April 30-May 2, 2017

OTHERING & BELONGING CONFERENCE

We the People:

Practicing Belonging in a Period of Deep Anxiety

HOW DO WE THINK ABOUT, TALK ABOUT, AND GIVE BIRTH TO A WORLD WHERE ALL BELONG?

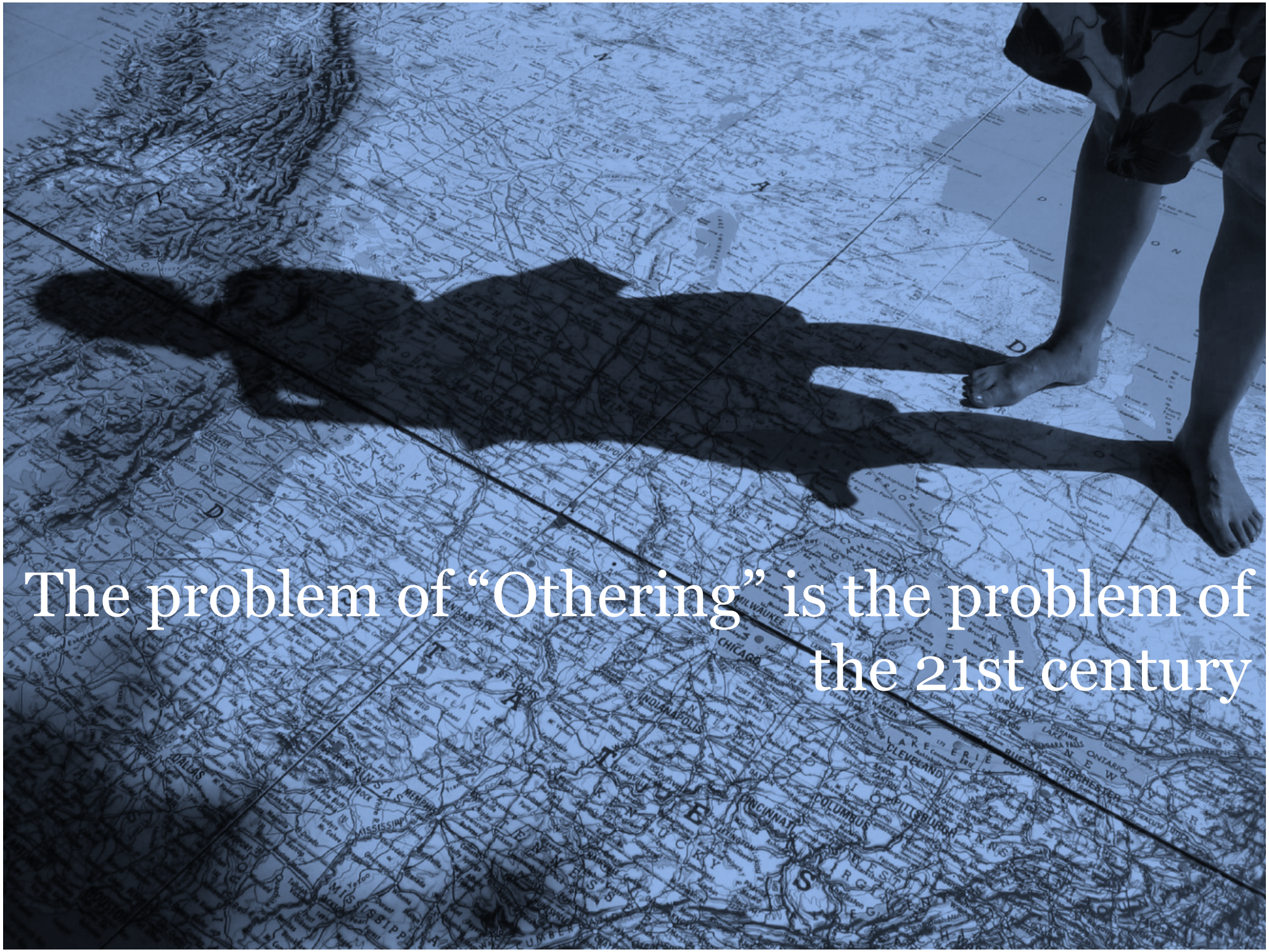
Who are we? Who we be? “We”?

“It was we, the people; not we, the white male citizens; nor yet we, the male citizens; but we, the whole people, who formed the Union... Men, their rights and nothing more; women, their rights and nothing less.”

— SUSAN B. ANTHONY, **1873**

We don't believe you 'cause we the people
Are still here in the rear, ayo, we don't need you
You in the killing-off-good-young-nigga mood

— A TRIBE CALLED QUEST, **2017**

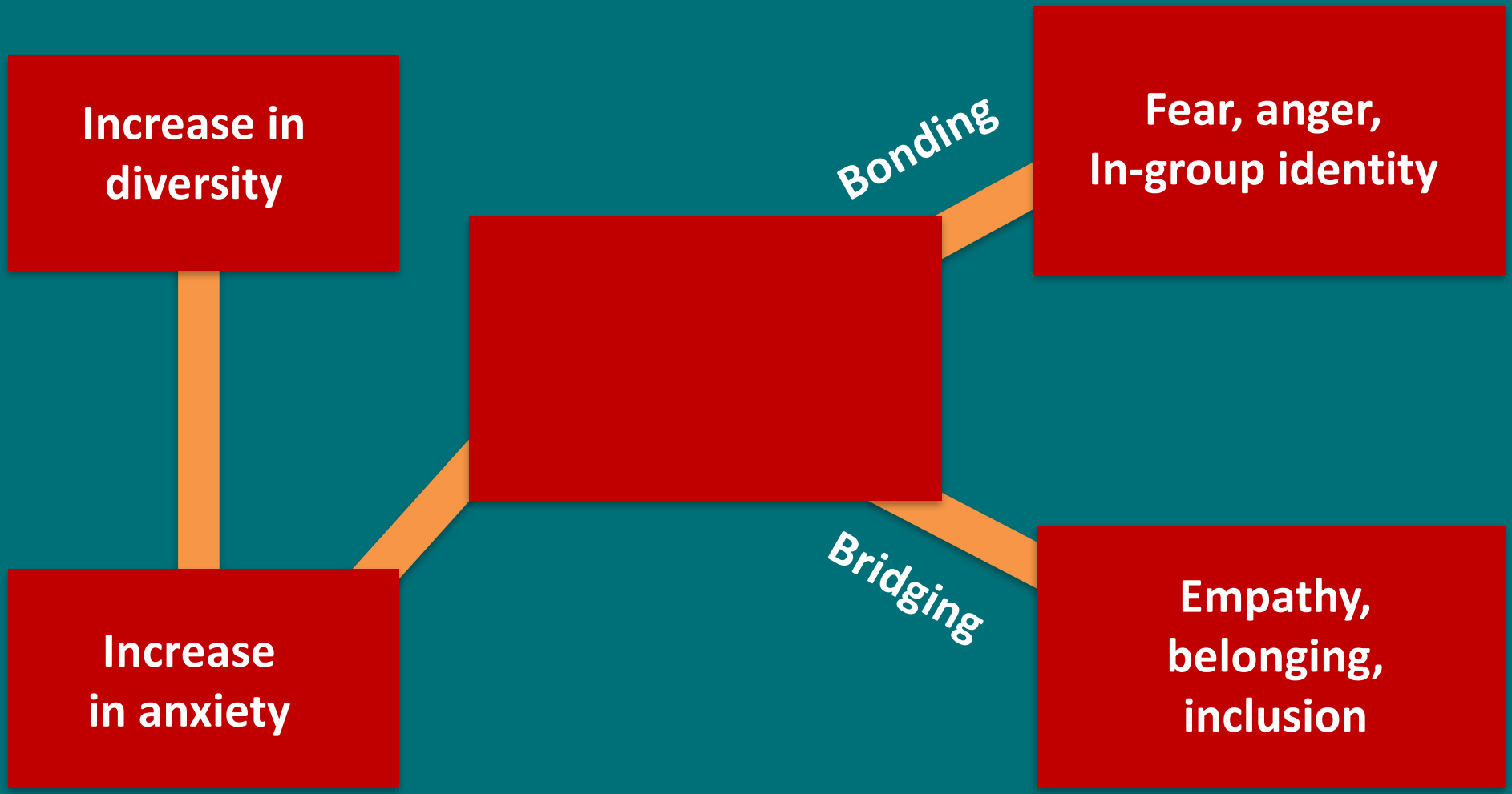

The problem of "Othering" is the problem of the 21st century

We live in a deeply divided America:

"More accurately, it is the interaction of these three forces— **race, region, and movements**—that have overwhelmingly shaped the evolution of American politics from 1960 to the present. We begin with race. Virtually all of the major movements that will take their turn center stage in our narrative—civil rights , white backlash, New Left, Tax Revolt, Christian Right, Tea Party—bear the very strong, if variable, imprint of race."

