKING FILMS WAS THE MOST FUN I EVER HAD. BUT DOING THIS WORK IS THE MOST MEANINGFUL EXPERIENCE I HAVE EVER HAD. AND SO, BEING PART OF THOSE -- WORKSHOPS. FACILITATING THE CIRCLES. I KNEW I WANTED TO CONTINUE TO DO THAT. OUR NONPROFIT LOST A PARTICULAR GRANT. WE DISCONTINUED GOING INTO THAT PARTICULAR FACILITY. BUT I KNEW AT THAT POINT, I NEEDED TO --

I WAS AT A CROSSROADS. I WOULD EITHER GO INTO SOCIAL WORK OR DIVINITY. SO I APPLIED TO TWO DEGREES, I GOT ACCEPTED TO BOTH. I COULDN'T DECIDE. AND WE HAVE A SAYING, A SAYING, IN, IN THE # 12 STEP FELLOWSHIP. IT SAYS -- IF YOU WANT TO DO WHAT I DO, YOU HAVE GOT TO DO WHAT I DID. THIS IDEA THAT WE JUST FOLLOW IN EACH OTHER'S FOOTSTEPS. THIS KIND OF CROSSROADS, I WAS READING AND LEARNING ABOUT, FATHER GREG BOIL, FOUNDER OF HOMEBOY INDUSTRIES. AND I SAW THAT, IN HIS BIOGRAPHY, THAT, THAT, HE -- RECEIVED A MASTER OF DIVINITY.

THAT DECIDED IT FOR ME. I WENT THAT PATH. AND, THAT'S HOW I ENDED UP AT UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST. AND ALSO KIND OF, INVOLVED WITH, SOCIAL JUSTICE WORK. BECAUSE -- YOU KNOW TO ME -- LIKE, YOU KNOW, I AM INVOLVED, I MEAN, I DID, START OFF, I AM CHAPLAIN TRAINED. TO ME IT IS ONE THING TO KIND OF -- WORK WITH CLIENTS OR WORK WITH CARE-SEEKERS, BUT IT IS ANOTHER TO, THING TO WORK TOWARDS THE CAUSE AND THE CONDITIONS THAT ARE CAUSING THE SUFFERING TO BEGIN WITH, YEAH. AND TO ME THAT'S THE WORK OF SOCIAL JUSTICE. NOW I AM IN THE PROCESS OF STARTING A NONPROFIT. FOR ASIAN AMERICANS. AND I WOULD LOOK TO SHARE THOUGH, THAT --

BEFORE BE THE REFUGE, A COMMON QUESTION WAS, WHY ONLY ASIAN AMERICANS? BUT AFTER BE THE REFUGE I DON'T GET THAT QUESTION ANY MORE, YEAH. I CAN NOW POINT TO A CERTAIN THING, LIKE A CERTAIN, RAFT THAT HAS BEEN BUILT NOW, THERE IS A GREATER, THERE IS A CONSCIOUSNESS SHIFT. YEAH. WITH THE ETHOS SHIFT. AND, THAT'S LIKE THE IMPORTANCE OF LIKE, HOW -- HOW AWFUL US KIND OF HAVE A ROLE TO PLAY, YEAH. I MEAN, ALSO, REFLECTING ON THE TITLE OF THIS. THERE WAS A -- THERE WAS THE TRAGIC MURDER OF GEORGE FLOYD LAST YEAR IN 2020. AND ALL OF THE AMAZING ACTIONS AND PROTESTS AND

GATHERINGS, AS A RESULT. THERE WAS --

IT WAS A GROUP OF FRIENDS THAT MEDITATE TOGETHER. LET'S DO  
A BUDDHIST FOR BLACK LIVES MATTER MARCH. THERE WERE A LOT  
OF MARCHES, I NEVER ORGANIZED ANYTHING BEFORE. AND LET'S  
SEE WHAT THAT KIND OF ENTAILS. AND I --

IT WAS A CERTAIN VISION THAT, THAT WE ARE WORKING TOWARDS.  
I CALLED EVERY PERSON THAT I KNEW. I CALLED EVERY MONASTIC  
I KNEW.

A COLLEAGUE, MENTOR OF MINE, HE LET ME KNOW. HE SAID, I  
ORGANIZED SOMETHING BEFORE. AND I COULDN'T EVEN GET --  
A MONK TO JAYWALK, SO -- I DON'T KNOW IF THIS IS GOING TO  
WORK OUT FOR YOU, YEAH. AND OKAY. AND I -- I HEADED HIS  
WORDS. BUT CALLED ANYWAY. WE GOT FIVE MOON ASICS FROM  
DIFFERENT TRADITIONS. SLOWLY THINGS STARTED TO COME  
TOGETHER. STARTED HEARING FROM PEOPLE WE ARE WILLING TO  
ATTEND. AND IN MY, IN MY VIEW, IT'S LAKE, IF -- IF,  
INTENTION IS RIGHT, AND IF WE ARE DOING THIS IN COMMUNITY.  
IF OUR DAILY PRACTICE IS -- IS ALIGNED WITH THE VISION,  
THAT'S ALL THAT MATTERS. WHETHER IT'S, TWO PEOPLE, OR, 200.  
AS LONG AS THE PRACTICE IS GOOD. YEAH. WE WENT THROUGH WITH  
IT. TO OUR SURPRISE, 500 PEOPLE SHOWED UP. AND -- AND IT  
WAS -- I WOULD LIKE TO SAY THOUGH THAT NOTHING WAS

RESOLVED. RIGHT. JUST -- OFFERING SPACE. TO WHAT'S --  
THE LATE --

RABBI SAYS TO PRAY WITH OUR FEET, YEAH. SO WE HAD THE  
MARCH. I WANT TO SAY -- THIS IS --

IT WAS STILL FOR WHAT IT WAS WORTH. VERY IMPACTFUL MOMENT.  
IT STAYED WITH ME WHAT WE CAN DO TODAY. HOW ALL OF IT  
MATTERS. EVERY STEP WE TAKE TOGETHER. WE MARCHED FROM  
LITTLE TOKYO ON THIS CORNER. WHERE, BACK IN WORLD WAR TWO,  
WHERE BUSES WERE LINED UP TO TACK ALL OF THE  
JAPANESE-AMERICANS TO, TO THE CONCENTRATION CAMPS, YEAH. TO  
THE INTERNMENT CAMPS. SO, WE STARTED THERE. AND THEN, WE  
MARCHED IN SILENCE, IN WALKING MEDITATION TO CITY HALL. I  
LIKE THAT TOO BECAUSE WE ALL CAN PROTEST IN OUR OWN WAY,  
YEAH. SOME CAN CHANT. SOME CAN YELL. AND SOME CAN JUST,  
MARCH IN SILENCE. AND THAT WAS MAYBE OUR WAY, OR OUR  
CONTRIBUTION. IT WAS BEAUTIFUL TO SEE. AND THIS WAS, THIS  
WAS --

