

Title: Can We Stop Being Polite? Legitimate Anger and Bold Behaviors

Presenter: Dr. Tess Varner

Time(s): 11:15am - 12:15pm

Location: ISC 301

Session Format: Other

Session Learning Outcomes:

1. Participants will explore the concept of tone policing and its implications
2. Participants will learn about insurrectionist ethics and about thinkers who understand character traits like anger, audacity, indignation to be important features of moral response to injustice.
3. Participants will consider their own attitudes toward racism and other injustices and consider how to support others in their fight for liberation.

Session Description:

Frederick Douglass once wrote "Power concedes nothing without demand. It never has, and it never will." Yet all too often, people who wish to disrupt the status quo or to resist their own oppression are pressured or forced to do so gently, politely, and courteously.

What is the appropriate role of anger or of bold behaviors in dismantling racist systems?

This session will give participants the opportunity to question what role character traits and dispositions like audacity, indignation, and guile might play in efforts toward liberation of oppressed people.