McAdam, Doug; Kloos, Karina (2014-07-22). Deeply Divided

As diversity grows, so does anxiety:



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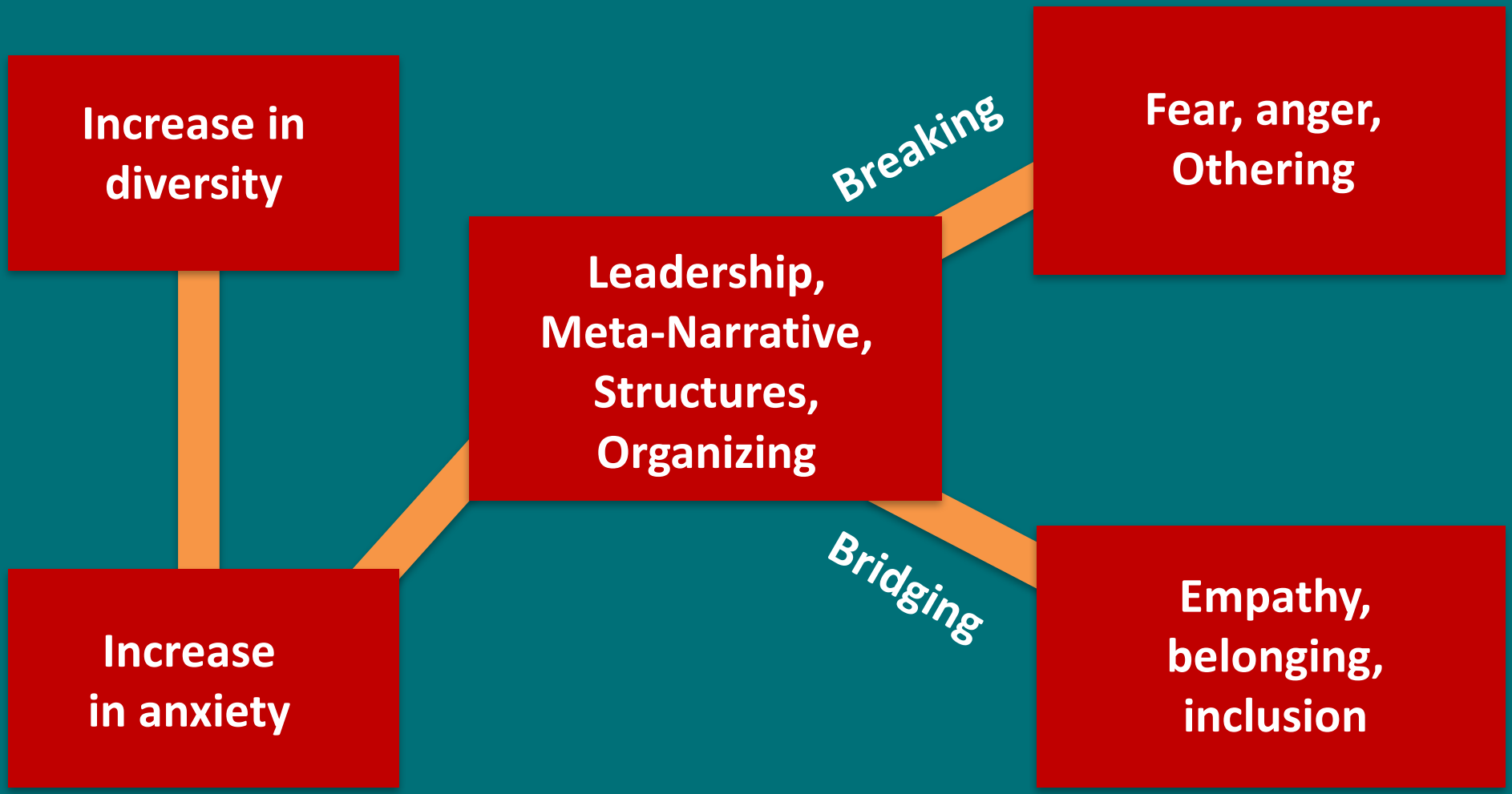
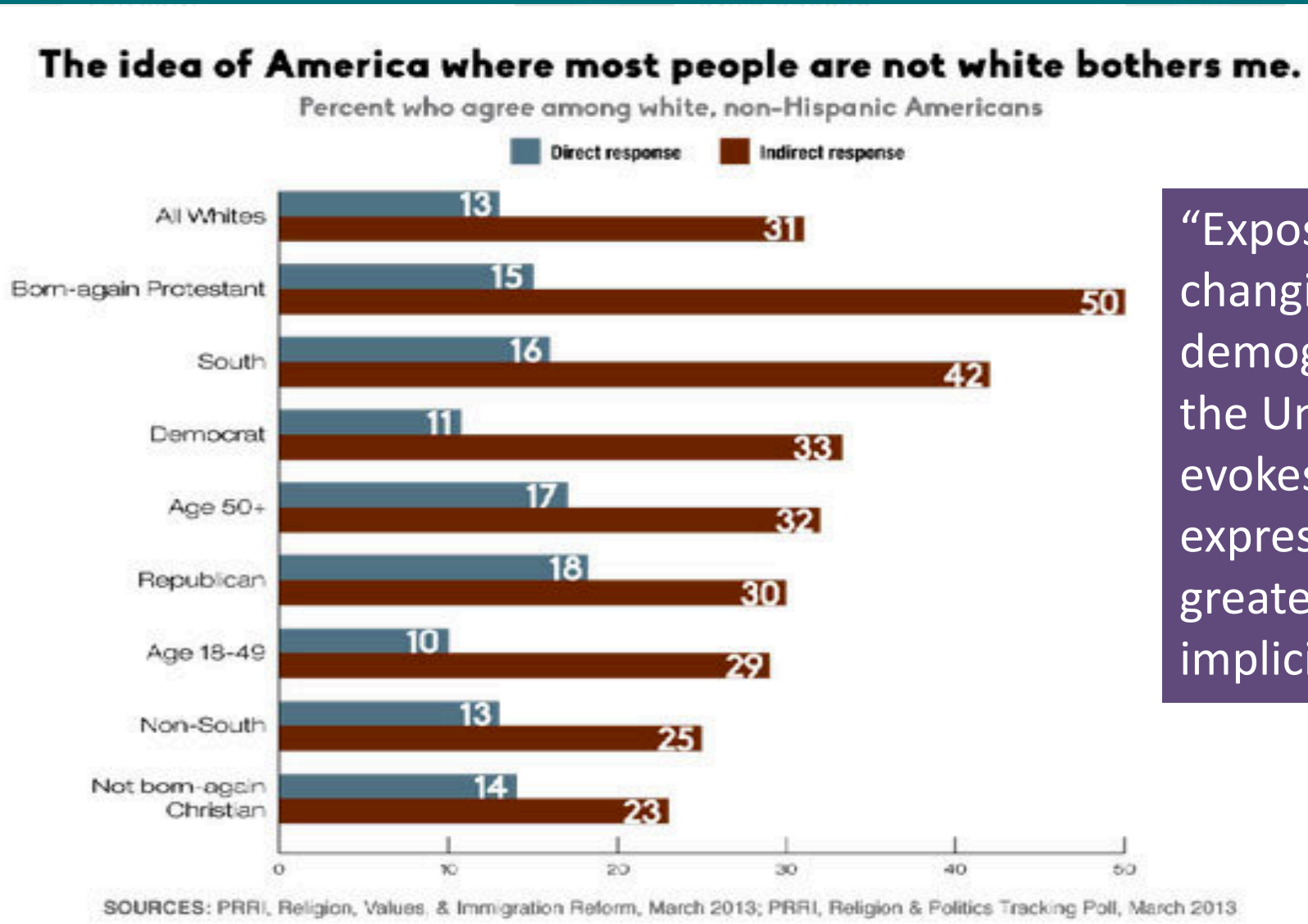
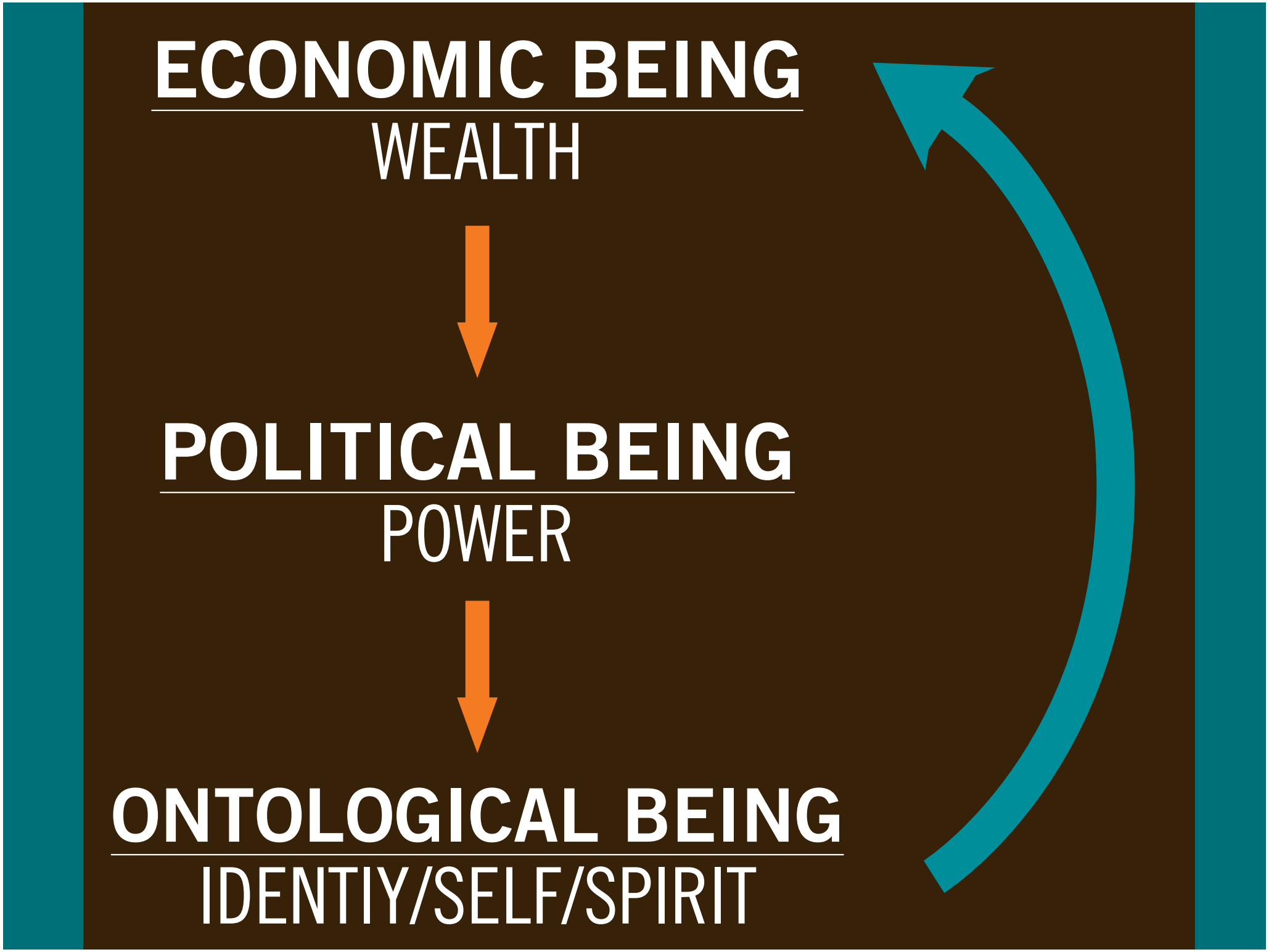