IN, IN LATE SPRING IN 2020. REGARDLESS OF ALL THE CONCERN  
AND GREAT RISK OF BEING IN THE MIDDLE OF THIS PANDEMIC WE,  
STILL SHOWED UP FOR NOT ONLY OURSELVES, BUT FOR OTHERS  
YEAH. AND SOME OF THE ORGANIZERS WERE ALSO -- ALSO,  
CONTRIBUTED TO --



TO --

MAY WE GATHER. WHICH WAS JUST -- WHICH, CHENXING WAS FACILITATOR, SPEAKER, AND, AMAZING MOMENTS AS WELL. RIGHT? I WANT TO SAY EVEN BEFORE OURS, OUR PART -- WHAT WAS -- VERY INSPIRING OCCURRENCE WAS SEEING MEMBERS OF THE ORDER OF INTERVENE, I BELIEVE SOME WHERE IN -- IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA IN THE SAN DIEGO AREA. THEY PARTICIPATED IN A BLACK LIVES MATTER MARCH. AND, TOOK A KNEE. AND THAT WAS A CRITICAL KIND OF INSPIRATION FOR A MARCH THAT WE DID, RIGHT. SO, YOU KNOW THE FRUITS CONTINUE HOW WE CONVEY AND CARRY A MESSAGE AND INSPIRE OTHERS. ALSO, WANTED TO KIND OF NOTE THOUGH, I WAS LISTENING TO AN INTERVIEW, ORGANIZER FOR MAY WE GATHER, AND IN THAT INTERVIEW, THE INDIVIDUAL SAID -- THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME THAT BUDDHISTS FROM SO MANY DIFFERENT SANGHAS CAME TOGETHER TO, TO -- GATHER, WHAT HAVE YOU, RIGHT. IN MY MIND IT EWE WAS LIKE, NO IT'S NOT. BECAUSE WE DID THE YEAR BEFORE. I SAY THIS BECAUSE EVEN IN THE EFFORTS TO BECOME MADE VISIBLE. SOME STILL ARE, BECOMING, STAYING INVISIBLE, YEAH. BECAUSE, YOU KNOW FOR OUR MARCH, NONE OF US, I MEAN, THE MAIN ORGANIZERS, WE ARE NOT PART OF ANY KIND OF, WELL-KNOWN SANGHA. WE ARE JUST HUMBLE PRACTITIONERS THAT WERE CALLED TO A CERTAIN ACTION.

AND, YOU KNOW, PARTICIPATED AND THIS GREATER, GREATER, THIS GREATER EFFORT. YEAH. I THINK AT THAT POINT, MAYBE, I THINK, WE ALSO, I DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH TIME I HAVE. I'M SPEAKING FOR A WHILE. I REALLY APPRECIATE EVERYBODY'S KIND OF -- ATTENTION, AND -- AND IT IS VERY HONORED TO BE WITH YOU ALL. AND YEAH. THANK YOU.

>> ANNIE MAHON: WOW, THANK YOU, DAVID, SO, SO MUCH. I THINK EVERY ONE OF US WAS GLUED TO THE ZOOM. AND, JUST LISTENING TO YOUR BEAUTIFUL STORY. AND PAINFUL. AND BEAUTIFUL STORY. SO, THANK YOU SO MUCH. FOR SHARING IT. I GUESS NOW WE HAVE TIME FOR SOME QUESTIONS. IF PEOPLE HAVE QUESTIONS YOU CAN EITHER PUT THEM IN THE CHAT, OR YOU CAN UNMUTE YOURSELF, AND ASK YOUR QUESTION.

IF PEOPLE DON'T HAVE A QUESTION RIGHT AWAY, I HAVE A QUESTION. BUT, LET'S SEE. MAYBE, ADRIANNA, TOO, OR CHENXING WANTS TO ASK SOMETHING.

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: I JUST WANT TO THANK, YOU DAVID, IT WAS REALLY INSPIRING TO HEAR YOU, ESPECIALLY THE CLARITY YOU HAVE OF YOURSELF, AN THE NARRATIVE YOU ARE FORMING OF YOURSELF AND HOW YOU ARE PRESENTING YOURSELF AND HOW, HOW --

HOW WE CAN ALL CHANGE AND START ANEW AND HAVE A NEW, NO, A

NEW POINT OF VIEW. SO THANK YOU SO MUCH. AND HOW THE PRACTICE OF MINDFULNESS CAN HELP US TO DO THAT. BUT ALSO, LEARNING WHERE THIS MINDFULNESS PRACTICE COMES FROM. AND WHO ARE THEY -- THE PEOPLE WHO ARE, LIVING THOSE TRADITIONS. SO THANK YOU SO MUCH. AND I THINK MAYBE NOW, CHENXING, YOU CAN HAVE THE QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION. I DON'T KNOW WHAT DO YOU THINK. IF YOU WANT TO ADD SOMETHING ELSE. THANK YOU, IC THEY, DAVID, AGAIN.

>> THANK YOU, DAVID.

>> CHENXING. SORRY, GO AHEAD. ONLY IF IT FEELS RIGHT THAT YOU WANT TO, DO Q/A, I ALSO SEE THAT WE HAVE, A HAND UP WHEN YOU ARE FINISHED. THANK YOU.

>> I JUST WANTED TO ECHO YOUR THANKS, JUST WANTED TO THANK, YOU DAVID, FOR THE VERY THOUGHTFUL WORK THAT YOU DO IN THIS WORLD, AND ALL OF THAT HAVE SUPPORTED YOUR WORK. AND AFTER THIS I WANT TO HEAR ABOUT THE NAME OF THAT ARTICLE, SO WE CAN ISSUE A CORRECTION. ABOUT, MAY WE GATHER. AND, I WANT TO MAKE SURE, THAT THERE IS A CHANCE TO ASK THE FIRST QUESTION. SO, PLEASE.

>> THANK YOU, EVERYONE. FOR MAKING THIS HAPPENING. I HAVE TWO QUESTIONS, DAVID. ONE, I AM WONDERING IF YOU CAN SAY A FEW MORE WORDS ABOUT, INNER JUSTICE.

AND THE SECOND QUESTION IS THIS -- IF YOU CAN SAY A FEW WORDS ABOUT -- HOW DO WE BELONG? HOW DO WE FEEL BELONGING? HOW DO WE -- CREATE THAT TIME/SPACE FOR OTHERS TO FEEL BELONGING? THANK YOU.

