



WeGovern in Practice: Narrating a Future for Our Communities

Date/Time: Thursday December 9, 2021
11 AM-12:30 PM PT/2-3:30 PM ET

TV: You can download the PowerPoint slides for this session here:

<http://www.preventconnect.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/WeGovern-December-2021.pdf>

TV: Experimenting, Learning, & Moving to a World Without Violence: An Introduction to the Resonance Network: <http://www.preventconnect.org/2019/06/experimenting-learning-and-moving-to-a-world-without-violence-an-introduction-to-the-resonance-network/>

Reimagining Gender for a World Without Violence: Art and Storytelling led by Black organizers: <http://www.preventconnect.org/2019/09/reimagining-gender-for-a-world-without-violence-art-and-storytelling-led-by-black-organizers/>

TV: Planting the Seeds to Build Communities: Stories of Healing, Connection, and Prevention: <http://www.preventconnect.org/2020/01/planting-the-seeds-to-build-communities-stories-of-healing-connection-and-prevention/>

(Re)Imagining a World Without Sexual Violence:

<http://www.nationalsexualassaultconference.org/2020/07/25/reimagining-a-world-without-sexual-violence/>

TV: #WeGovern: How do we go from imagining a world without violence to building it?

<http://www.preventconnect.org/2020/11/wegovern-how-do-we-go-from-imagining-a-world-without-violence-to-building-it/>

(Re)imagining a World Beyond Sexual Violence: Embodying Action:
<http://www.nationalsexualassaultconference.org/2021/06/27/reimagining-a-world-without-sexual-violence-embodying-action/>

TV: WeGovern in Practice: Claiming governance in our communities:
<http://www.preventconnect.org/2021/09/wegovern-in-practice-claiming-governance-in-our-communities/>

TV: Text Chat Question: What is your vision for a world beyond violence?

SF: Where policies and system changes happen WITH women rather than TO them

KK: Good, Sara!!!! I agree.

RV: Thriving vs. Surviving

HS: A world where we prevent and heal pain and trauma in order to stop violence before it happens.

SS: Humans are experienced in sharing power.

SN: Whole and healing communities.

AC: Where people stop victim blaming.

KE: Where everyone has the skills and capacity to be accountable for their own actions and to engage in repair and healing. [Also no police or prison systems].

AA: Accountability instead of shame or punishment

SM: Places where people can live without fear.

DR: teach respect to each other in public school.

AB: A world that is committed to rest and restoration.

DS: all people can live their best lives full of joy, art, love.

JM: Normalize Blackness and healing and repair.

ATB: Humans truly ascend to higher level. Medicine and technology will also ascend.

M: a world where everyone is seen and heard and their needs are met with love and compassion.

YC: positive vs. negative consequences.

JM: humanize blackness.

LH: Where even the most vulnerable are supported and uplifted.

KE: One where we take care of the earth.

SF: Respect and consideration.

DR: normalize kindness, where it not considered a weakness.

TV: WeGovern: <https://we-govern.org/>.

TV: WeGovern statements are available to view at http://www.preventconnect.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/wegovern_statementpdf-1-_compressed.pdf.

RV: a world that acknowledges harmful pasts with commitments to shift away from the status quo.

YC: We're Better Together!!!! Together, We're Better!!! Better, We're Together!!!

TV: Text Chat Question: How does storytelling influence a world beyond violence?

LH: It shares a vision of what is possible. Hope for building better for our world.

CO: it's a personal story that people can understand, better than a policy.

SF: Facts may tell but stories SELL!

SS: It helps us to imagine a different reality.

SV: storytelling helps us build strong connections.

YV: stories are a portal to our creative powers. we write-live ourselves into the stories we want to bring to life.

KK: Storytelling is more personal

JM: Making more space for contributions and wisdom of our ancestors.

M: Brings our humanity, dispels stereotypes and build bridges.

AB: its more relatable, you can see yourself in a story.

YC: Bringing your dreams to reality.

DJ: Yes @Yesenia!

SM: It centers lived experience as a valuable way of knowing.

AB: It animates the land around us, bringing us closer to more grounded and loving practices.

KE: It shows, not just tells. And allows us to imagine something that might not be our own version of liberation but is someone else's liberation (just as important).

RM: it is the people who are telling their OWN stories and truth and not by others.

LW: building relationships & connection.

RB: Story moves persons toward action.

RV: It weaves a beautiful tapestry of truth of experience and wisdom that can create a picture of shared history across cultures and create foundations for possible futures.

AH: Promotes empathy and allows people to connect.

SH: Story telling breaks barriers and connects consciousness that we are all human and should treat each other as such.

SN: creates the space for us to bring our whole selves.

JM: Lays beautiful fabric full of color, vibrancy and culture.

LW: makes us feel important!

DJ: It is the essential recipe for speaking something into existence. It is the beginning.

RB: We should capture this list and send it out to participants!

JM: YES, Alexis!!!

TV: @Rebecca, we will! This text chat is being recorded and will be available on our website soon after the web conference is over.

YC: Storytelling will be taken you out of this world.

SF: If we don't speak out - we can't be heard!

YV: "You got to make your own worlds. You got to write yourself in." Octavia Butler.

JM: I love hearing others stories!!!!!!

TB: Stories drive connection! So excited for this!

YC: It connects all the dots around you "timelessly" into a BIG CIRCLE (Past+Present+Future).