The Great White Hope
(2014 New York Times article)



"Exposure to the changing demographics of the United States evokes the expression of greater explicit and implicit racial bias."


ECONOMIC BEING
WEALTH
POLITICAL BEING
POWER
ONTOLOGICAL BEING
IDENTIY/SELF/SPIRIT

What's going on in 2017?

1. Increase in **diversity**

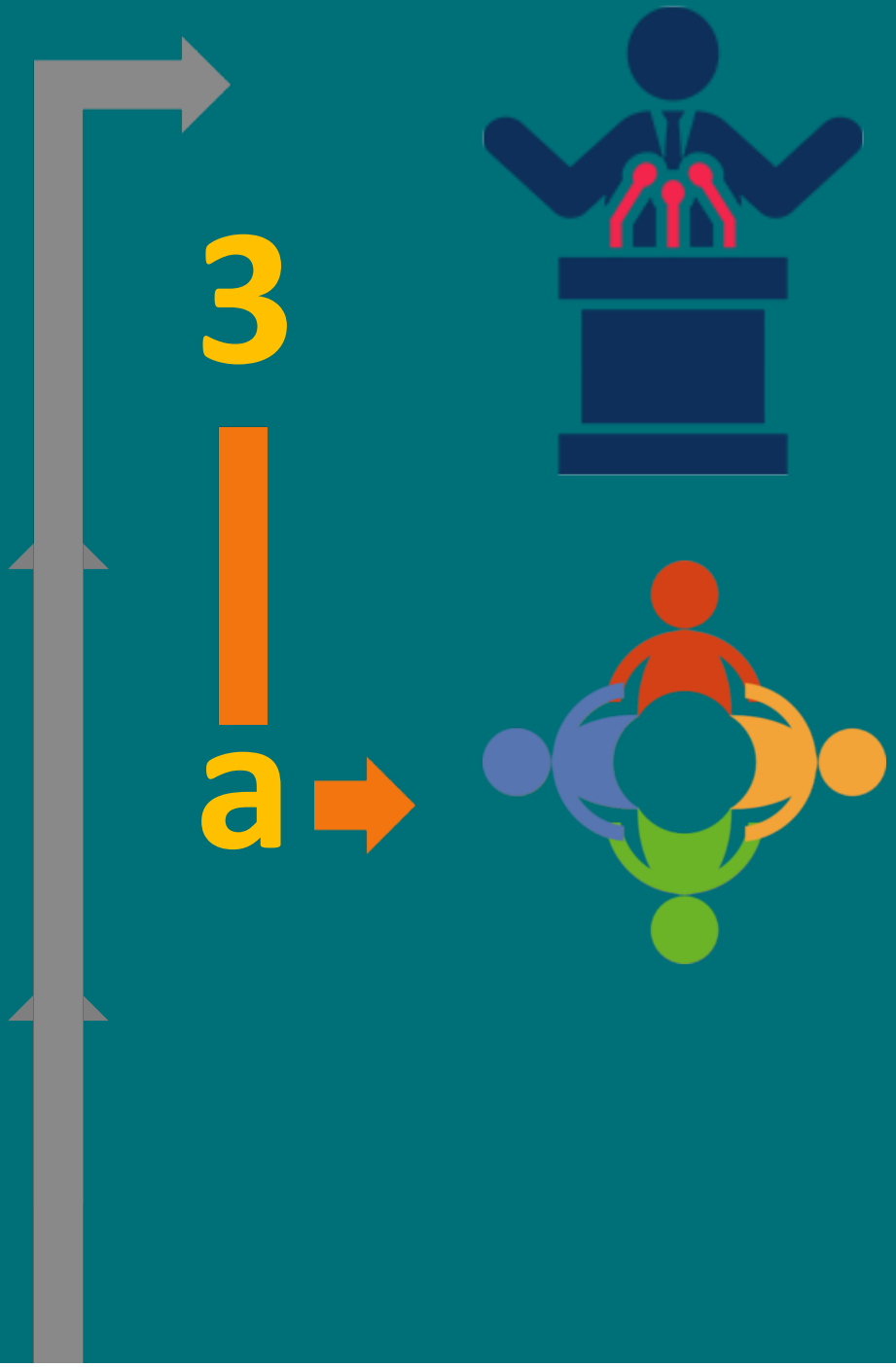
1

What's going on in 2017?

