



WomenatthecentrE

SurvivorsatthecentrE-

Moving from old ways of *'doing'*
social justice work, to new ways of
'being' in community with survivors

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GRATITUDE OFFERING: THE PEOPLE & THE LAND

1. Stolen unceded territory of ancestral lands belonging to the Huron-Wendat, the Anishnaabe Nation, the Haudensaunee Confederacy, the Mississaugas of the Credit, Inuit, Métis, and many other Indigenous people
2. Home to generations of people of African descent, brought here against their will by the transatlantic enslavement of human beings
3. Violence and attempted genocide of Indigenous & Black people who are still enduring systemic anti-Black /Indigenous racism
4. Ongoing impacts of colonialism, white supremacy, toxic patriarchy, greed and capitalism that values profits over people, leaving a world ravaged and unsafe for all

STANDING IN SOLIDARITY WITH...



Introduction

- Who I am and Why I am
 - **As a survivor of GBV**
- Intersectional, Anti-Carceral, Abolitionist Feminist, Transformative Accountability & Justice practitioner
- A mother, sister, aunt, friend, mentor
- A Black cis woman – acknowledge privilege
- *An accomplice to others, 'living on the margins of the margins'*
(Adefarakan, 2022)
 - especially Black trans women & youth
 - Indigenous women, girls & 2-Spirit communities
 - Women and girls living with disabilities
- Use my position, power and privilege to disrupt, uproot, rebuild
- Unbreakable faith in human capacity for kindness, empathy, love



The Model

- SurvivorsatthecentrE:
 - Survivor-led
 - Survivor-centred
 - By us, for everyone
 - Lead with love, kindness, compassion
 - Disrupt, to reconstruct
- Macro & Micro-Level Activism
- Language Matters – Understand and name the issue:
 - If you can dream it, see it and name it, you can do something about it



Old Frameworks

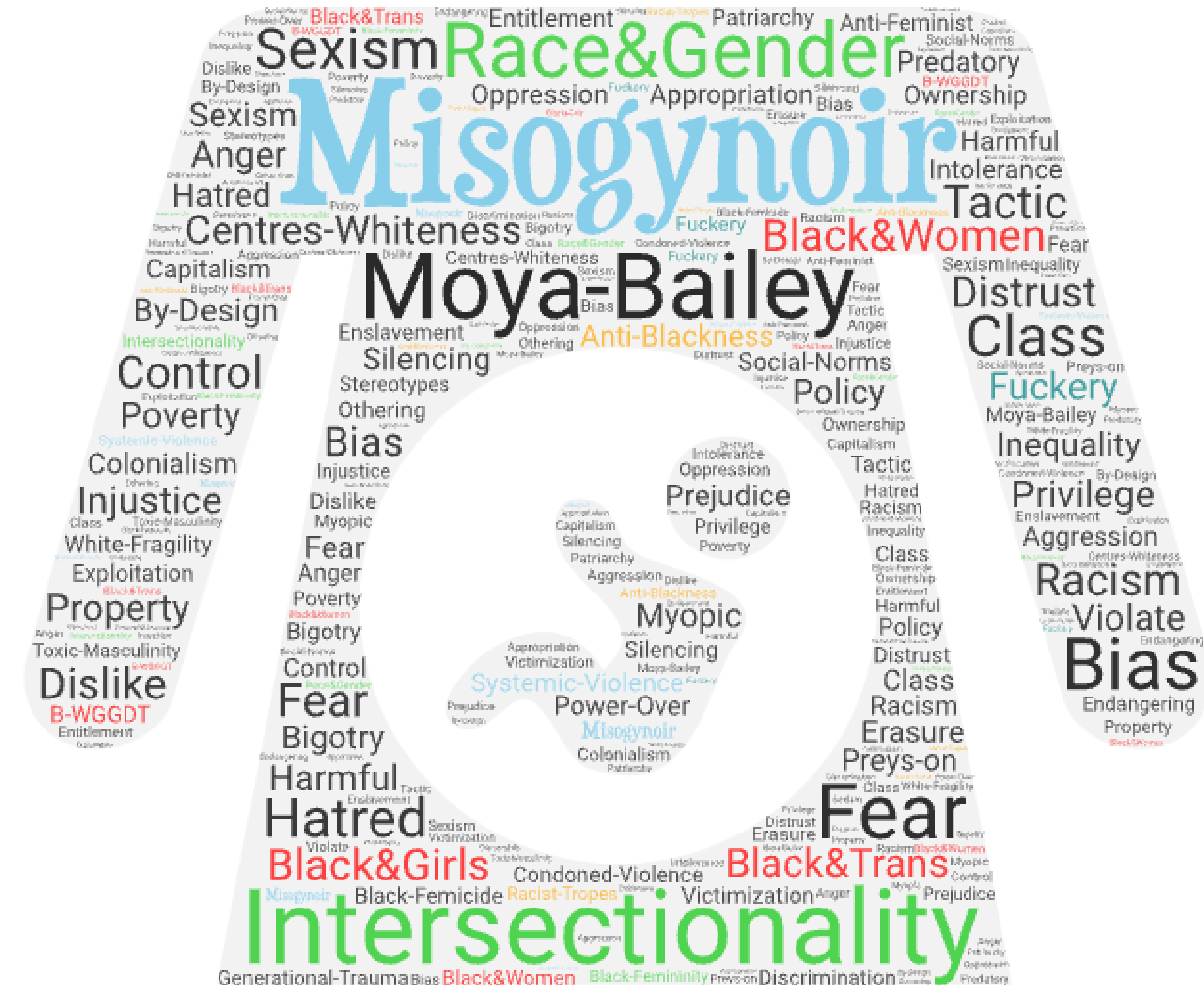
- Shames and blames survivors for the violence they experienced
- Cultivates *Gatekeepers*, instead of **Locksmiths**
- Replicates the power and control-over dynamics of GBV
- Refuses to acknowledge strengths, courage and expertise of survivors
 - Systems' navigation
 - Peer-based support
- Maintains the status quo, so the cycle continues – **BY DESIGN**



