

# School-Based Suicide Postvention from a Liberated Lens: A Community of Practice

## Postvention Critical Praxis

May 11, 2023

10:00 am – 12:00 pm PT / 1:00 – 3:00 pm ET



# Our SCRR Project Vision



*Promoting effective and sustainable change in the ways school communities and school leadership builds the skills, knowledge, and attributes necessary to recover and renew after a crisis.*

[www.schoolcrisishealing.org](http://www.schoolcrisishealing.org)

School crisis readiness is essential. Response is critical.

**And: what happens after matters, too.**



# Community of Practice Goal



Approach school suicide postvention through liberated, culturally humble, grief sensitive, trauma-informed, healing centered, and youth-focused work

Collaboratively create content that could be used to inform and engage others that expands postvention beyond the first weeks after a death by suicide and for longer, more holistic impact

Expand personal and professional networks for collaboration, collective care and critical analysis with a focus on school suicide postvention

# Land and Labor Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we are each residing on tribal lands of those who have lived on this land time immemorial.

**We pay respects** to their elders past and present.

**We recognize the resilience of those past and present**, who work to build a strong and sovereign nation where Tribal citizens live their values and culture

**We must acknowledge** that much of what we know of this country today, including its culture, economic growth, and development throughout history and across time, has been made possible by the labor of enslaved Africans and their ascendants who suffered the horror of the transatlantic trafficking of their people, chattel slavery, and Jim Crow.

We are indebted to their labor and their sacrifice, and we must acknowledge the tremors of that violence throughout the generations and the resulting impact that can still be felt and witnessed today.

**LEARN MORE:** Text zipcode code to 1 (855) 917-5263 to learn more about the tribal lands in your area and Act:

<https://sogoreate-landtrust.org/shuumi-land-tax/> (LAND TRUST)

<https://blacksolidarity.org/donate> (BLACK SOLIDARITY FUND)

<https://landback.org/> (LANDBACK CAMPAIGN)



# Our CoP Facilitators & Staff



**Zeruah Buchanan,  
MPH  
Consultant  
(She/Her)**



**Brianna Young,  
M.Ed  
Field Coach  
(she/hers)**



**Niki Magtoto  
SCRR Senior Project  
Manager  
(She/Her)**



**Leora  
Wolf-Prusan, Ed.D  
Project Director  
(She/Her)**

Your CoP Co- Facilitators

Your CoP Support Staff

# Speed Connecting!



## In the chat, please share your:

- Name
- Pronouns (if you are comfortable)
- Location
- Current Work You Do/Role
- Emoji that represents your energy today

# Today's Flow - Session 4 of 4



Welcome &  
Grounding

Revisiting  
the Process

Strengthening  
our Liberated  
Lens

Creating  
Questions

Editing  
Policy

Closing

# Our Shared Agreements



## Brave Space

- Actively Listening to Understand
- Attempt bravery in discomfort
- Embrace curiosity over analysis
- Actively Participating - use chat, speak up, share resources
- Intentions do not always translate to impact
- Explore with a beginner's mind; no one is born with critical consciousness
- Self-Care When You're Activated
- Practice contextual confidentiality
- Move in, move out
- And remember... **There is a conversation that only the people in this room right now can have. Find It.**



**Grounding.**



People are trapped in history and  
history is trapped in them.

— James A. Baldwin —

AZ QUOTES

Curated by UN Women



"Feminist thinking teaches us  
all, especially, how to love  
justice and freedom in ways  
that foster and affirm life."

---

bell hooks

Professor of English  
Feminist Theory



If we aren't intersectional, some of  
us, the most vulnerable, are going to  
fall through the cracks.

