

## Call for Papers : Practicing decolonial and liberation psychologies

### Submission deadlines

Letter of intent deadline: March 30, 2023

Invitation to submit will be sent out: April 30, 2023

Manuscript submission deadline: August 30, 2023

### Editors

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### Background

There is, at present, a rapidly growing number of practitioners and researchers who are engaged in the ongoing process of divesting themselves from white centrality and Euroamerican systems of thinking. Instead, they are seeking out the wisdom of their blood, spirit, and land ancestors. These practitioners draw from their lived experience of surviving and transcending colonization. Such scholars and practitioners have relied extensively on the scholarship, teachings, and practice of those both within and beyond the field of psychology.

Much of the growing scholarship in this area has focused on decolonizing psychological research, methods, and theories, with significantly less attention to psychological practice and applied work in communities. In this special issue we plan to address the gaps in the literature by recognizing and sharing the work of colleagues who have consistently engaged in decolonized and liberatory approaches to mental health.. Building on the struggles against disenfranchisement, we wish to elevate community-based, culturally embedded, and liberatory healing strategies that attend to the needs and self-determination of those most impacted across the world.

### Special issue aims

Specifically, through contributions to this special issue, we hope to highlight descriptions of decolonial and liberatory mental health healing interventions. The call is guided by the following two questions: (a) what are current decolonial and liberation psychological practices in therapy and healing work? And (b) what are the epistemological approaches and evidence

(including cultural evidence) supporting this work?

We encourage manuscripts adopting multiple and interdisciplinary perspectives and those that center their work within ancestral wisdom, spiritual, and cultural practices, Indigenous ways of knowing, stewardship of our natural and cultural resources, resisting oppression, and those who speak from the lens of their own lived experiences of surviving, resisting and transcending colonization on an ongoing basis.

We welcome proposals on themes related to topics including:

Practitioners' self/community care as a decolonial act  
Cultural ceremonies as healing  
Decolonizing practices in training and supervision  
Traditional healing approaches and/or collaborative work with traditional healers  
Decolonial psychological assessments  
Use of testimonies/testimonio and autoethnography in therapy  
Elevating Indigenous healing by including cultural wisdom traditions and multiple healing modalities (e.g., food, plants, movement, music)  
Rest as healing/developing a rest ethic  
Deconstructing power hierarchies in practice and co-constructing healing  
Practices that are inclusive of mind, body, and spirit  
The role of ancestors in individual and community-based psychological practice  
Working with the interdependent or extended/interconnected self in psychological practice  
Developing critical consciousness (conscientization) as a liberation praxis  
Interventions targeting historical trauma or racial trauma  
Resisting oppression and participating in activism as healing  
Transparency: Disrupting the use of power to (with)hold information  
Power and disrupting power in relationships  
Awareness of our own collusion with oppressive systems and actions in healing  
Dance and music therapy, activism and healing  
Community healing interventions  
Prevention, community building  
Reparations and restorative justice and mental health and healing  
Decolonial practice-based evidence paradigms  
Examples of integration of Indigenous healing, cultural practices and mainstream healing approaches.

Submission details

Interested contributors should submit a letter of interest (LOI) consisting of a 500-word abstract and 150-word author biographies that integrate information about life experiences and social identities that inform their decolonial and/or liberatory work. LOIs and author biographies may be mailed to [Drs. Mercedes Santana and Gitika Talwar](#) (Email: [tfdl.apa@gmail.com](mailto:tfdl.apa@gmail.com)) by March 30, 2023.

The LOI should focus on psychological practice and clearly describe the topic as well as the epistemological underpinnings and evidence (broadly defined) of the practice. The editors will provide authors with decisions by April 30, 2023. Invited contributors will have four months to develop and submit their manuscript (by August 30, 2023). Invitations to contribute do not guarantee acceptance of manuscripts.