1. Increase in **diversity**
2. Increase in **anxiety**

What's going on in 2017?

1. Increase in **diversity**
2. Increase in **anxiety**
3. Look to **leadership** to set **meta-narrative**



What's going on in 2017?

1. Increase in **diversity**
2. Increase in **anxiety**
3. Look to **leadership** to set **meta-narrative** that…

    a. **bridge** communities.

    EMPATHY

    INCLUSION

    BELONGING

What's going on in 2017?

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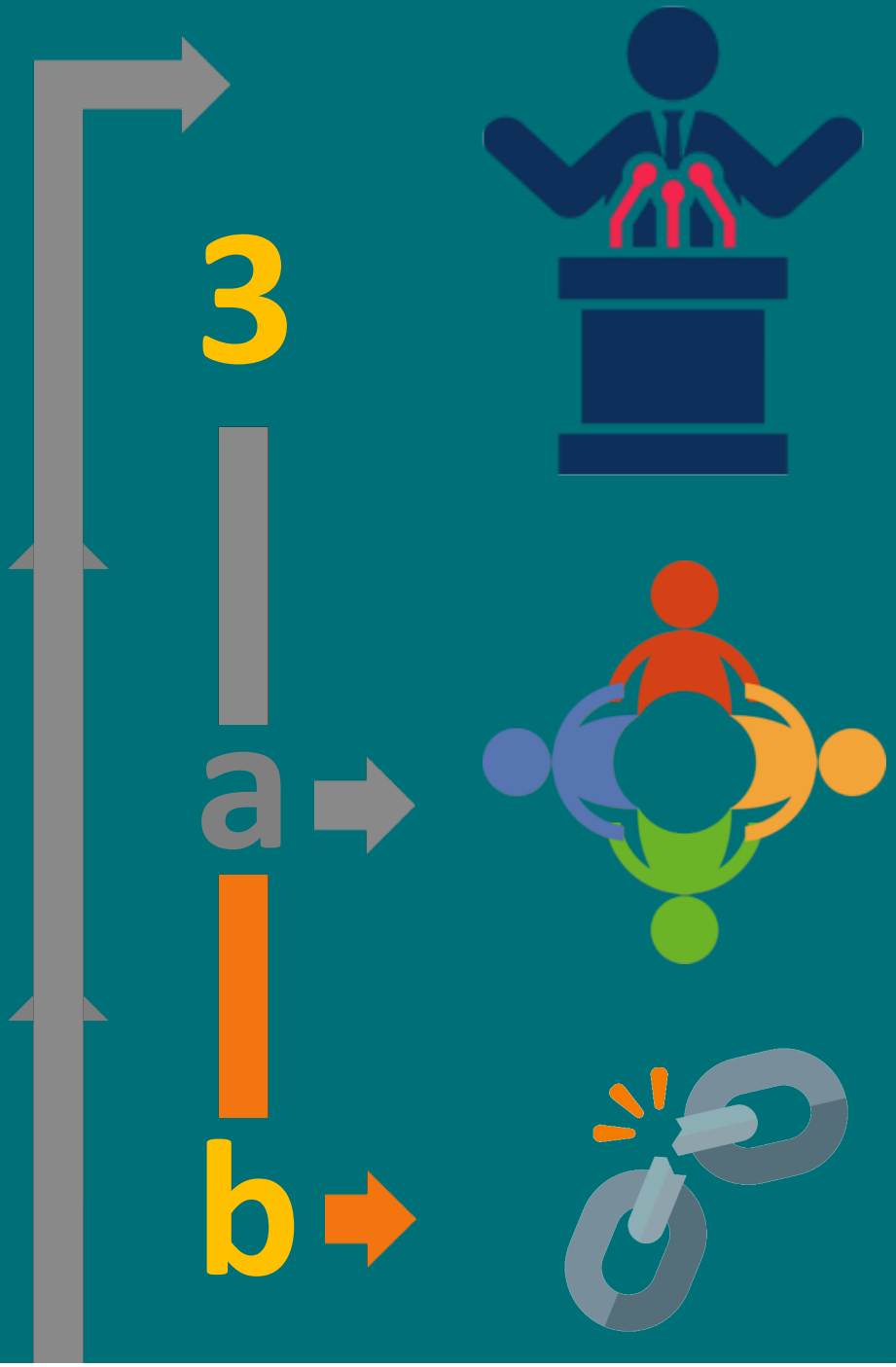


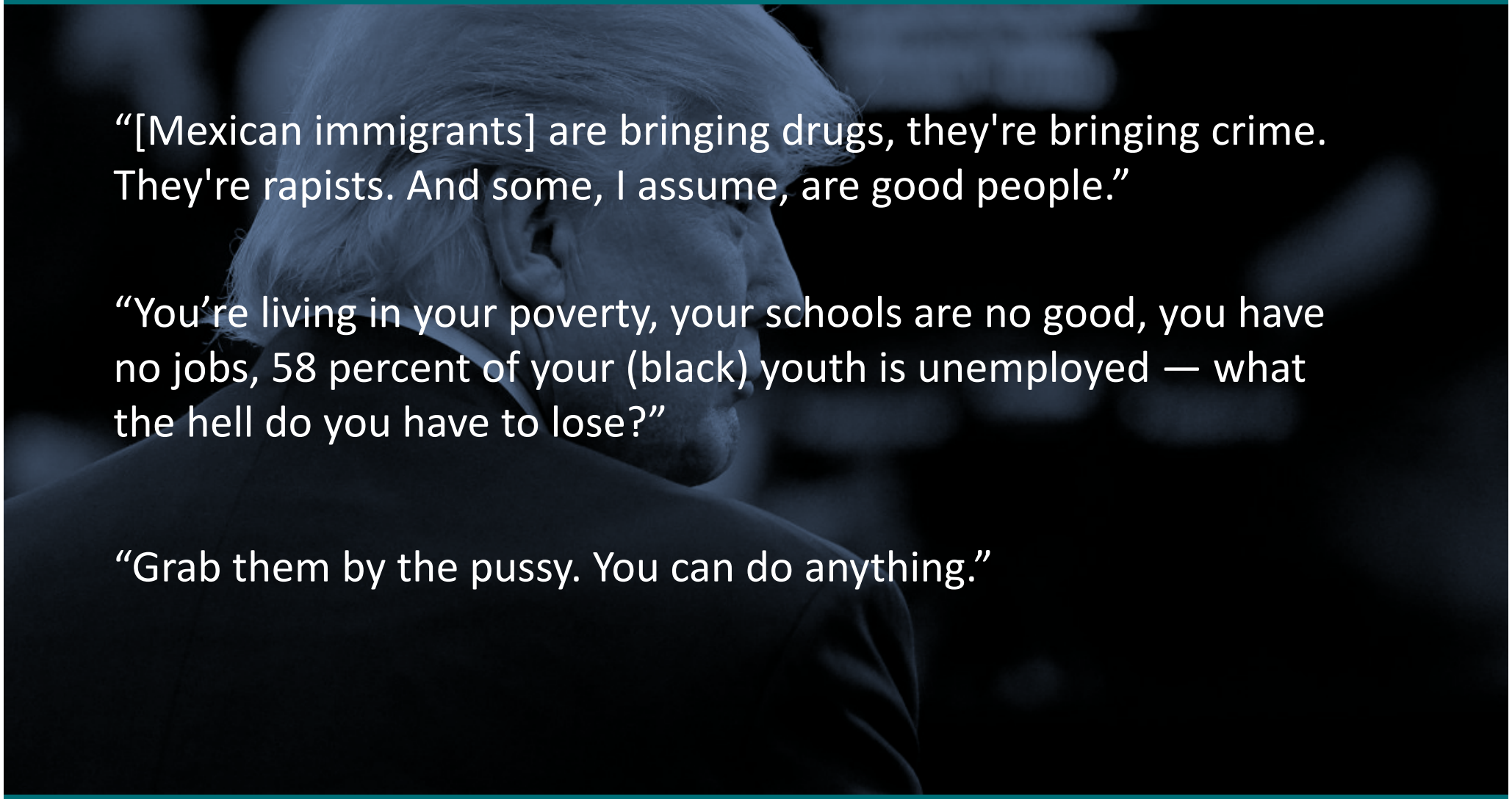
a. **bridge** communities.
   - EMPATHY
   - INCLUSION
   - BELONGING

