

**LET'S TALK ABOUT
THE "I" IN**

BIPOC



meztli projects (operating out of Tongva land)

**IF YOU'RE NOT
CAPITALIZING
THE "I" IN INDIGENOUS,
YOU'RE DOING IT
WRONG!**



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**ARE THERE
INDIGENOUS PEOPLE
IN YOUR BIPOC?**

**IF NOT, HOW CAN
YOU REMEDY THAT?**



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**THERE ARE
INDIGENOUS PEOPLES
ALL OVER THE WORLD.**

**BUT RIGHT NOW, WE MUST
CENTER THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES
OF THE LANDS YOU RESIDE ON.**



**IF YOU DON'T
IDENTIFY AS AN
INDIGENOUS PERSON.**

**PLEASE DO NOT WIELD THIS WORD
TO SILENCE NATIVE AMERICANS,
AMERICAN INDIANS, CALIFORNIA INDIANS
AND OUR BLACK RELATIVES.**



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WHAT DOES THE WORD INDIGENOUS MEAN?

THE WORD "INDIGENOUS" HAS BEEN
USED AS A POLITICAL TERM
TO BUILD POWER FOR THE FIRST PEOPLES
OF A GIVEN TERRITORY. IT IS CONNECTED
TO SOVEREIGNTY AND NATIONHOOD.
IT IS MORE THAN AN ETHNIC IDENTIFIER!



**HARMFUL USES OF THE
WORD INDIGENOUS**

**INDIGENOUS-LATINX
LATINX-INDIGENOUS**

**AN INDIGENOUS IDENTITY IS NOT A
SUBCATEGORY WITHIN ANOTHER IDENTITY
THAT REFERENCES GEOGRAPHY**



**BECAUSE THE WORD
INDIGENOUS IS DIRECTLY
CONNECTED TO UNDOING
COLONIZATION, USING A
WORD ALONGSIDE IT
SUCH AS LATINX,
CAN CAUSE ERASURE.**



**DO NOT USE THE WORD
INDIGENOUS TO EXPAND
YOUR FIELD OF WORK**

**ADAPTING THE WORD INDIGENOUS TO
YOUR EXISTING WORK TO ACCESS SCARCE
RESOURCES MEANT FOR NATIVE AMERICANS
IS HARMFUL!**



**WHO ARE THE
INDIGENOUS PEOPLES
OF THE TERRITORY YOU
RESIDE ON?**

**ANY ADVOCACY MUST BE DONE
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE
FIRST PEOPLES OF A GIVEN AREA.**

