

Community Accountability Neha Kashyap, BA Economics, 2021

SUMMARY

This past summer, I studied community accountability in light of judicial failures- specifically how marginalized and minoritized groups within American handled grief, agency, and memory. I wrote a response to a book by Sunder John Boopalan discussing various themes such as the role of rituals of humiliation, redress rather than vengeance, the importance of self care, and finally transformative justice. My personal goal for this research was to learn how communities can move past grief while maintaining identity. I hope to begin a career in government and I believe that grappling with the definition of ethics is important when trying to make policy decisions. Through my knowledge, I hope to create a shared understanding of how the judicial system fails us and why in these times it is important to come together as a community and enact our own accountability.



My research can be considered intellectual achievement because I drew on scholars such as Audre Lorde, Sara Ahmed, and Sunder John Boopalan to create an interdisciplinary understanding of ethics, and the role it plays on a political and social spectrum.

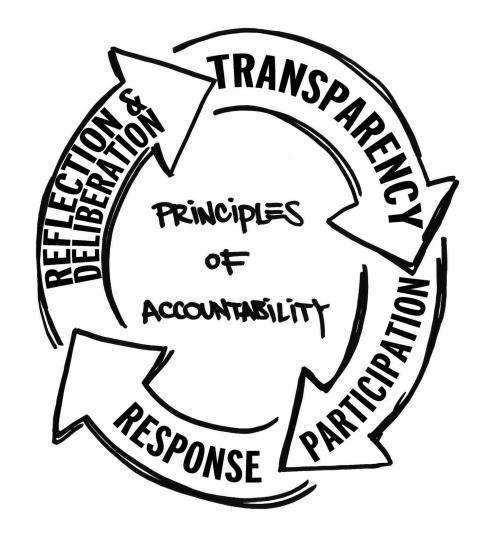
Support and benevolence can have a large impact, especially in light of a broken criminal justice system. trying to enact a warped sense of justice through vengeance.

SPICES

HERBS

LEARNING **OUTCOMES**

The biggest learning outcome in this research is ethical reasoning. Political reasoning can be clouded by bias during policy discussions but it is important to recognize that the government is created by and for ALL the people. Despite differences in race, gender, or ethnicity each group deserves a chance to be understood regardless of different identities and characteristics that define us. In the end, our own values define who we are as individuals and communities as well how we choose to interact with other people.



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IMPACT



My biggest realization was understanding the extent to which the criminal justice system and daily, unconscious habits have on minoritized and marginalized groups. This newfound knowledge will help me to understand the identity of communities and the struggles they face before I try to affect change on a political level. This research changes the way I think about the criminal justice system, but also the way I thought about people as well. Rather than feel pessimistic about the future, I know based on the resilience of various communities that change can certainly happen to reach community accountability if the right steps are taken.

ADVICE

In a social science field it is imperative to be able to look at a resource and analyze the findings in that resource. It is important that we try to not find a source that fits your own narrative but rather to truly understand the source's own argument and perspective.