

# HOW TO #AMPLIFY BIPOC VOICES



## SHARE

Use your social media as a platform to #sharethemic! Repost and re-share helpful resources and perspectives from BIPOC community members, activists, scholars, podcasters, authors, healthcare providers, etc.

When you are in a space with BIPOC folk, ask yourself: are their voices being heard? Am I actively listening and creating space for other perspectives besides my own? Is this space created to amplify all voices, or does it silence some while amplifying others? What work can I do to change this? What privileges do I have and how can I redistribute it to others?

Give credit where credit is due! If you repost, use, or cite the artwork or idea of a BIPOC artist, scholar, etc. make sure to give them full credit for their work! Many BIPOC struggle with their art and scholarship being used without credit by those who are trying to be helpful and educate others on anti-racism and racial justice.



## GIVE CREDIT



## PAY + DONATE

When you can, be sure to donate to BIPOC creators and organizations if you are learning from and benefit from their work! Many will offer their personal and professional venmo accounts on social media as an easy way to donate.

This allows them to keep offering content for free on their platforms.



## RESEARCH

If you can google the answer to something that you would like to learn about race, culture, and the experiences of BIPOC in America, GOOGLE it!

Take the time to learn the history of racism in America and of other racial and cultural groups in this country.

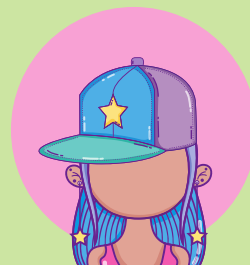
Please remember that BIPOC folk are busy with their own lives and work, so please do not expect or rely upon them to answer all of your questions (when they freely offer it on social media, consider it a gift and thank them!)

## DIVERSIFY

Ask yourself: how many BIPOC authors are currently on my bookshelf? How many of my teachers are BIPOC and are there BIPOC educators who I can follow and learn from on social media? What BIPOC-led podcasts do I listen to? What BIPOC small businesses do I buy from and support? Do I make an effort to have a diverse group of friends who look and live different lives than I do?



After that, work to diversify your life: the brands you consume from, the people you learn from and listen to, etc!



## WATCH OUT FOR APPROPRIATION

Cultural appropriation is when you adopt someone else's sacred cultural traditions, histories, stories, language, forms of expression, physical appearance, or customs.

Cultural appropriation is harmful because another person's culture belongs to them and their identity, not you. Their stories are theirs to tell, not yours:

Cultural appropriation can look like:

- assuming how someone from a different culture feels about something related to their culture
- Telling the stories and histories of BIPOC people without consulting them, making them the primary creators in the process, and giving them credit for their work.
- Wearing another person's cultural identity. Ex: traditional African braid hairstyles, chopsticks in your hair or using them for food not traditionally eaten with chopsticks, blackface, wearing sombreros, bindis, feathers in your hair, headdresses, teeth grills, saris, etc.
- Using the shared language and terms of another culture that are not yours to use. ex: singing the n-word in a song, using terms like "tribe" or "spirit animal" that trivialize the immense historical significance of these words.



## CALL IT OUT! (WITH LOVE)

If you see someone engaging in racist behaviors or appropriating another person's culture, or misrepresenting BIPOC, don't stay silent.

kindly bring it to their attention.