

POLITICAL TENSIONS: CAPITALISM, COLONIZATION & RECONCILIATION

DIGGING IN: FACILITATING DIALOGUE AND ACTION

KEY THEMES AND TERMS

Industrial food systems, food security, food sovereignty, culturally appropriate food, land sovereignty, self-determination, reconciliation, Black and Indigenous Communities, racism, resistance, migrant workers solidarity, activism, women and security, and marginalized communities.

CATALYZING CONNECTIONS

DECODING QUESTIONS

- *Description:* What are some of the political tensions referred to in this article? What is at the root of these tensions?
- *Personal Connection:* How does the website connect to current events related to Black and Indigenous Communities? Note any key themes and terms.
- *Common Themes:* What social and economic forces are shaping food systems?
- *Social Analysis:* What are the challenges related to Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commissions and process?
- *Planning for Action:* What are the intersectional challenges related to advancing just and sustainable food systems? What can be done on a local level to address these challenges?

SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

- Discuss the meaning of "there is no political reconciliation without reconciliation with the land." How does the statement connect to tensions around food sovereignty?
- How have globalization and neoliberal trade impacted food sovereignty? Think of large-scale farming, NGO's, freetrade, foreign investment, restructuring in Latin-America.
- What are the systemic issues that hinder food justice and food sovereignty? How can new alliances tackle anti-Black and anti-Indigenous racism in food justice and food sovereignty movements?
- What are the obstacles for small-scale and campesino farmers in fighting industrial agriculture? What can they do to combat these

obstacles? Think of localized, decentralized, and collective solutions that adapt to regional needs.

HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES

Photo and art exhibits are an integral part of the visual representation of social movements. Find an image or artwork that depicts food sovereignty, and analyze the different approaches or themes represented. What are the ways that art can be used to represent movements that promote food sovereignty?

An example can be seen in [this](#) photo exhibit on food security from Mohammad Rakibul Hasan called The Last Savings.

INTERGENERATIONAL AND INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE

What cultural knowledges and practical skills are being lost through corporate industrial food systems? How are food justice movements seeking to reclaim these knowledges and skills? How can we draw knowledges from elders in our communities? How can we engage both young people and elders to keep these [knowledges and skills alive](#)?

What are the ways Indigenous and campesino movements are defending food sovereignty? Think of community, gender balance, and representation.

The Black Lives Matter movement highlighted many systemic issues faced by BIPOC communities. How can new anti-racism movements tackle issues related to food justice and food sovereignty?

INDIVIDUAL AND COLLECTIVE ACTION

Study the [seven pillars of food sovereignty](#) and discuss actions that can be taken at the individual and institutional levels.

Research programs in your community that focus on food sovereignty. What activities are they supporting? How can you support these programs?

What are the negative impacts of GMO seeds for Indigenous and small-scale farmers? What are the ways to advance seed saving programs to promote resilient seed systems?

How can campaigns and social movements that challenge the power of fossil fuel industries and land and resource exploitation promote agroecology and sustainable farming?

CONNECTING TO OTHER PHOTO & VIDEO ESSAYS

- [Food Justice](#)
- [Who Will Feed Us?](#)
- [Why Farmer's Markets?](#)
- [Mutual Nurturing](#)

DIGGING DEEPER: RESOURCES FOR FURTHER RESEARCH AND ACTION

VIDEOS

chescaleigh. (November 22, 2014). [5 Tips For Being An Ally](#) [YouTube Video].

Six Nations Polytechnic. (January 29, 2016). [Ecological Knowledge & the Dish with One Spoon - Conversation in Cultural Fluency #2](#) [YouTube Video].

The Agenda. (February 12, 2019). [Rethinking Canada's Food System](#). [Video] TVO.

Lee, M. S. (Director). (2016). [Migrant Dreams](#) (Documentary). TVO.

BOOKS & ARTICLES

Akwasasne Notes. (Eds.). (2005). *Basic call to consciousness*. Summertown, TN: Native Voices.

Carlson-Manathara, E., & Rowe, G. (2021). *Living in Indigenous Sovereignty*. Fernwood Publishing.

Deawuo, L.A. (2020, June 4). [Words from our chair: We cannot talk about food without talking about racism](#). SeedChange.

Estates, N. (2019). [Our History is the Future](#). Verso Publishing.

Hathaway, M., Blanco, V., Chiblow, J., & Jackson, A. (2021). [Listening to Indigenous Voices: A Dialogue Guide on Justice and Right Relationships](#). Novalis Publishing.

Holt-Giménez, E. (2010). [Food security, food justice, or food sovereignty](#). *Food First Backgrounder*, 16(4), 1-4.

Lim, A. (2020, June 12). [We Shall Not Be Moved, by Audrea Lim](#). Harper's Magazine.

Penniman, L. (2018). *Farming while black: Soul Fire Farm's Practical Guide to Liberation on the Land*. Chelsea Green Publishing Company.

Wise, T. A. (2019). [Eating Tomorrow: Agribusiness, Family Farmers, and the Battle for the Future of Food](#). The New Press.

ORGANIZATIONS & WEBSITES

- **Food Secure Canada.**
- **Indigenous Environmental Network**
- **Global Alliance For the Future of Food**
- **Seeds of Diversity**
- **Seed Change**
- **ETC Group**
- **La Via Campesina**
- **Black Food Justice Network**