Old Frameworks

Some challenges with the 'old ways'

- Gendered anti-Blackness (GaB) & lateral violence in the GBV sector
 - Targeting, silencing and erasing Black women, girls, gender-diverse & trans (B-WGGDT) survivors
- Stifles attempts to name it, & or implement accountability measures
- Continues to pit us against each other, so we don't see our common oppressor
 - Recently playing out in anti-trans / exclusion calls



Old Frameworks

Some challenges with the 'old ways of doing'

- Abdicates responsibility for correcting social ills; places it on individuals, non-profits
- Lack of **sustained capacity strengthening funding** = competition instead of collaboration
 - Scarcity and fear-based mindset
- Lack of support to mentor young women, girls, trans and gender-diverse youth in the movement
 - Every new generation starts from scratch

Ask yourself:

If I had the power to re-do, would I do it this same old way?



SurvivorsatthecentrE Toolkit

Language Matters Video



Giving language to proactive ways of disrupting misogyny, which is hatred that exists at the intersection of gender and identity

AMOURGYNY

Nneka MacGregor, 2019

[Ah-mor-juh-nee]

verb

to love, like, trust, have faith and belief in women, girls, gender-diverse and trans people, manifested in various ways, such as physical, emotional affection and support, promotion, mentoring and sponsoring of

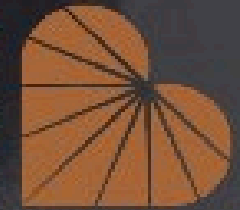
noun

A framework to ingrain and institutionalise the uplifting of women, girls, gender-diverse and trans people; proactive, deliberate and intentional centring of in policy & programme development

... not misogyny



Giving language to proactive ways of disrupting misogynoir, which is hatred that exists at the intersection of gender and race



AMOURGYNOIR

Nneka MacGregor, 2019

[Ah-mor-juh-nwah]

verb

to love, like, trust, have faith and belief in Black women, Black girls, Black gender-diverse and Black trans (B-WGGDT) people specifically, manifested in various ways, such as physical, emotional affection and support, promotion, mentoring and sponsoring of

noun

A framework to ingrain and institutionalise the uplifting of B-WGGDT people; proactive, deliberate and intentional centring in policy & programme development

... not misogynoir



SurvivorsatthecentrE Toolkit

Harmful & Helpful Practices Video

New Frameworks

Some opportunities with the 'new ways of being'

a) Survivor-centred, survivor-led

- *Promising Practice: SurvivorsatthecentrE (CWF)*
- *Global Connections of the issues*
 - *Making the connections with other rights-based activism and activist – environmental, land, animal, water,*
 - *Luana Genot (Brazil, Identities Institute), Godiva Goldring (Jamaica, Steamlab), Dr. Tshering Lama (Nepal, Idea Studio), Samar Ali (One Million Conversations)*

b) Intersectionality In ACTION – by and for 'those systemically and systematically decentred'