>> THANK YOU. THANK YOU FOR THE COMMENTS AND YOUR QUESTION.

SO ONE OF THE PRACTICES THAT --

THAT, ARE AT THE CORE OF THIS --

THIS SANGHA THAT WE ARE PURSUING IS --

I MYSELF TOO, HAVE BENEFIT SEWED MUCH FROM EMERGENCE OF MINDFULNESS OF -- OF -- OF THE PRACTICE AND THE STATES.

BUT --

I THINK, FOR SOME OF US MAYBE -- SOMETHING, HAS BEEN MISSING. I LOVE THAT, I LOVE THAT STORY OF --

I THINK --

WHEN THEY WERE GOING TO BRING IT FROM BURMA TO THE STATES.

THIS AMAZING PRACTICE, WHAT DEWE CALL IT WHEN WE COME TO THE U.S

LIKE WE ARE TRYING TO FIND A NAME. THIS IS BEFORE

MINDFULNESS WAS EVER COINED AS WHAT IT WOULD BE CALLED. AND

THEN, HE LOOKED AT THEM AND SAID, WELL, YOU COULD CALL IT

CHRISTIANITY, YOU KNOW? THAT WAS HIS ANSWER TO HIM. I'M NOT

SAYING IT IS THEREFORE ONE IN THE SAME. I'M SAYING, THERE

IS SOMETHING THERE. RIGHT? NOW IT IS MINDFULNESS. I FEEL  
THAT MAYBE ONE THING IT IS GREAT THAT IT CAN KIND OF MERGE  
WITH WESTERN PSYCHOLOGY AND BECOME THIS -- THIS -- THIS  
PRACTICE. BUT --  
MAYBE ONE PART OF --  
BUDDHISM THAT GETS MISSED SO MUCH IS --  
THE -- THE BELIEF OF, OF REBIRTH. AND REINCARNATION, YEAH.  
NOT SUCH A POPULAR NOTION. IT BECOMES KIND OF MAYBE, MAYBE,  
OMITTED OR FORGOTTEN. EVEN FOR MINDFULNESS PRACTICE WHAT IS  
MISSED AT TIMES, ONE OF THE MOST SACRED POWERS OF THE  
BUDDHA WAS TO REMEMBER ALL OF HIS PREVIOUS INCARNATIONS,  
YEAH. MY INTERPRETATION OF THAT IS, THIS RELATES TO INNER  
JUSTICE IS, THERE IS A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN JUST MINDFULNESS  
WHERE WE CAN BE AWARE OF THE PRESENT, AND FOR SOME OF US  
THAT, THAT NEED TO DO MORE THAN THAT. WHERE OUR KIND OF  
STORY AND THIS IS MAYBE THE IT, HOW DO WE DECOLONIZE THE  
NARRATIVE AND RECLAIM THE TRUE NARRATIVE, THE TRUE ESSENCE.  
SO CULTURAL MINDFULNESS FOR US IS NOT JUST BECOMING AWARE  
OF THE PRESENT BUT LEARNING AND LOVING AND EMBRACING THE  
PAST WHERE WE COME FROM, YEAH. TO ME THAT IS THE HEART OF  
WHAT, WHAT BUDDHIST PRACTICE IS. AND WHY I WOULD SAY THAT,  
REVERSION IS MORE ACCURATE. REVERSION, RECLAIM, YEAH. AND

WHY I AM ABLE TO SHARE ANYTHING AT ALL TODAY. MAYBE, NOT SO MUCH THAT --

JUST MINDFULNESS, BUT, APPLIED MINDFULNESS. AS WELL AS, APPLYING TO BIPOC, TO US. FOR INNER JUSTICE, THERE IS, IT IS GREAT TO PARTICIPATE -- INNER JUSTICE, IT IS GREAT TO PARTICIPATE IN VARIOUS MOVEMENTS. VARIOUS ACTIONS, THERE IS AN AGENDA ITEM THAT NEEDS TO BE ACHIEVED FOR THE SYSTEM TO BE ACCURATELY REFLECTIVE WHAT --

WHAT --

WHAT THE PROFESSOR LOPEZ CALLS THIS, IT'S BEEN A DEMOCRACY, A WHITE SUPREMACIST DEMOCRACY, HOW DO WE CHANGE THAT, HOW DO WE HAVE A MORE ACCURATELY REFLECT THE NEEDS OF THE MOST VULNERABLE AND MINORITY, RIGHT. AT THE SAME TIME, TO PARTICIPATE IN FELLOWSHIPS, WHERE I CAN, KIND OF DISCOVER THIS MOVE, DISCOVER THIS TRUE SELF. AND, BE IN A SAFE SPACE. TO KIND OF WORK ON THESE THINGS. AND YOU KNOW THAT TO ME IS INNER JUSTICE. YEAH. THAT'S KIND OF LIKE THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN --

JUST PRACTICING AND, HAVING A CERTAIN APPLIED PRACTICE. MORE RELEVANT TO, TO OUR NEED. TO MY NEEDS. WITH PEOPLE LIKE ME, SO, YEAH. IF THAT KIND OF ANSWERS YOUR QUESTION. THEN THE BELONGING, THE SOCIAL SCIENTIST, HE HAS DONE

AMAZING WORK IN WRITING REGARDING ADDICTION. HE HAS, A BOOK CALLED, CHASING THE SCREAM. HE SAYS THAT, THE OPPOSITE OF ADDICTION IS NOT ABSTINENCE, THE OPPOSITE OF ADDICTION IS CONNECTION. SO I, I WAS --

IN NEED OF A FELLOWSHIP THAT PERHAPS DID NOT EXIST AND NOW THE EFFORT FOR US IS TO CREATE THE FELLOWSHIP THAT WE HAVE NEEDED, YEAH. SO, YOU KNOW, THE, THE -- IF THE RAFT DOES NOT EXIST, WE WILL BUILD ONE.

>> THANK YOU, DAVID. I SEE JENNIFER HAS A QUESTION.

>> HI, DAVID, THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR SHARING YOUR STORY. I WAS WONDERING AS AN ASIAN-AMERICAN BUDDHIST, WHAT, WHAT DO YOU FEEL LIKE IS YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE SANGHAS FROM THE INSIDE TRADITIONS VERY SU THE ASIAN KIND OF ROOTED, TRADITIONS AND COMMUNITY AND MONASTICS?

