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The Evolution of Activism

Old Paradigm Activism

Action is often associated with anger, fear, and frustration

Crisis context

Mental and emotional but not psychological

Tendency to demonize, shame, and blame; shallowly nonviolent

Outcome oriented

Doesn't include restorative justice

Prone to deepening the illusion of separateness through "us versus them" thinking

Transformational Activism

Action flows from the clarity and love at the core of one's being

Healing context; understands the primacy of changing underlying belief and assumptions

Embodied and integrated; addresses the psychological roots violence and conflict

Prioritizes respect and relationships; deeply and consistently nonviolent

Big picture and process oriented; open, flexible, not attached to outcomes

The practices of restorative justice are essential components

Heals the illusion of separateness by living the truth of interrelatedness