— Kimberlé Williams Crenshaw —

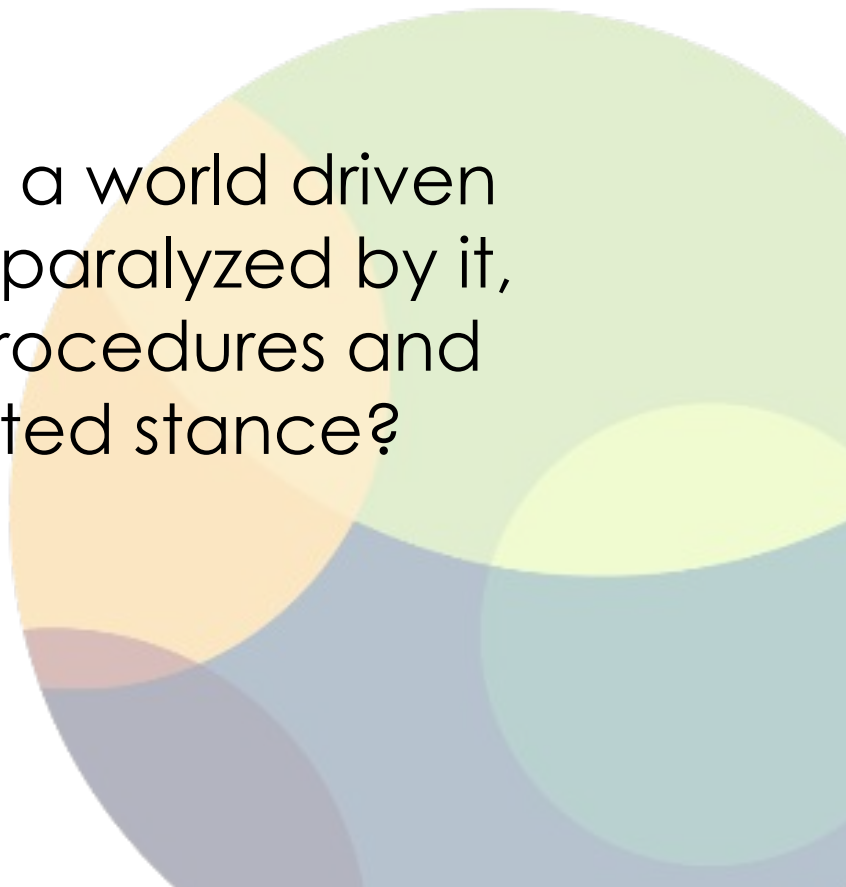
AZ QUOTES

If you are **silent** about your  
**pain**, they'll **kill** you and  
say you **enjoyed** it.

— Zora Neale Hurston

AZ QUOTES





**THE BIG QUESTION:** In a world driven by policy, and often paralyzed by it, how do we rethink procedures and policies from a liberated stance?

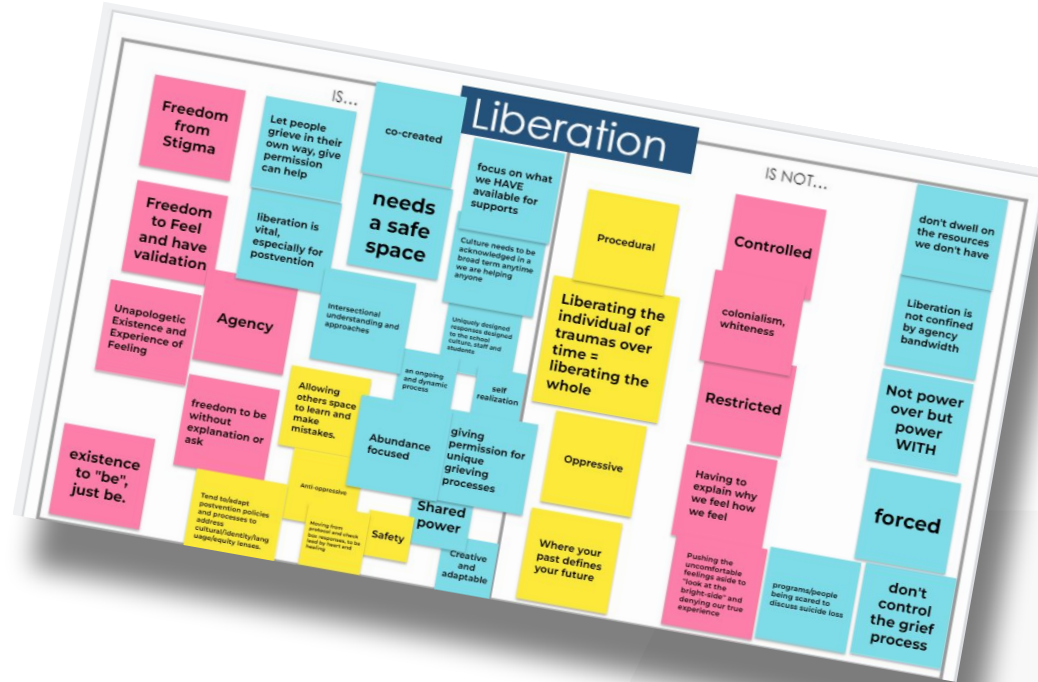
# REVISITING: What Are We Even Saying?



Liberation

Postvention

Liberated Postvention



## Liberated Lens = Continual Work

- Introspective reflection
- Professional reflection
- Actively changing behavior
- Thinking outside of the box
- Actively listening to critique
- Everyone has a Ph.D. in their own lived experience



# Strategic Inquiry: Postvention



What questions might be strategic to ask ourselves and our organizations when supporting individuals from marginalized backgrounds, specifically during postvention?



## SCHOOL DOCUMENTS

[Local Control Accountability Plan \(LCAP\)](#)

[Education Protection Account \(EPA\) Reports](#)

[School Accountability Report Card \(SARC\)](#)

[Anti Bullying Policy](#)

[Suicide Prevention Policy](#)

[Charter School Complaint Notice](#)

[School Safety Plan](#)

[Immunization Requirements](#)

[COVID](#)

[Student Surveys](#)

# Suicide Prevention Policy

Cottonwood Creek Charter School

**Pupil Suicide Prevention Policy / BP #08-14-2017-1**

## PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to protect the health and well-being of all district students by having procedures in place to prevent, assess the risk of, intervene in, and respond to suicide. The district:

1. recognizes that physical, behavioral, and emotional health is an integral component of a student's educational outcomes,
2. further recognizes that suicide is a leading cause of death among young people,
3. has an ethical responsibility to take a proactive approach in preventing deaths by suicide, and
4. acknowledges the school's role in providing an environment which is sensitive to individual and societal factors

## Radical Dreaming Space

What you liked, didn't, and want to see in the future? (*Dream big - what support would help you actualize what you need?*)

How does the community want us to show up, and how are we showing up?

## **Closing - Glows + Grows**

What you liked, didn't, and want to see in the future?

How does the community want us to show up, and how are we showing up?