>> YEAH, THAT IS A VERY IMPORTANT QUESTION. ALSO A CHALLENGING QUESTION. I WOULD SAY THAT -- YOU KNOW, I COULD, I COULD SAY THIS, I CAN ANSWER MAYBE IN DIFFERENT WAYS. I THINK, THE WAY I WILL CHOOSE TO ANSWER, SAY, RELATED TO -- TO, WHAT MAYBE THE, THE SOME OF THE THEMES WE HAVE TALKED ABOUT. THE --

WHO IS REPRESENTED IN AMERICAN BUDDHISM AND WHO ISN'T. AND,

THAT ISN'T TO SAY THAT -- OTHERS SHOULD CLOSE THEIR DOORS  
BY NO MEANS. DEFINITELY NOT. BUT IT IS LIKE, I MEAN DO THEY  
HAVE SPACES? AND IF THEY DO, GREAT? BUT, MY, MY CONCERN IS  
NOT, SO MUCH REGARDING THAT. BUT MORE, KIND OF, KIND OF  
FOCUSED ON OURSELVES, DO WE HAVE A SPACE. THAT'S MORE OF MY  
EMPHASIS. IF THAT MAKES SENSE, YEAH. SO, AND, THIS ALSO  
KIND OF MAYBE -- RELATES TO -- TO CONVERSATIONS REGARDING  
PRIVILEGE. I --  
MY WORK IS NOT -- IS NOT NECESSARILY, OR AS I SEE IS,  
NECESSARILY --  
TO, TO --  
TO WORK WITH --  
TO, TO KIND OF -- TELL ANYBODY THAT MAYBE COMES OR  
REPRESENTS THAT DEMOGRAPHIC, WHAT TO DO WITH THEIR  
PRIVILEGE. I DON'T COME FROM THAT BACKGROUND. MY WORK IS TO  
WORK WITH THOSE THAT COME FROM UNDERPRIVILEGE, YEAH. LIKE I  
CAN'T -- IN A WAY THERE IS THIS -- AS JUST, KIND OF SPIRIT  
OF, HOW THE BUDDHA TALKED, LIKE WE KIND OF MAYBE, WORK  
WITHIN OUR OWN EXPERIENCE FIRST. YEAH. IF THAT MAYBE KIND  
OF ANSWERS YOUR QUESTION. YEAH, I MEAN, EVERYBODY HAS A  
ROLE TO PLAY. AND I 100% BELIEVE THAT. SO WHAT I SEE TOO,  
THAT I HAVE BEEN SO GRATEFUL FOR, AND, TO ME THIS IS THE



VERY SPIRIT OF WHAT, WHAT FATHER GREG DOES. IF WE ARE -- IF IT WERE UP TO THOSE THAT -- THAT, THAT SEEK HIS ATTENTION, AND, PRESENCE, THEY WOULD JUST WANT HIM. BUT WHAT FATHER GREG DOES, HE HAS DONE THIS HIS ENTIRE LIFE. HE USES ALL OF THE AVAILABLE RESOURCES TO MAKE THE GANG MEMBERS -- AND TO ME THAT'S JUST AN AMAZING KIND OF --

JUST LIKE, CHENXING, BE THE REFUGE. HER ENTIRE BOOK IS LIFTING UP THE VOICES OF THOSE WHO HAVE NOT BEEN HEARD. AND TO ME THAT IS IN ITSELF THE WORK OF LETTING OTHERS BE SEEN. BECAUSE THEY'RE KIND OF -- IF THIS IS AN INTERPRETATION OF PRIVILEGE, HOW I HAVE ALREADY BEEN SEEN MY WHOLE LIFE, JUST BY NATURE OF BEING, WHAT I HAVE INHERITED INTO,000, THEN I WILL LET THIS TO -- I WILL USE THIS TO LET OTHERS BE SEEN. THAT'S PRIVILEGE IN ACTION, TOWARDS SOCIAL JUSTICE. JUST LIKE INVITING ME HERE. I WAS LATE. STILL I WORK. AND THANK YOU.

>> WELL, WE WAIT FOR THE NEXT QUESTION, I JUST WANT TO READ WHAT JESSE HAS WRITTEN IN THE CHAT. REALLY APPRECIATING YOUR SHINING LIGHT ON YOUR PERSONAL EXPERIENCES. AND IN TURN, UPLIFTING THE EXPERIENCES OF MANY ASIAN FOLKS GET LEFT IN THE MARGINS. YOUR STORY ROSE MATES WITH ME AND MEMBERS OF OUR FAMILY. TELLING OUR STORIES, MAKING OUR

EXPERIENCES VISIBLE IS SO IMPORTANT. DEEP BOWS.

>> ANNIE, BOWING IN, IF THERE IS NOT ANOTHER QUESTION. I  
WILL ASK A QUESTION THAT I HAD WHICH --

I AM CURIOUS ABOUT HOW MUCH YOU RELY ON YOUR PRACTICE IN  
YOUR WORK VERSUS JUST SIMPLE COMPASSION AND LOVE?

>> David Woo: I WOULD SAY THE PRACTICE IS THE FOUNDATION  
TO --

TO, TO MY ENTIRE DAY, YEAH. I MEDITATE FOR MANAGEABILITY.

IF THAT MAKES SENSE. I COULD SAY FOR INSTANCE, WHEN I  
WAS -- LET'S SAY, MEETING WITH -- WITH CLIENTS INDIVIDUALLY  
AND --

AND IF THEY'RE SHARING ABOUT I REMEMBER THERE WAS THIS  
YOUNG, THIS YOUNG TEEN -- SHE WAS ABOUT, 15. AND SHE WOULD  
COME IN FOR SESSION. WITH, WITH, CUTS IN HER, IN HER LEGS  
AND HER ARMS. BECAUSE SHE WAS, SHE WOULD SELF-HARM. AND  
WHEN I WOULD SEE THAT, I WOULD BE STRUCK WITH THIS, I FEEL  
SO SORRY, I FEEL SO SAD, YEAH. IT WOULD BE SO EASY TO  
JUST -- JUST TO --

FOR THAT EMPATHY TO BECOME SYMPATHY. AND AS SOMEBODY THAT  
HAS BEEN, YOU KNOW, AN ADDICT IN RECOVERY MYSELF. I DON'T  
WANT, I DON'T WANT TO SEE PITY, I DON'T WANT TO GIVE PITY.  
THAT'S, YOU KNOW. SO EVEN IN THOSE SITUATIONS, MINDFULNESS

