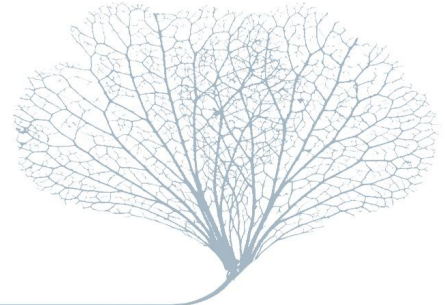


Confronting *the*

Doctrine *of* Discovery



A GUIDE FOR HOSTING CIRCLES
OF WITNESS AND RECKONING

How to organize your dialogue circle:

1. Remember that it's YOU - your connections, your enthusiasm and your passion that will get people in the door - so don't hold back!
2. Set your date, time, and place. We are asking that all parties be hosted before June 1.
3. Make a short list of "connectors" in your community; those natural organizers/leaders who are great at motivating others and could help you spread the word. Reach out to them personally and talk about what this event means to you. Ask them to help you make this a success.
4. Think about the maximum number of people you would feel comfortable hosting in a discussion, and then double that number for your invitation list.
5. Send an initial invitation via email to your list. You can find text to borrow from below.
6. Send 2-3 reminders to sign up for your event. Many people come to events after being reminded 2, 3 or even 4 times. So keep in mind: you are doing people a service and they most likely do want to come!
7. You can do this all more informally by email and phone, but if you want to plug into your organization's existing event systems, by all means do so! If you want to get more professional about it, you can also use a service like [evite](#) or [paperless post](#).

Example email invitation

Please feel free to adapt this however you wish.

Dear (friend),

As you may have heard, on March 30 of this year the Vatican repudiated the Doctrine of Discovery (DoD). I wanted to know more about what this could mean for us and for the world, so I went to an event called "An Historic Reckoning: Movement Leaders Respond," organized by the N&N Land Justice Project.

From the amazing Indigenous and Black movement leaders who spoke at the event, I learned that [*Insert your own personal insights and feelings here.*]

This was one of the most important events I have attended in recent years, and I want to share it with you, and see how it might shift and deepen our community's commitment to ecologically and racially reparative action.

As Catholics, we are uniquely responsible and equipped to make sure that the Pope's repudiation becomes more than a symbolic gesture, and instead a doorway to the real change that is desperately needed now. It's become clear to me how important it is that we don't let this moment fade.

I'm organizing a dialogue circle for our community, so we can come together and watch the video, witness the powerful words of the speakers, and engage in reckoning and reflection about the powerful questions it raises. The Land Justice team has sent me a learning guide with resources to help make our event a space of deep learning and fruitful conversation.

Will you attend?

Here are the details. Please RSVP to me and tell me if you can come, and please help me spread the word.

Confronting the Doctrine of Discovery (*A community dialogue circle*)

Date:

Time:

Location:

Please RSVP!

With love,

[your name]

Example reminder email

Dear [friend/s],

Last week, I wrote to you about an event I am organizing, one that I think has profound importance for our community (as well as our world). It's called "Confronting the Doctrine of Discovery: a community dialogue circle" and I've forwarded the original email below.

Can you make it? We are gathering at [date, time, place].

I hope so. Please RSVP as soon as you can.

With love,
[you]

Example last-minute reminder email

Dear [friend/s],

Our event "Confronting the Doctrine of Discovery: a community dialogue circle" is coming up this afternoon! We've already got [#] people signed up, and I hope you can come, too. I know it's going to spark profoundly important conversation for our community.

Can you make it? We are gathering at [date, time, place].

Here's the Zoom link (or physical location).

With love,
[you]