- *Black & Indigenous women, girls, 2-Spirit, trans and gender-diverse survivors; living with disabilities, rural/remote*



New Frameworks

Some results from these 'new ways of being':

- a) Alternative Model of Justice for sexual violence survivors
 - *Promising Practice: Transformative Accountability & Justice Engagement (TAJE)*
 - *Small Pilot to develop implementation protocols (CWF)*
- b) 2022 Purple Ribbon award-winning - Programme of the Year: **C6 Peer Counselling** Supports (CWF)
- c) Funding for the Advancing gender equity for B-WGGDT people initiative (WAGE)
 - *Promising Practice: The Amourgynoir Code*
- d) Funding for survivor-centred/led initiative on ending human trafficking (WAGE)
 - *Promising Practice: Embedding Resilience. Grounding Resistance*
- e) Funding for interventions for survivors of GBV-inflicted TBI (PHAC)
 - *Pan-Canadian Cross-Sectoral Solutions*
- f) Black Femicide Canada Council
 - *Promising Practice: 2022 Purple Ribbon award-winning campaign – Share Her Story (Outstanding Awareness Campaign)*
 - *Promising Practice: innovative campaign – Send Black Love*



SurvivorsatthecentrE Toolkit

[Explainer Video](#)

Resources

1. A Survivor-centred advocacy and activism organisation: www.womenatthecentre.com
2. SurvivorsatthecentrE Toolkit: (CWF-funded)
 - 1 - SurvivorsatthecentrE Toolkit [Guidebook](#)
 - 2 - SurvivorsatthecentrE Toolkit - [Explainer Video](#)
 - 3 - SurvivorsatthecentrE Toolkit - [Language Matters Video](#)
 - 4 - SurvivorsatthecentrE Toolkit - [Harmful & Helpful Practices Video](#)
 - 5. SurvivorsatthecentrE Toolkit - [Harmful & Helpful Practices Infographics](#)
 - 6 - SurvivorsatthecentrE Toolkit - [Within Our Walls Video](#)
 - 7 - SurvivorsatthecentrE Toolkit - [A Resource Guide PART I](#)
 - 8 - SurvivorsatthecentrE Toolkit - [A Resource Guide PART II](#)
3. Alternative Model of Justice for Sexual Violence Survivors (WAGE-funded)
 - Promising Practice: [Declarations of Truth](#) report on the Transformative Accountability & Justice Engagement (TAJE) model
4. 2022 [Purple Ribbon award-winning](#) - Programme of the Year: [C6 Peer Counselling Supports](#) (CWF-funded)
5. Advancing gender equity for Black women, girls, gender-diverse and trans (B-WGGDT) people in Canada initiative (WAGE-funded)
 - Promising Practice: The Amourgynoir Code [website](#)
 - Promising Practice: innovative campaign – [Send Black Love](#)
 - [The Black Liberation Youth Caucus](#)
 - [Culture, Gender Diversity, Age, Language and GBV](#) – A Report on B-WGGDT People’s Experience
 - [Literature Review on Race-Based Data Collection](#) - B-WGGD People

Resources

- [The Impact of the Canadian Legal System on B-WGGDT People](#) – A Literature Review
 - [The Mistreatment and Miseducation of Black Girls in Schooling and Child Welfare](#) - A Literature Review
6. Embedding Resilience. Grounding Resistance: Survivor-centred/led initiative on ending human trafficking (WAG-funded)
- Promising Practice: [Embedding Resilience. Grounding Resistance](#)
7. Interventions for survivors of GBV-inflicted TBI - pan-Canadian Cross-Sectoral Solutions (PHAC-funded)
- WomenatthecentrE Survivor Expert Collective (WE SEC) [Survivor Strategy Mural](#)
 - WE SEC Mural: [What do survivors need?](#)
 - [ACRM Poster - IPV Rehab Review](#)
 - Exploring the Relationships Between Rehabilitation and Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence: [A Scoping Review](#)
 - Battered and Brain Injured [article](#)
8. [Black Femicide Canada Council website](#)
- UNCSW 67 Stop Black Femicide [Poster](#)
 - [The Routledge International Handbook on Femicide and Femicide](#)
– (Chapter 15 – Femicide in Canada)
9. WomenatthecentrE's National Action Plan –
- What We HEARD [Report](#)
 - What We HEARD [Presentation](#)
10. Promising Practice: 2022 Purple Ribbon award-winning campaign – [Share Her Story](#) (Outstanding Awareness Campaign)