b. **breaks** communities.
   - FEAR
   - ANGER
   - **OTHERING**

Othering is a generalized set of common processes that engender marginality and persistent inequality across any of the full range of human differences.

What's different about now?

What's different about now?



"[Mexican immigrants] are bringing drugs, they're bringing crime. They're rapists. And some, I assume, are good people."

"You're living in your poverty, your schools are no good, you have no jobs, 58 percent of your (black) youth is unemployed — what the hell do you have to lose?"

"Grab them by the pussy. You can do anything."

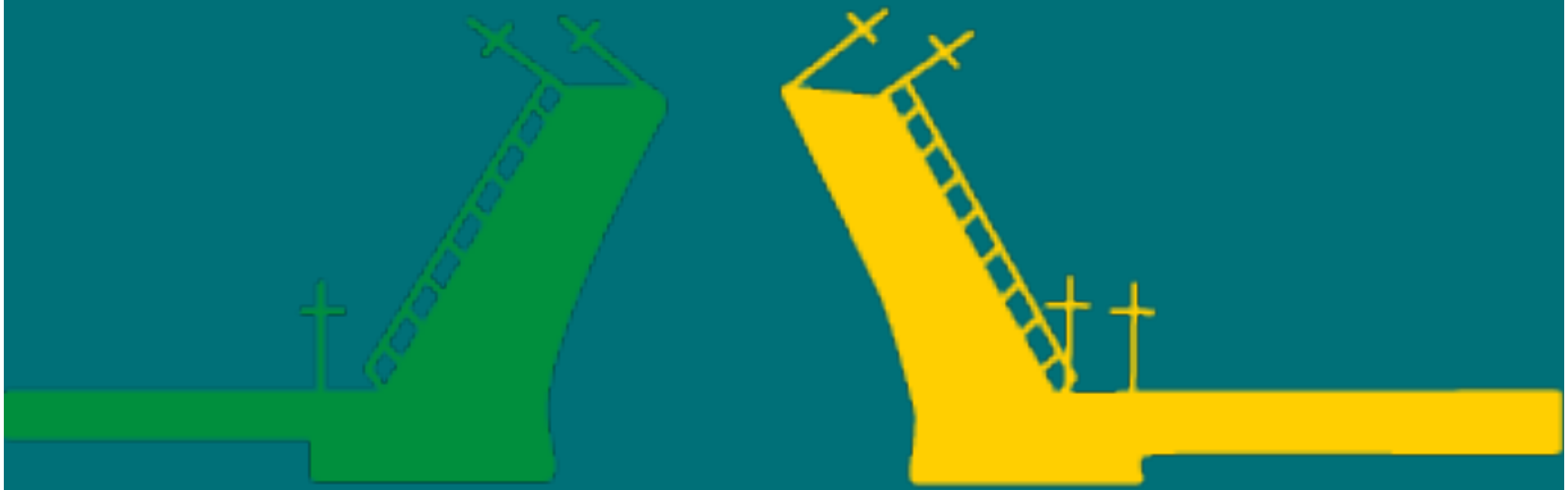
Demagoguery in a global perspective — From Europe…

VOTES FOR TOTALITARIAN AND AUTHORITARIAN POPULIST PARTIES AS % OF VOTES IN MOST RECENT NATIONAL ELECTIONS*

* 33 European countries. *See* "Drawbridges up," The Economist, July 30, 2016.

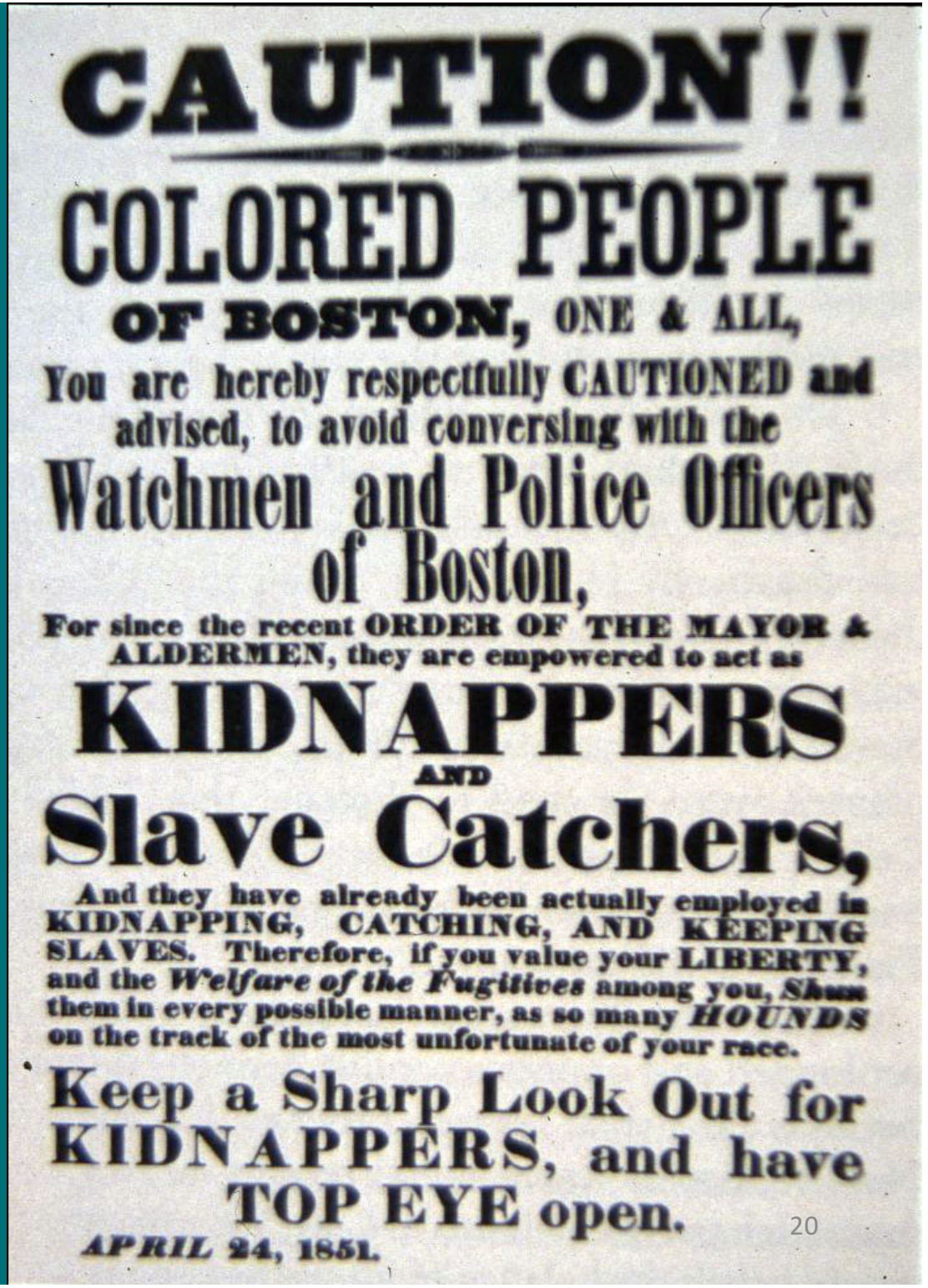
Demagoguery in a global perspective — From Europe… to Asia

Demagoguery does not bridge — it **breaks.**



U.S. PAST

1851 poster warns "colored people" of Boston about watchmen acting as slave catchers.