OF THE BREATH AND BODY. AND IN THAT SAME -- THERE WAS -- A CELL, 6X6 FEET. IN THE DISTANCE, THERE WERE THESE AMAZING TALL EUCALYPTUS TREES. AND THEY WERE JUST CATCH THE BREEZE. YEAH. JUST KIND OF USING THE SURROUNDINGS JUST, TO DETACH, JUST ENOUGH -- TO BE, MORE PRESENT TO THE ROOM. FOR INSTANCE. YEAH. SO IN ANY CASE, JUST PRACTICE, INFORMS THE DAY-TO-DAY, ALL OF THE INTERACTIONS AND, SOMETHING KIND OF, AMAZING HAPPENED. WHERE, THE MEDITATION JUST BLENDS INTO, POST MEDITATION, YEAH. AND THEN CHANTING. PRAYER BECOME -- JUST, JUST --

A CONSTANT COMPANION THROUGHOUT THE DAY, YEAH. SO FOR MYSELF, I --

I ALWAYS BEFORE, SOMETIME BEFORE --

MY FIRST CUP OF TEA AND, BRUSHING MY TEETH, THERE IS ALWAYS LIKE, A TIME WHERE I JUST, SAID NO MATTER HOW BUSY. I RIM BAR THERE WAS THE GREAT REFORMER, MARTIN LUTHER, THE QUOTE BY HIM. HE SAYS --

I AM GOING TO BE EXTREMELY BUSY TODAY. SO I MUST PRAY FOR AT LOWEST TWO HOURS. LIKE THIS, YOU KNOW, HE IS SAYING THE MORE BUSY I AM, THE MORE I NEED TO PRAY, RIGHT. I THINK THAT IS DEFINITELY --

YOU KNOW, SOMETHING THAT I, I TRIED TO PRACTICE. AND AM I

ALWAYS SUCCESSFUL AT IS, NO. BUT --

I THINK, SHARON SALSBURG ALSO SAYS --

WHAT DOES SHE SAY, SHE SAYS --

A MAIN COMPONENT OF SITTING MEDITATION IS TO WORK WITH THIS  
CONDITIONED A CUMULATIVE MIND, NOT HOW MANY MINUTES I DO  
IT, JUST THAT I DO IT. LOOKING AT WHAT ARISES AS A RESULT.  
SO, YEAH, THIS ISN'T, THIS ISN'T -- I AM DEFINITELY ONE  
THAT PRACTICES GOOD ENOUGH MEDITATION AT TIMES. SO --

>> ANNIE MAHON: THANK YOU SO MUCH. DO WE HAVE OTHER PEOPLE  
WITH QUESTIONS? I CAN ASK A QUESTION. I WANT TO SHARE WHEN  
YOU WERE SAYING ALL OF THIS DIFFERENCE OF THE WHITE LIVING  
SANGHAS, I THINK BECAUSE I WORK WITH, IMMIGRANTS FROM LATIN  
AMERICA, AND HOW HELPFUL IT WOULD BE FOR THIS, FOR THIS  
COMMUNITIES OF IMMIGRANTS TO PRACTICE BUDDHISM. IT IS VERY  
DIFFICULT TO BRING THE PRACTICE TO THE COMMUNITIES FOR TWO  
THINGS. BECAUSE THEY ARE SCARED OF THE --  
PRESENCE OF THE WHITES AND THE COLONISTS AND ALL OF THESE  
SPAEUSZ, MAYBE NOT RATIONALLY, BUT IT IS THERE, IT IS  
REALLY -- LIKE, SCARY (SPACES) FOR ONE REASON. AND THE  
OTHER BARRIER THAT I -- THAT I THINK I HAVE ENCOUNTERED IS  
TO THINK THAT CHRISTIANITY AND BUDDHISM CAN GO TOGETHER.

SO, AND YOU ARE PRACTITIONER OF BOTH REALLY LIKE BELIEVING  
IN, IN, BOTH, TRA TKEUGSZ. SO HOW WILL YOU EXPLAIN TO  
SOMEONE WHO --

IS AFRAID OF -- ENTERING THE -- BUDDHISM AND MINDFULNESS  
WORK BECAUSE OF PAIR YEARS WITH CRISTIANISM, HOW TO  
EXPLAIN -- YOU CAN COMBINE THOSE, AND THAT'S THE PERFECT  
FOR ME, THE PERFECT, PRACTICE TO HAVE BOTH. SPIRITUAL  
PRACTICES. THANK YOU. I WANTED TO REFERENCE A CLASSIC. BUT  
THIS USEFUL, IN THIS --

ANYTHING RELATED TO MAYBE SPIRITUAL ENCOUNTERS OR SPIRITUAL  
FORMATION, JAMES FOWLER'S STAGES OF FAITH. THAT BOOK JUST,  
JUST THIS IDEA OF LIKE, LIKE SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT. ANYWAY,  
I --

YEAH, SO I ALSO WORK AT A --

CHRISTIAN FAITH BASED REHABILITATION MENTAL HEALTH  
INPATIENT CENTER IN KOREANTOWN LOS ANGELES. AND SO I AM  
ALSO STILL PART OF THE KOREAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY. I  
ENCOUNTER THAT. MY OWN MOTHER, GOD BLESS HER, JUST THINKS  
THAT, THAT, WHY BUDDHISM? YOU KNOW? PLEASE DON'T. IF I DO,  
UNDULATE, DON'T DO THAT. SHE JUST HAS A CERTAIN, SHE WAS  
RAISED IN A CERTAIN UNDERSTANDING AND --

JUST COME TO THIS, AND --

THERE IS, THERE IS THE --

FATHER GREG SAYS KINDNESS IS THE ONLY STRENGTH THERE IS. I UNDERSTAND KIND OF THAT BELIEF. I UNDERSTAND MAYBE THE CONDITION FOR WHY THAT WOULD BE THERE. EVEN FOR MYSELF. A BIG INFLUENCE FOR MYSELF. TO KIND OF BE ABLE TO OPENLY OR IN, EMBRACE BUDDHIST PRACTICE WAS BECAUSE I WAS RAISED IN THAT AS WELL. ONE CAN'T BE BOTH. BUT THEN I --

MOSTLY WHEN SHE SAYS, SHE CALLS THIS, THE KOAN OF OUR LIVES. FOR MYSELF I WAS ALSO RAISED IN THIS -- STRUGGLE AT TIMES WHEN I WAS YOUNGER, AM I EITHER KOREAN OR AMERICAN, I CAN'T BE BOTH, RIGHT? I HAVE BEEN CARRYING THAT THROUGHOUT MY LIFE. AND THEN IT MANIFESTED AS, AM I EITHER CHRISTIAN OR AM I BUDDHIST, YOU CAN'T BE BOTH. SO THEN WHO SAYS THAT. I DON'T NEED TO BELIEVE THAT FALSE NARRATIVE ANYMORE. AND, REMEMBER I WAS LISTENING ONE DAY TO FATHER GREG, HE WAS BEING INTERVIEWED BY --

BEING INTERVIEWED BY, TERRY GROSS, FROM FRESH AIR. SHE WAS ASKING, HOW HE CHOOSES TO MEDITATE, WHAT HIS PRACTICE.

