

Undoing Racism

People's Institute for Survival and Beyond of New Orleans

<http://www.pisab.org/>

How Can We Undo Racism®?

The fabric of racism is inextricably woven and constructed into the founding principles of the United States. Racism was done and it can be undone through effective anti-racist organizing with, and in accountability to the communities most impacted by racism. The People's Institute believes that effective community and institutional change happens when those who serve as agents of transformation understand the foundations of race and racism and how they continually function as a barrier to community self-determination and self-sufficiency.

This nation has always reflected rich diversity from the innumerable multitude of indigenous cultures that inhabited and sustained this land prior to arrival of European explorers to our present composition. Yet, unequivocally, whites continue to fare significantly better than all people of color. In our workshops, we analyze power and how it is used to maintain this racial divide, in hopes of achieving equity and equality across all cultures and races.

The People's Institute for Survival and Beyond believes that an effective, broad-based movement for social transformation must be rooted in the following Anti-Racist Principles:

[Undoing Racism®](#) [Learning from History](#) [Sharing Culture](#) [Developing Leadership](#)
[Maintaining Accountability](#) [Networking](#) [Analyzing Power](#) [Gatekeeping](#) [Undoing Internalized Racial Oppression](#) [Identifying and Analyzing Manifestations of Racism](#)

Analyzing Power

As a society, we often believe that individuals and/or their communities are solely responsible for their conditions. Through the analysis of institutional power, we can identify and unpack the systems external to the community that create the internal realities that many people experience daily.

Gatekeeping

Persons who work in institutions often function as gatekeepers to ensure that the institution perpetuates itself. By operating with anti-racist values and networking with those who share those values and maintaining accountability in the community, the gatekeeper becomes an agent of institutional transformation.

Sample program:

European Dissent

Since 1989, a collective of white anti-racist organizers initiated European Dissent to explore ways in which to practice The People's Institute principles in their personal, social, family and work lives.

The members of European Dissent are persons of European descent who "dissent" from the racist institutions and values designed to benefit them. Since its inception, white anti-racist groups developed throughout the country. In 2002, European Dissent/New Orleans provided major leadership for a gathering of 65 white anti-racist activists who seek to strengthen the white anti-racist voice in discussions and actions to undo racism.