CAUTION!!

COLORED PEOPLE

OF BOSTON, ONE & ALL,

You are hereby respectfully CAUTIONED and advised, to avoid conversing with the

Watchmen and Police Officers of Boston,

For since the recent ORDER OF THE MAYOR & ALDERMEN, they are empowered to act as

KIDNAPPERS AND Slave Catchers,

And they have already been actually employed in KIDNAPPING, CATCHING, AND KEEPING SLAVES. Therefore, if you value your LIBERTY, and the *Welfare of the Fugitives* among you, Shun them in every possible manner, as so many *HOUNDS* on the track of the most unfortunate of your race.

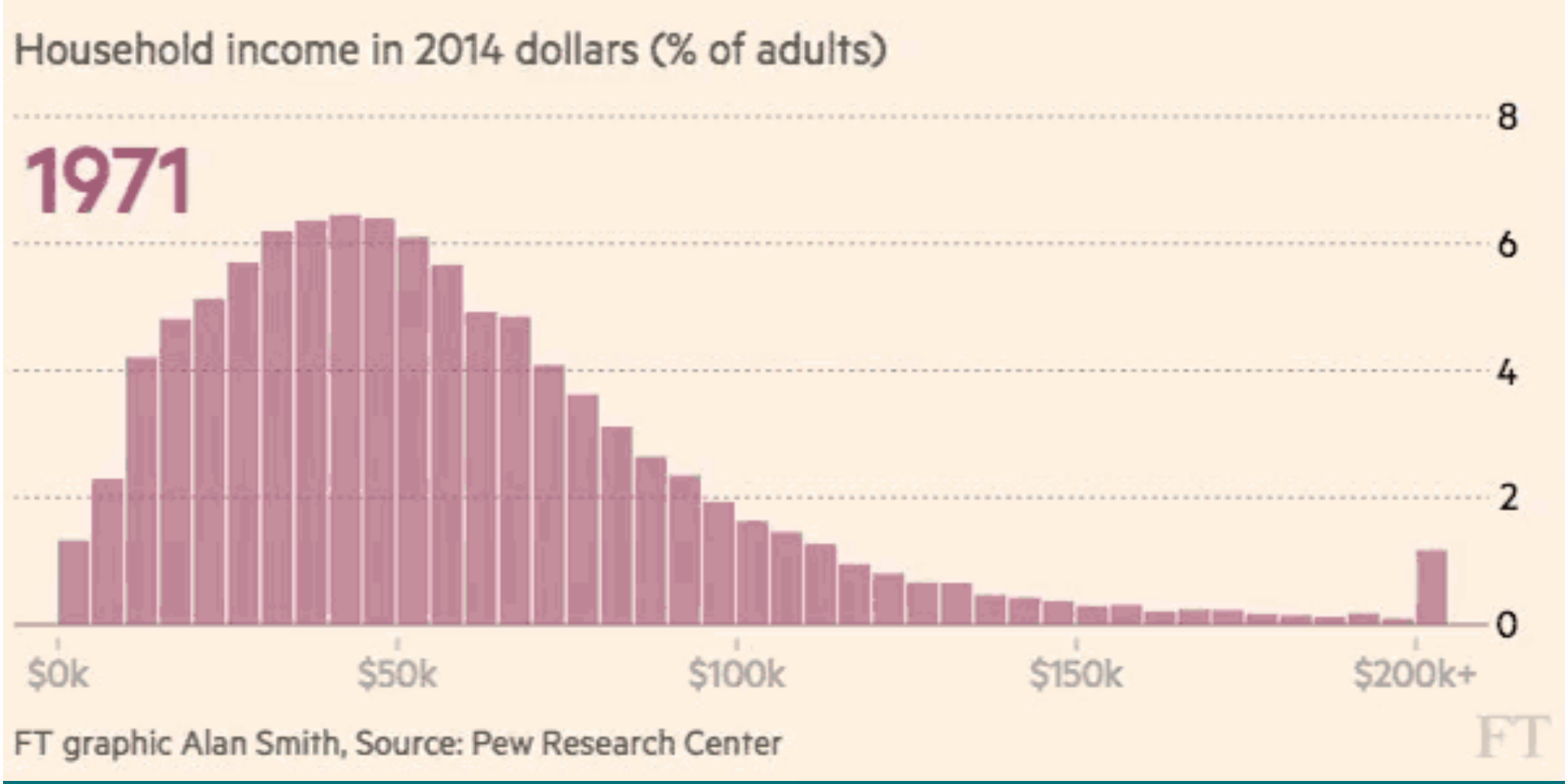
Keep a Sharp Look Out for KIDNAPPERS, and have TOP EYE open.

APRIL 24, 1851.

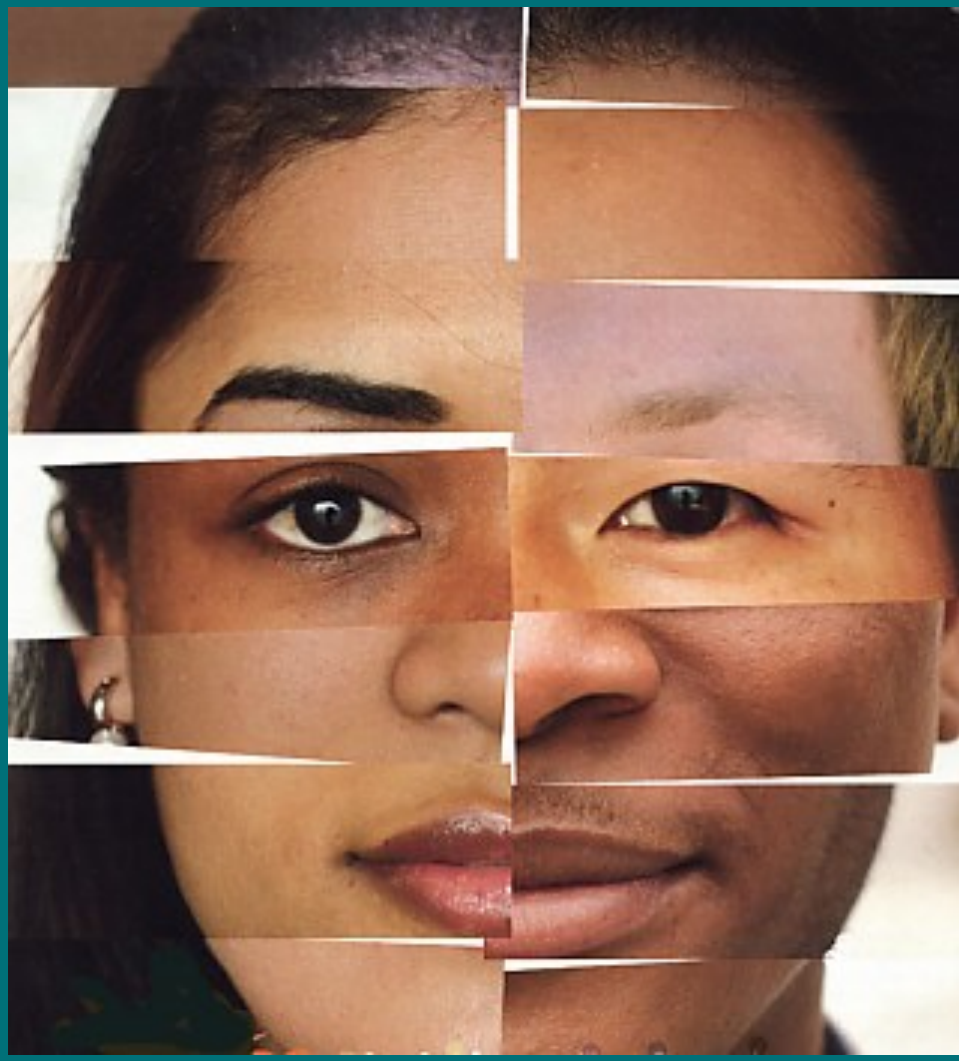
U.S. PRESENT

2010 print poster warns migrant workers about police officers acting as deporters, in response to Arizona SB-1070.

