

# DECOLONIZATION

“DECOLONIZATION REFERS TO THE PROCESS OF DECONSTRUCTING COLONIAL IDEOLOGIES OF THE SUPERIORITY AND PRIVILEGE OF WESTERN THOUGHT AND APPROACHES. ON THE ONE HAND, DECOLONIZATION INVOLVES DISMANTLING STRUCTURES THAT PERPETUATE THE STATUS QUO, PROBLEMATIZING DOMINANT DISCOURSES, AND ADDRESSING UNBALANCED POWER DYNAMICS. ON THE OTHER HAND, DECOLONIZATION INVOLVES VALUING AND REVITALIZING INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE AND APPROACHES AND WEEDING OUT SETTLER BIASES OR ASSUMPTIONS THAT HAVE IMPACTED INDIGENOUS WAYS OF BEING. DECOLONIZATION NECESSITATES SHIFTING OUR FRAMES OF REFERENCE WITH REGARD TO THE KNOWLEDGE WE HOLD; EXAMINING HOW WE HAVE ARRIVED AT SUCH KNOWLEDGE; AND CONSIDERING WHAT WE NEED TO DO TO CHANGE MISCONCEPTIONS, PREJUDICE, AND ASSUMPTIONS ABOUT INDIGENOUS PEOPLES. FOR INDIVIDUALS OF SETTLER IDENTITY, DECOLONIZATION IS THE PROCESS OF EXAMINING YOUR BELIEFS ABOUT INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND CULTURE BY LEARNING ABOUT YOURSELF IN RELATIONSHIP TO THE COMMUNITIES WHERE YOU LIVE AND THE PEOPLE WITH WHOM YOU INTERACT.”

-PULLING TOGETHER: A GUIDE FOR CURRICULUM DEVELOPERS, ASMA-NA-HI ANTOINE ET AL.

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### More info:

ARTICLE: [Decolonization is not a metaphor](#), Eve Tuck + K. Wayne Yang

ARTICLE: [Indigenization, Decolonization, and Reconciliation](#)

ARTICLE: [Decolonizing Together](#), Harsha Walia

BOOK: Decolonizing Methodologies, Linda Tuwahi Smith

WRITER: Leanne Betsamosake Simpson

VIDEO: [Indigenous Wisdom and the Civilizational Shift from Ego to Eco](#)





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