AB: Birds!

AB: "Pay attention and watch each other."

AF: "The voices call out and the bird songs meet them."

VK: Beautiful!! Thank you!

YC: WoW.....

CS: Thank you Malia! That was beautiful!

TB: Thanks for Sharing Malia! Wow

AB: Malia. Thank you for bringing us to the people and places and beings you and your ancestors love and remember.

TV: Text Chat Question: What is your place? Who are your people and/or beings?

AB: The dog wanted to be recognized.

AF: His name is Boss and, well....

RM: Thank you Malia. I am sitting in my space here in Kalihi and listening to your stories brings so much beautiful yet also "abused" images

JN: Farmers of Friesland.

YV: My body is my place. Healing & honoring this sensor and sense-maker that carries me thru life.

JM: My native land in Bioko Island that is 88 degrees year round with beaches and beautiful water sources. My Bubi people are harvesting yams and palm oil.

DR: my place is from the emotional pain from my family earlier generations that raised me.

SM: My place spans across borders, it is all this continent

DR: I am still healing, but healing by myself with no one around me.

JM: OMG!!!!!!!

DG: My native lands are in Sonora Mexico. Then my people migrated to New Mexico and Arizona. Yaqui.

AB: My place is everywhere my people have touched, every place they've dreamed at and through. My place is a feeling, a sense, a living. My place is in my Bubbie's laughter and her righteous anger. In the swamps of Louisiana and the gardens of Alabama, in the cement, the dirt and oil. From Ghana, China and spanning further and towards and sometimes against.

JM: If you are open to connecting I will send my info to you.

RC: I grew up between 2 cultures and 2 countries and I don't feel that either place is quite mine.

RM: my place/home is the little village that I grew up in the Philippines and now with the young men and women in Kalihi who are working to share their stories of pain and joy of struggle and resiliency.

SI: David...somos PAISANOS!

DJ: My place doesn't know borders, it is an inherent feeling of right relationship in spaces that accept me in all my intersecting identities, My people are those who know my heart and celebrate my existence. My beings are bodies of water and plants and trees.

YC: I've enjoyed it very much and thank you for having me here. I have another one at noon so I'll catch you later.

LH: I've really enjoyed this. These stories of renewal and healing. I have to leave now. Thank you!

AF: Thank you, Leah, for joining us!

VK: Very beautiful! Thank you Norma!

AB: Norma, thank you. Thank you

TV: Text Chat Question: What reflections, inspirations, and calls to action are you absorbing from Norma and Malia?

MV: Thank you!

SF: We need to move forward prioritizing the time it takes to tell stories and really listen to stories.

AB: To always bring the elements and more-than-human beings into our work.

DR: to really start creative writing more to relive some of my personal heartache.

BS: there's also something about oral storytelling (rather than written) that feels somehow more connective/communal. I could listen to Norma all day.

JN: The sacredness of the land.

YV: get my fingers in the dirt. the story lies within and is waiting to be discovered.

RC: Power of centering connection and relation to Earth, nature.

HP: to slow down and to be more present with the not only people but things surrounding my place. to take a deep breath and listen to all people stories.

DR: relive to relieve my personal heartache.

ASM: So much gratitude for this space and these stories ☺☺ feeling such a calling to presence—to really being with one another and with ourselves. So much becomes possible from that place.

RM: Mahalo Norma and Malia. To reclaim stories as powerful source of hope, healing and nourishment.

DL: Please let us know if you have any questions for Malia and Norma.

YV: I realized i needed to just lay in the sun coming through my window and close my eyes to really listen to the stories.

DR: we have to be taught how to turn the tide of a tragedy.

SH: How sharing stories can be healing and bring people together through communication of experiences and the energy given while sharing each aspect.

TV: So powerful Norma! The future stories we tell will guide us on the work that needs to be done to get there.

BS: I'm also struck by how rare healing/accountability stories are in pop culture. watching Ted Lasso I was so amazed/impressed by how they model the art of the apology... so refreshing.

HP: Thank you, I have to head out.

AF: "The more you tell it, the story starts to reveal itself to you."

AF: "To stay in as fertile a ground of possibility as possible is important."

TV: Text Chat Question: What is one action you can take today to plan for a future beyond violence?

BS: thanks for hosting! action: practicing accountability and repair with my children when I inevitably fall short of my intentions.

RM: offering space to listen to the stories from our community.

DR: respect of each other must be taught to each other, we all need to be considered equals in race, gender and income.

YV: today I will surrender to stillness and watch what surfaces...

KE: Action: Be more willing to share my own story. Thank you so much for sharing!

BT: Pay attention to what is.

RC: build relation with the lands and stories where I live

AF: I've been really shy about asking friends and family to tell stories when we're just hanging out together but this moves me to lean into making that invitation.

SH: Sharing is caring group workshops to open up safe spaces for healing through storytelling.

KE: Thank you Norma & Malia! Your stories made me feel the way I felt reading this book so I offer it as a recommendation (in case you don't already know it):

<https://houseofanansi.com/products/noopiming>.

TV: Sign up to learn more and stay connected with WeGovern: <https://we-govern.org/>.

JN: Engaging our communities in storytelling to elevate understanding across groups, across survivors and responders and all community members!

YV: Thanks, all! this has been beautiful.

VP: Mahalo Malia and Norma for sharing your Mo'olelo so powerful and heartening.

RC: Thank you!