What has changed?


Household income in 2014 dollars (% of adults)
1971
8
6
4
2
0
$0k
$50k
$100k
$150k
$200k+
FT graphic Alan Smith, Source: Pew Research Center
FT

Shift away from **political moderation** contributes to rising inequality and threats to democracy.



From *Deeply Divided: Racial Politics and Social Movements in Post-War America* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2014)

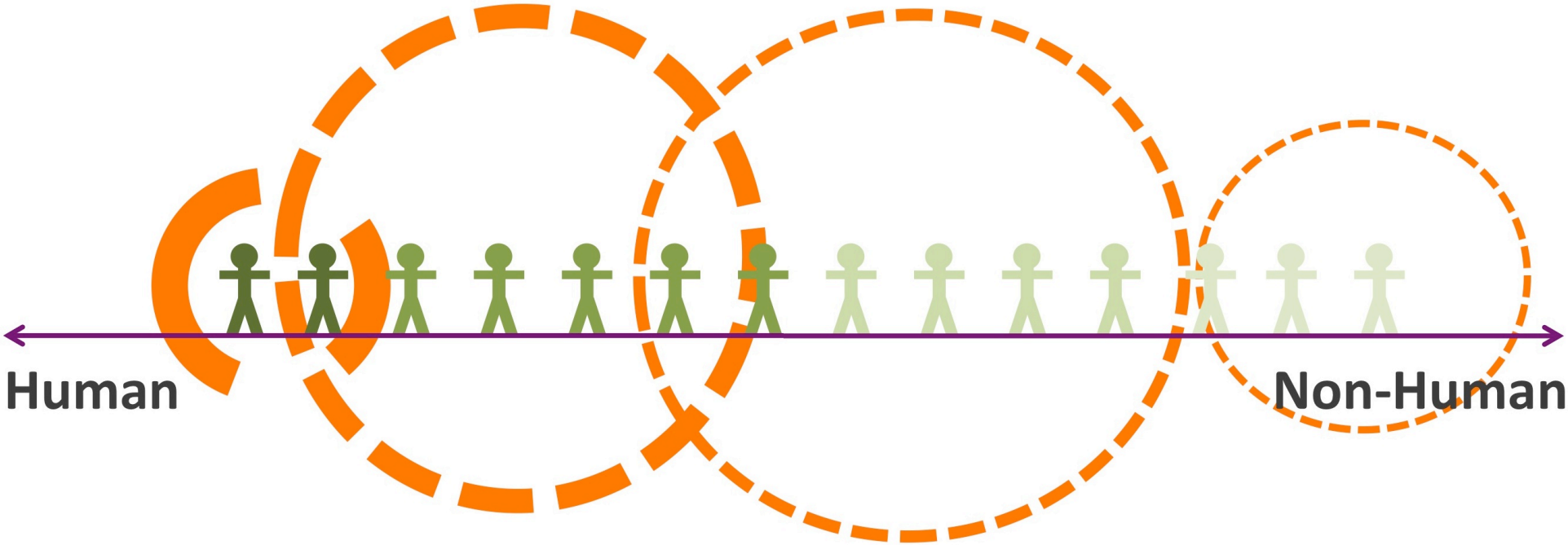
Petros Giannakouris 2015

Inequality, if it keeps growing, can be more accurately described as a type of **expulsion**.

Who's in the circle of human concern?

What about immigrants & refugees?

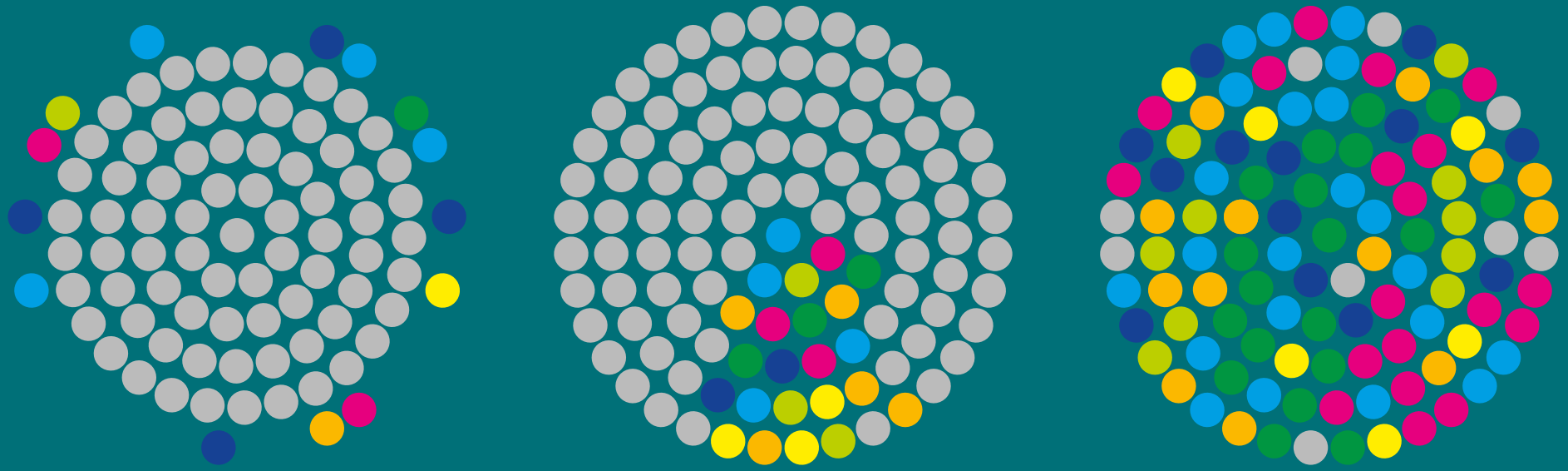
In-Group members: "more human"



Esteemed Pitied Envied Despised

Douglas Massey. Categorically Unequal: The American Stratification System. NY: Russell Sage Foundation 2007

