




Intergroup Dialogue: Creating a Space to Listen

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Outline

- Overview of Intergroup Dialogue
 - Information on Autism IGD Dialogues
 - Panel Discussion Between Participants
 - Audience Questions
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What is Intergroup Dialogue?

Facilitated form of conversation between members of different identity groups

IGD is not a debate. It's a conversation.

Examines conflicting truths and deeply held beliefs .

It's about listening.



Ximena Zuniga's three phases of a successful dialogue:

1. Consciousness Raising
1. Building Relationships Across Differences and Conflict
1. Strengthening Individual and Collective Capacities to Promote Social Justice




Why Intergroup Dialogue?

- Blame is everywhere. It shouldn't be.
- Everyone benefits.
- We all want to build a better world.



Overview of Seattle Dialogues

- 2 Dialogue Cohorts
 - 6 and 8 participants
 - 3 facilitators
 - About 50/50 split between Autistic/non-Autistic
 - Non Autistic people included Psychologists, Social Workers, BCBA's, Parents, and Gov administrators
 - 5 sessions, 2 hours length 1x a week
 - Funded by AS3D grant and Arc of King County
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Sample Dialogue Topics

What makes us stop listening?

Historical Framing of Autism and Disability

Impact of intersectional identities and structural oppression

ABA and other interventions

Meaning behind “High vs Low Functioning” and who speaks for who

Masking and Autistic burnout



Other Facilitators

Norma Timbang, MSW

“I provide private consulting and facilitation toward transformative and transitional processes for human and health service, policy advocacy, grassroots, academic, community, and social justice organizations. My consulting work includes and is centered on integration of values and principles of equity and social justice. I have decades of experience in organizational leadership and administrative oversight, including as one of the founding mothers and former executive director of Asian & Pacific Islander Women & Family Safety Center (now merged as API Chaya), an administrative coordinator at the Center for Women’s Welfare, and lead consultant of New Transitions Consulting since 2004.”

Also lecturer at UW SSW, Seattle University



Norma Timbang, MSW

“While Robin Tatsuda does not (yet) identify as disabled, she has been surrounded by disability her entire life. Driven by the foundational values that disability is a form of diversity and that disability rights are civil rights, Robin is delighted to be part of The Arc of King County team. Robin began working in the I/DD field in 2005 providing intensive behavior support services to youth in home and at school. Over the years, she was also a personal care and respite provider, social skills teacher, and Special Olympics coach. These experiences allowed Robin to appreciate the resilience of individuals with I/DD and their families while also identify the gaps and barriers within disability “systems”. In 2013 Robin achieved her Master of Social Work so that she could take an even greater role in promoting and protecting the human and civil rights of people with I/DD and their families. Robin’s visual thinking and knack for organization allow her to partner with the skilled staff team at The Arc to identify and address issues of social justice from the disability lens.



Time for the Panel!



Question for Panelists

I: What drew you to participate in the dialogues?



2: What were the dialogues like for you? Were there any moments, topics or conversations that really stood out to you?



3: Looking back, how have the dialogues impacted your life, or work? How have these dialogues changed you?



Audience Questions



Thank you all!

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