FATHER GREG RESPONDS, I LOOK TO STEAL AWAY FOR TEN MINUTE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE DAY. AND REPEAT A MANTRA TO MYSELF.

AND TERRY GROSS SAYS, WOW, THAT SOUND VERY BUDDHIST. AND

FATHER GREG, OF COURSE, JESUIT PRIEST, HE GOES, SHH, DON'T

TELL ANYBODY, YEAH. LIKE THIS IDEA OF, SOMEBODY THAT IS THIS ORDAINED JESUIT PRIEST AND BEEN PART OF THE CHURCH FOR, FOR -- DECADES. YET HE IS SPIRITUALLY FLUID ENOUGH TO ALSO INCORPORATE BUDDHIST PRACTICE. YEAH. BUT ALSO QUITE SPECIFIC IN HIS OWN TRADITION TOO. RIGHT. SO I SEE THIS ALSO AS THIS PRACTICE OF DECOLONIZING OUR MIND AND OUR CONDITIONS WHERE, I DIDN'T REALLY CHOOSE BUDDHISM OR CHRISTIANITY. I DIDN'T CHOOSE TO BE KOREAN OR AMERICAN. THEY'RE BOTH JUST PART OF ME. AND, ABOUT HONORING THAT. YEAH. AND THIS, OKAY, AGAIN, I AM JUST SPEAKING ABOUT MYSELF. I AM NOT, SPEAKING FOR ANYONE ELSE. I REALLY WANT TO ITERATE THAT. IT IS JUST, THIS IS JUST KIND OF WHAT THE JOURNEY HAS BEEN LIKE FOR MYSELF. YEAH.

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: THANK YOU, THANK YOU, DAVID.

>> David Woo: THANK YOU.

>> THERE IS A STRENGTH IN ROOTEDNESS, AND FLUIDITY, THINKING OF THE EUCALYPTUS TREES. A FEW MORE MINUTE. WANT TO LIFT UP THE CHAT, SPEAKING THEM FOR THE RECORDING. I APPRECIATE YOU SPEAKING TO THE VALUE AND BEING ABLE TO WALK IN MULTIPLE SPACES RATHER THAN FEEL LIMITED TO ONE END OF A BINARY. PETER, I LOVE THIS, SPIRITUALLY FLUID, THE COUNTER POINT TO THIS OR THAT. I THINK BUDDHISM REALLY INVITES US

TO THINK BEYOND, MANY, MANY BINARIES IN FACT. AND THEN I ALSO SEE A QUESTION. SO I WANT TO MAKE SURE TO LIFT THAT. CHRISTINE ASKS, WHAT BOOKS AND READINGS HAVE SHAPED YOUR BUDDHIST PRACTICES?

>> YEAH, THANK YOU. THE BOOKS I MENTIONED. YEAH, SO MANY. BUT YEAH, OF COURSE, THICH NHAT HANH, HAS BEEN A MAJOR INFLUENCE. JUST MAYBE I COULD ALSO SAY THAT -- VERY SPECIAL TO READ IN COMMUNITY. AND NOT JUST ON MY OWN. AND ONE OF THE HIGHLIGHT OF THIS PANDEMIC. VIRTUAL TEA WITH CHENXING AND TALK ABOUT RANDOM THINGS, REGRET, OR ENCOUNTEREDDEN OUR LIVES. AND, THE SPIRIT RECORDS, IT JUST KIND OF REMEMBERS, YEAH. SO, ALSO SAYING THAT BECAUSE -- YOU KNOW, WHAT ELSE? DEFINITELY THE BOOKS, LIVING BUDDHA, LIVING CHRIST. THICH NHAT HANH. DEFINITELY A FAVORITE. JUST WHAT I HAVE RIGHT HERE. IT'S STEPPING INTO FREEDOM. THICH NHAT HANH. THIS ONE, I LOVE, JUST -- HOW HE, THE FIRST. HE OPENS WITH, FOR THE PRACTICE OF DAILY USE. JUST THE PHRASES THAT WE CAN USE. IN OUR DAILY LIVES. ANY WAY, A BIT OF DIGRESSION. CARRY WITH ME. BASIC TEXT FOR DAILY LIVES.

>> SPEAKING OF SPIRITUAL FLUIDITY. I FEEL LIKE IS A GREAT



BOOK FOR, TATTOOS ON THE HEART. I HAVE ANNOTATED IT. I  
THINK THE FIRST TIME I ANNOTATED. JUST HEARTS EVERYWHERE.  
THAT IS SO BUDDHIST. EVEN THOUGH WRITTEN BY A JESUIT  
PRIEST. SO, THERE IS SO MANY BOOKS. AND I LOVE, WHAT YOU  
SAY ABOUT READING AND COMMUNITY. I THINK ALSO, I LOVE  
READING RECOMMENDATIONS FROM FRIENDS BECAUSE I THINK THERE  
IS SOMETHING THAT, WHO EVER IN THIS GROUP PICKS UP THIS  
BOOK WILL HAVE THIS CONNECTION TO, TO YOU, TO HOMEBOY, TO  
FATHER GREGORY. I THINK WHAT I LOVE SO MUCH ABOUT THIS BOOK  
IS JUST -- JUST THERE IS -- THERE IS SO MUCH. I THINK, IN  
IT. THERE IS -- SUCH, SUCH --  
HEAVINESS, BUT ALSO SUCH JOY. HUMOR. AND, AND, I GUESS, IF  
I CAN SELFISHLY ASK A QUESTION. I KNOW I AM THINKING ABOUT  
YOUR STORY THAT YOU TOLD AT THE BEGINNING. THAT MEAL. WITH,  
WITH, YOU KNOW IN A WAY --  
LEGACY IS THE COOKING WORKSHOP. I CAN SEE FROM ALL OF US  
HERE IN THE GALLERY THOSE WITH OUR VIDEO ON, HOW MUCH IT  
STRUCK US. THERE HAS BEEN SO, SO MUCH GRIEF. REALLY IN OUR  
LIVES, ANCESTOR'S LIVES, LIFE TIMES, ONE WAY TO THINK ABOUT  
IT. THERE IS JOY, RESILIENCE. I GUESS, STAYING FOR A MOMENT  
WITH THE GRIEF. I AM JUST CURIOUS HOW YOU MAKE, HOW YOU  
MAKE ROOM ENOUGH FOR, FOR THE GRIEF. YOU KNOW, FOR, FOR,