Belonging – Moving towards structural inclusion



EXCLUSION INTEGRATION INCLUSION

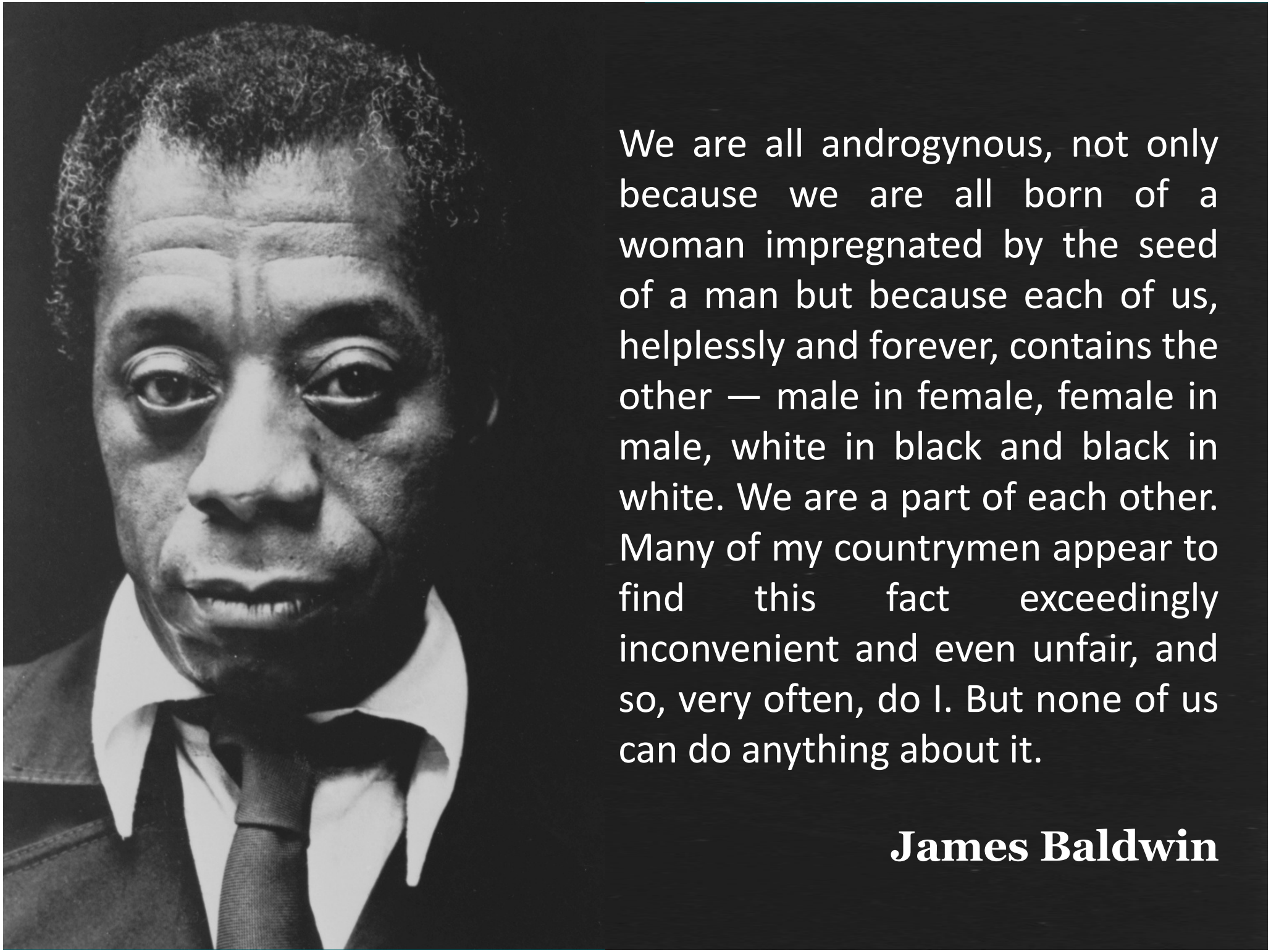
Belonging connotes something fundamental about both how groups are structurally positioned within society as well as how they are perceived and regarded.

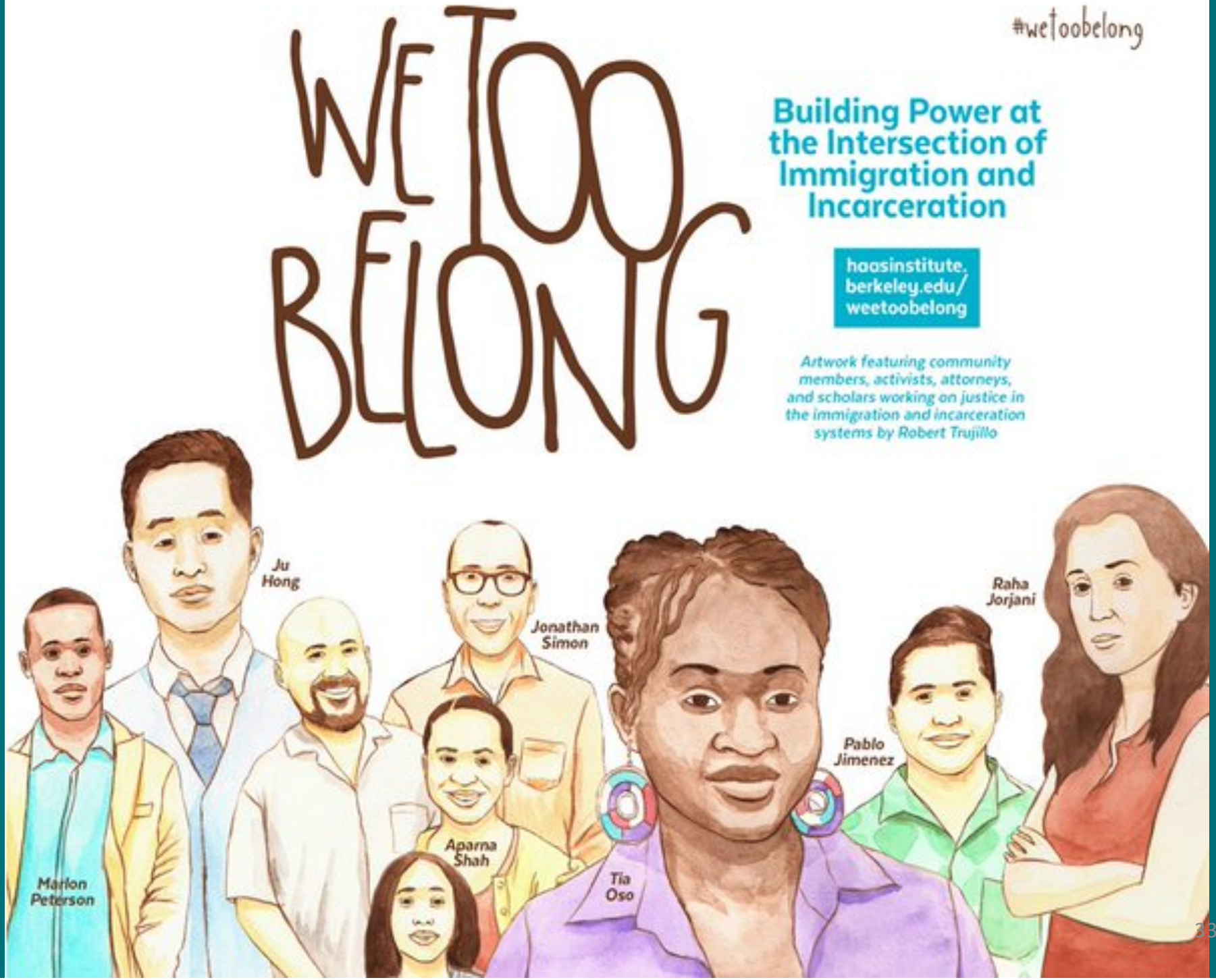
Solutions? Recognizing the problem is not the same thing as solving it.

April 13, 2017—St. Albans Episcopal in Davidson, NC

Solutions? Recognizing the problem is not the same thing as solving it.

1. **Suffer** together, starting at home.
2. Build **common vision**.
3. Moving from **movement** to **strategy** to **politics** to **community**
4. **Strategy – politics – community.**


We are all androgynous, not only because we are all born of a woman impregnated by the seed of a man but because each of us, helplessly and forever, contains the other — male in female, female in male, white in black and black in white. We are a part of each other. Many of my countrymen appear to find this fact exceedingly inconvenient and even unfair, and so, very often, do I. But none of us can do anything about it.
James Baldwin


#wetoobelong
WE TOO BELONG
Building Power at the Intersection of Immigration and Incarceration
haasinstitute.berkeley.edu/weetoobelong
Artwork featuring community members, activists, attorneys, and scholars working on justice in the immigration and incarceration systems by Robert Trujillo
Marlon Peterson
Ju Hong
Jonathan Simon
Aparna Shah
Tia Oso
Pablo Jimenez
Raha Jorjani

#CommitTo

_____.