

Learner Series: Moving Toward Change

Series 6 | Video 3 | Reflection

Archaeology of Self

Yolanda Sealey-Ruiz, Ph.D., Associate Professor of English Education, Teachers College, Columbia University; Founder and Faculty Sponsor of the Racial Literacy Roundtable Series and Co-Founder of the Teachers College Civic Participation Project.

Purpose

In this video, Yolanda Sealey-Ruiz discusses the importance of doing deep excavation work to examine your biases as you move towards your full humanity. Sealey-Ruiz explains that mistakes will be made, feelings and egos will be hurt but it's okay if you have your community to hold you as you move forward towards change.

Background

What are the lies we've been told or told ourselves? About each of us individually, about people we love who are family and friends, about people who look, act, and live differently? When we engage in the deep work of excavating our biases and assumptions about our neighbors and people who we may never meet, we are able to move towards the change-action needed for a more equitable world. The lies that we live with and the lies that we believe deny us of the full and rich lives we were all meant to live. Change begins with every one of us.

Reflections

How can you cultivate a regular practice of excavating your assumptions and biases?

What are some barriers that you might anticipate?

How can you overcome those barriers and move forward on your journey of becoming more fully human?

What are some examples from social media or society that demonstrates how we are all robbed of our full humanity because of biases and stereotypes?

How can you cultivate a regular practice of excavating your assumptions and biases?
What are some barriers that you might anticipate?

How can you overcome those barriers and move forward on your journey of becoming more fully human?

What are some examples from social media or society that demonstrates how we are all robbed of our full humanity because of biases and stereotypes?

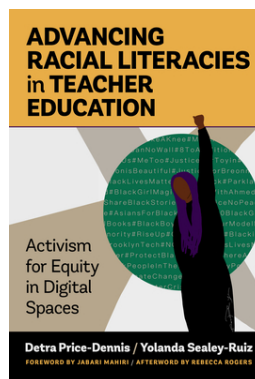
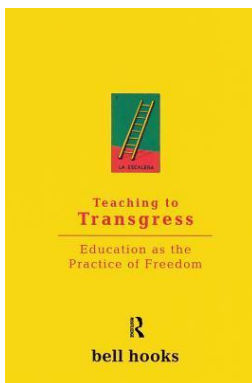
Extended Connections



A Talk To Teachers



An Archaeology of Self for Our Times



References

Baldwin, J. (1963, October 16). *A Talk To Teachers*. <https://www.zinnedproject.org/materials/baldwin-talk-to-teachers>

Sealey-Ruiz, Yolanda (2022, May). *An Archaeology of Self for Our Times: another talk to teachers*. <https://library.ncte.org/journals/EJ/issues/v111-5/31819>

Hooks, B. (2014). *Teaching to Transgress*. Routledge. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9780203700280>

Price-Dennis, D., Sealey-Ruiz, Y., Mahiri, J., & Rogers, R. (2021). *Advancing Racial Literacies in Teacher Education: Activism for Equity in Digital Spaces*. Teachers' College Press.

Hannah-Jones, N., & The New York Times Magazine. (2022). *The 1619 Project: A New Origin Story* (C. Roper, I. Silverman, & J. Silverstein, Eds.). Diversified Publishing.