HOW TO NOT LET THAT GRIEF TAKE OVER, THE HUMOR, THE, THE  
JOY, EVERYTHING ELSE. THANK YOU, TO ANSWER HONESTLY, SOME  
TIMES THE GRIEF DOES TAKE OVER, SOME TIMES WITHOUT  
QUESTION. AND SOME TIMES NOW. AND TO ME --  
TO ME WITH WHAT HAPPENED, WHAT CONTINUES TO HAPPEN. BEFORE  
THE PANDEMIC OVER 50,000 SOULS DIED DAILY FROM PREVENTIBLE  
REASONS, CHILDREN FROM HUNGER. AND I THINK, IN A LOT OF  
WAYS GRIEF IS, IS ACCURATE, THE REALISTIC RESPONSE. MORE  
PRACTICE AROUND THE GRIEF, GRIEVING TOGETHER IS THE  
CRITICAL COMPONENT. AND I ALSO THINK FROM THE BACKGROUND  
THAT I HAVE -- IT WAS -- SUFFER AND SUFFER QUIETLY AND  
SUFFER ALONE. YEAH. AND I THINK, INTERDEPENDENT PRACTICE OF  
BUDDHISM IS FACE ANOTHER ONE TO DO IT TOGETHER AND THAT'S  
THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF THE PRACTICE REGARDLESS HOW WE  
ARE FEELING. THEN ALSO OF COURSE, IT'S IMPORTANT FOR THE  
SPACE TO BE RECEIVING AND -- AND, AND --  
AND HAVE THE -- MAYBE, SPIRITUAL MATURITY TO, TO BE PRESENT  
WITH WHAT ACTUALLY IS A RISING. IT'S HARD. SO THANKFUL TO  
KIND OF, TO BE IN YOUR SPIRITUAL DIRECTION, HAVE  
MENTORSHIP, HAVE PEERS THAT I CAN TURN TO. YEAH,  
DEFINITELY. I UNDERSTAND. AND IT'S STILL --  
STILL, STILL HERE. YOU KNOW, STILL, WE ARE STILL IN IT. WE

ARE STILL GOING THROUGH IT. SO I THINK SPACES LIKE THIS,  
COMING TOGETHER. WHERE WE CAN JUST SHARE FROM THE HEART BE  
OPEN WITH ONE ANOTHER. HOP NOR EACH OTHER'S KIND OF LIVES  
AND EXPERIENCES. AND INSIGHTS. AND --

IT IS NOT JUST A BEAUTIFUL THING, IT IS A MIRACULOUS THING.  
AND YEAH. BY THE WAY I WANTED TO SAY HI TO BILL, -- SAY HI  
TO PHIL, SEE HOW HE IS DOING? YEAH.

>> THANK YOU SO MUCH. I DON'T KNOW IF WE HAVE TIME. I DON'T  
THINK WE HAVE TIME FOR ANOTHER QUESTION. ALTHOUGH THERE IS  
A WONDERFUL QUESTION IN THE CHAT. I WILL JUST READ IT OUT.  
AND, MAYBE THERE IS A SHORT ANSWER. BUT I DOUBT IT. HOW HAS  
YOUR PRACTICE HELP YOU DEAL WITH THE OTHERRING THAT OCCURS  
IN MAJORITY WHITE SANGHA AND OTHERRING OF BIPOC PEOPLE,  
FROM RHONDA.

>> OH, YOU ARE MUTED.

>> HOW HAS YOUR PRACTICE HELPED YOU DEAL WITH THE  
OTHERRING --

>> THE OTHERRING THAT OCCURS IN MAJORITY KPHAOEUT SANGHA  
AND OTHERRING AMONG BIPOC PEOPLE?

>> YEAH, THIS IS I COULD, I COULD, I COULD, THIS IS LIKE --  
THE HARDEST, EVERYTHING THAT I AM DOING RIGHT NOW. I HEAR  
YOU. I UNDERSTAND. BUT YOU ARE ALSO SAYING -- TOWERS YOU

EXPERIENCE THIS, THEN, ME TOO. DEFINITELY.

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: UH-HUH.

>> David Woo: THIS RELATES TO IMPORTANCE OF HAVING SPACE WHERE WE CAN PROCESS. AND, AND, TO WORK THROUGH THIS. CONTINUING TRAUMA. AND -- AND, ANGER AND FRUSTRATION. YEAH, YEAH, IT'S HARD. I MEAN, I JUST IT'S LIKE -- THE DIFFERENCE -- THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CALLING OUT AND CALLING IN. AND THEN WORKING AROUND THAT. IT CAN BE, IT CAN BE SO HARD, YEAH. I CAN SAY ONE THING, THIS IS DEFINITELY, I WANT TO SAY THIS, WE ARE AT TIME. KIND OF, THE, THE BANE OF MY WORK THESE DAYS IS I AM -- IS LIKE, JUST, THE PREDOMINANCE OF DIGITAL BASED COMMUNICATION. LIKE, HAVING REALLY, REALLY IMPORTANT CONVERSATIONS VIA TEXT AND SOCIAL MEDIA COMMENTING. AND HOW TO GET AWAY FROM THAT, I FIND THAT TO BE NOT, NOT A HEALTHY PRACTICE AND MAYBE, MAYBE NOT PRACTICING RIGHT SPEECH. LIKE HAVING THIS, TALKING, FACING ONE ANOTHER. IDEALLY BEING IN PERSON, FOR THESE CONVERSATIONS, YEAH. I FIND THAT TO BE A MAJOR IMPEDIMENT. TO HAVING -- TO DOING THIS WORK. AND BEING IN THIS, IN THIS, MOVEMENT. AND SO FORTH. NOT TO SAY THAT IT HAS NO USE, YEAH. IT'S JUST LIKE, YES, I MEAN WE LEARN TO LIVE IN THE GRAY, AND, TO THE NONBLACK AND WHITE. BUT THERE IS

STILL A USE FOR BLACK AND WHITE. THERE STILL IS A USE FOR THAT. THERE IS A STILL A USE FOR SOCIAL MEDIA. YEAH. ANYWAY.

