



How to Lead Listening Circles

DATE:

Tuesday, September 22, 2020

TIME:

10:00 AM EDT (New York, USA) | 14:00 UTC (optional support group after)

REGISTER:

[Register here](#) for Zoom workshop

LANGUAGES:

In English, interpreted into Hindi, Spanish, Italian

ONLINE WORKSHOP

**CLIMATE
WEEK
NYC**

Listening circles are a powerful way to build a strong, united climate movement. Facing climate breakdown and global injustice brings up many emotions, including anger, discouragement, and grief. When we ignore our strong feelings over time, they can interfere with our thinking, which makes our activism less effective. Taking turns listening gives each of us more space to express whatever we feel. Then we think more clearly.

In this workshop, we will:

- ★ Offer guidelines for running climate listening circles
- ★ Listen to each other in groups and pairs with undivided, respectful attention
- ★ Learn the approaches used by Sustaining All Life and United to End Racism to heal from the emotions we experience in reaction to the climate crisis, increasing our effectiveness in the climate justice movement and preventing burnout
- ★ Learn tools to take back to our home communities and organizations to help others notice, feel, and release emotions



Sustaining All Life



SustainingAllLife.org



UnitedToEndRacism.org



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The Work of SAL and UER



Sustaining All Life



It is possible to limit the effects of human-caused climate change and restore the environment—and some big changes are needed if this is to happen. Sustaining All Life (SAL) and United to End Racism (UER) believe the environmental crisis cannot be resolved without ending racism, genocide of Indigenous peoples, classism, sexism, and other oppressions. The impact of environmental destruction and climate change falls most heavily on the groups targeted by these oppressions, and on other vulnerable populations (including populations of people who are elderly, disabled and very young).

To build a movement powerful enough to resolve the climate crisis, SAL and UER believe that the following barriers must be overcome: (1) longstanding divisions between nations and between groups of people caused by oppression (especially by racism, genocide of Indigenous people, and classism), (2) widespread feelings of discouragement and powerlessness, (3) a too-slow response to the escalating damage to the earth's climate, (4) difficulties in effectively addressing the connections between the environmental crisis and the failures of our economic system.

We have found that these barriers are most quickly overcome as people heal from the mental and emotional harm caused by oppression. SAL and UER events provide opportunities for people to take turns listening to each other while encouraging emotional release. We become better able to think, speak out, organize, unite, and lead others in building a sustainable world.

SAL and UER are projects of and use the tools of Re-evaluation Counseling, which currently exists in 95 countries.

For more information:
www.sustainingalllife.org
www.unitedtoendracism.org

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