>> I THINK IT IS EXTRAORDINARY, DAVID. I JUST FEEL THAT, YOU KNOW WHEN YOU ARE IN A DIGITAL SPACE IT IS AN EXPERIENCE WITH YOU. AND I SUSPECT OTHER PEOPLE IN THIS MEETING AND GATHERING YOU HAVE A WAY OF MAKING THIS DIGITAL SPACE FEEL LIKE WE ARE IN PERSON. THERE IS A REAL INTIMACY AND VULNERABILITY AND OPENING. AND I THINK THERE ARE SO MANY MORE QUESTIONS, BUT WE ARE GOING TO RESPECT YOUR TIME. WE KNOW YOU HAVE HAD A LONG DAY FROM WORK TOO. SO, HOPEFULLY WE WILL SAVE THESE QUESTIONS IN THE CHAT AS YOU SO BEAUTIFULLY PUT IT. THESE ARE SEEDS. FOR MORE CONVERSATIONS. MORE OPENINGS. AND I HOPE, THE KARMIC CONDITIONS WILL SUPPORT US ALL GATHERING IN PERSON SOME DAY SOON. JUST THANK YOU, SO, SO MUCH.

>> ANNIE MAHON: THANK YOU.

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: THANK YOU. THANK YOU, CHENXING, DAVID. I THINK WE WILL HAVE SOME ANNOUNCEMENTS. WE WILL ALWAYS, WE ALWAYS CLOSE WITH A BELL. SO, I THINK -- ANNIE, WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO FIRST? ANOWMENTS OR THE BELL?

>> SURE, WHY DON'T YOU, JUST SAY THE ANNOUNCEMENT FOR OUR

NEXT -- SAVE THE ANNOUNCEMENT FOR OUR NEXT SESSION. AND, SHARE THAT. THANK YOU TO, CHENXING, DAVID, CHENXING, APPRECIATE YOU BEING PART OF THIS AGAIN.

>> ALSO, THANKS DON, DON IS OUR CLOSED-CAPTIONER, AND HE IS HERE AND HE IS AMAZING. AND, CLAIRE IS HERE ALSO, SHE MANAGED OUR SOCIAL MEDIA, MAKING-VISIBLE. THANK YOU SO MUCH. AND I THINK MAYBE, CHENXING, BEST PERSON TO TALK ABOUT THE NEXT SESSION, THE CURATOR OF OUR SERIES, AND WE ARE IN THE SERIES RIGHT NOW. WHY DON'T YOU TELL US SOMETHING, ABOUT OUR NEXT SESSION.

>> SURE, JUST SPEAK BRIEFLY. OUR NEXT SPEAKER, I THINK HE WAS ON EARLIER, BUT MAYBE HE HAD TO GO, SO I DON'T ACTUALLY KNOW, ADRIANNA, ANNIE, IF THE DATE HAS BEEN SET, DATE AND TIME. I CAME TO, KNOW HAN THROUGH POWERFUL ARTICLE IN LIT HUB ON CULTURAL APPROPRIATION AND WAS ON A PANEL WITH HIM AND, AND ANOTHER FOR THE SESSION ON, ON THAT REALLY HIGHLIGHTED, IT IS CALLED THE DHARMA OF POSE, FOR THOSE WHO HAVE SEEN THE SHOW. I AM NOT SURE WHAT AHN WILL SHARE, I AM SURE IT WILL BE FASCINATING AS WELL. AND I HOPE THAT WE CAN GATHER AGAIN IN THE NEXT MONTH TOGETHER TO LEARN FROM AN.

>> ANNIE MAHON: THANK YOU. I POSTED IN THE CHAT, THE WEBSITE BUT ALSO THAT IT IS WEDNESDAY, JULY 28th, IS THE

NEXT TALK WITH AN TRAN. SO, ANY OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS?

ANYTHING ELSE BEFORE OUR FINAL BELL.

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: JUST IF YOU CAN GO AND --  
NAVIGATE OUR WEBSITE. YOU WILL FIND ALL OF THE TOPICS THAT  
MAKING-VISIBLE HAS TAUGHT BEFORE. SO WE HAVE -- ALL OF THE  
RECORDINGS THERE.

THIS RECORDING WILL BE THERE. YOU WILL, RECEIVE IT, BUT IT  
IS ALSO, GOING TO BE THERE. WHAT WE WANT TO HAVE IS,  
MAKING-VISIBLE --

>> RECORDING STOPPED.

>> THE WEBSITE, MAKING VISIBLE IS THE SPACE THAT WE CAN  
COME BACK AND -- AND HAVE RESOURCES THERE. AND LEARN ABOUT  
DIFFERENT COMMUNITIES. AND DIFFERENT GROUPS THAT WE WANT TO  
MAKE VISIBLE. IT IS A SPACE TO LEARN TOGETHER. AS WE TALK,  
AS THIS SPACE IS, ALSO, WEBSITE. SO PLEASE GO THERE. AND  
FOLLOW -- US IN SOCIAL MEDIA IF YOU CAN. PLEASE HELP US TO  
SHARE THE, THE -- THE PROJECT OR THE SPACE, THAT WE WANT TO  
CREATE WITH ALL OF YOU. THANK YOU SO MUCH.

>> THANK YOU, Y, IF YOU FEEL INSPIRED TO DONATE THAT ALSO IS  
HELPFUL. AND IF YOU HAVE IDEAS FOR OTHER, OTHER TOPICS,  
SESSIONS, PLEASE, PLEASE, ALSO LET US KNOW THAT. SO WE ARE  
ALL LEARNING TOGETHER. WE ARE NOT EXPERTS BY ANY MEANS. SO

WE WILL FINISH WITH A SINGLE SOUND OF THE BELL. SO FROM THE TIME THAT WE HAVE HAD HERE TOGETHER, MAY ALL OF US ON THIS CALL, AND ALL BEINGS EVERYWHERE, HAVE EASE AND FREEDOM AND WELL-BEING AND SAFETY AND HEALTH AND STRENGTH AND MAY ALL OF OUR EFFORTS GO OUT INTO THE WORLD AND BRING ABOUT THE CAUSES AND CONDITIONS FOR THE WHOLE WORLD TO WAKE UP TOGETHER SO THAT ALL BEINGS EVERYWHERE CAN BE FREE FROM SUFFERING.

(BELL TOLLS) THANK YOU ALL, DAVID, CHENXING, ADRIANNA, DON, RACHEL NOT HERE, CLAIRE, EVERYONE. IT IS A COMMUNITY EFFORT. LOOKING FORWARD, AND EVERYONE WHO JOINED US.

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: THANK YOU, EVERYONE FOR BEING HERE. THANK YOU.

>> ANNIE MAHON: SEE YOU ALL NEXT MONTH, HOPEFULLY.

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: THANK YOU. LEAVE YOUR COMMENTS IN THE WEBSITE ALSO IF YOU WANT. AND, MORE TOPICS. WHATEVER YOU FEEL. THANK YOU.

>> ADRIANA ARIZPE MARTIN: THANK YOU, THANK YOU, EVERYONE. GOOD NIGHT.