Black Feminist Future

Disability Justice Innovation Lab

Collective Roots

Artists, organizers, writers, activists, collectives, & freedom fighters

& our personal compasses

Mentors, grandmothers, friends & comrades

July '22

Fannie Lou Hamer

Essex Hemphill

Keri Gray

Patty Beame

Andre Forde

Constance Moore

Harriet Tubman

Lois Curtis

Maya Angelou

Bell Hooks

Pauli Murray

Johnnie Lacy

Co-creating a working definition

Unpacking harm in the disability community, black liberation movements, & feminist movements

Extraction of our time, experiences, & resources

Ableism forces us to move at an unethical pace

Feeling "enough" is not belonging

Reluctance & refusal to use $$$ for access

PLM national owes reparations to local disabled organizers

"Blacklash" after the 2020 uprisings in non-black disability spaces

Diversity ≠ intersectionality

Mistreatment of Black workers in disability spaces

"Black" after the 2020 uprisings in non-black disability spaces

Interdependence, care on a longer timeline, safer healing spaces, rest, & authentic solidarity

Pro-Black

Looking out for each other

Affirms the full spectrum of gender & sexuality expressions

Pro-Earth

Intersectionality (Dr. Crenshaw's original intention)

Defining a more global black disablement rather than purely rooted in disability as identity

Interdependence

Community-based care work is valued

Holding the state accountable

Unpacking disability as an identity

Anti-Assimilation

Confronting wheelchair-accessible white supremacy

Anti-Racist

The right to rest

Anti-Capitalist

Includes the imperfect & messy

Access to pleasure

Unapologetic anti-imperialist

& healing
Black Feminist Future Disability Justice Innovation Lab

Slide 1 of 2

Image description:

Hand-drawn graphic recording of Black Feminist Future’s Disability Justice Innovation Lab. On a dark blue textured background, white, red, and gold icons and text illustrate the main discussions of the lab. BFF’s logo is in the bottom right corner.

Alt text:

Disability Justice Innovation Lab is written in a gold flag. Black Feminist Future, July 22, 2022, and Slide 1 of 2 are written around the flag.

Collective Roots [Inside image of a gold root tree system]
Artists, organizers, writers, activists, collectives, & freedom fighters
- Fannie Lou Hammer
- Diedre Davis Butler
- Essex Hemphill
- Keri Gray
- Octavia Butler
- Patty Bearne
- Jen White-Johnson
- Marsha P. Johnson
- Audre Lorde
- Pat Parker
- Paul Murray
- bell hooks
- TL Lewis
- Constance Merritt
- Mary Bowman
- Lois Curtis
- Johnnie Lacy
- Harriet Tubman
- Sojourner Truth
- Maya Angelou

& our personal compasses [above a gold illustration of a compass]
Mentors, grand-mothers, friends & comrades
Co-creating a working definition [Inside a gold speech bubble]
Black Disabled Feminism [on top of a white textured box made to look like a piece of notebook paper]

- Pro-Black
- Anti-assimilation
- Anti-racist
- The right to rest
- Anti-capitalist
- Looking out for each other
- Affirms the full spectrum of gender & sexuality
- Confronting wheelchair-accessible white supremacy
- Includes the imperfect & messy
- Access to pleasure
- Pro-Earth
- Intersectionality (Dr. Crenshaw’s original intention)
- Interdependence
- Defining a more global Black disablement rather than purely rooted in disability as identity
- Centering the lives & experiences of Black disabled people across the diaspora
- Anti-imperialist
- Community-based
- Care work is valued
- Hold the state accountable
- Unpacking disability as identity

Unpacking Harm in the disability community, Black Liberation movements, & feminist movements [underneath red cardboard box and the words heart songs surrounded by hearts]

- Extraction of our time, experiences & resources [red pliers]
- Ableism forces us to move at an unethical pace [red snails]
- Movements have the rhetoric, but not the practice [red empty speech bubbles]
- [written in a red, 3-part Venn diagram]: not “enough,” feeling in-between, in the intersections. Belonging written outside the diagram.
- Reluctance & refusal to use $$$for Access & BLM National owes reparations to local disabled organizers [red stack of money]
- Erasure & co-optation [red upside-down pencil erasing something]
- Tokenistic allyship [red token with star on it]
- Diversity does not equal intersectionality
- Mistreatment of Black workers in disability spaces
- “Blacklash” after the 2020 uprisings is non-Black disability spaces [red flames]

& Healing [Surrounded by clumps of red mushrooms]
Interdependence, care on a longer timeline, safer healing spaces, rest & authentic solidarity
Slide 2 of 2

Image description:

Hand-drawn graphic recording of Black Feminist Future’s Disability Justice Innovation Lab. On a dark blue textured background, white, red, and gold icons and text illustrate the main discussions of the lab. BFF’s logo is in the bottom right corner.

Alt text:

Disability Justice Innovation Lab is written in a red flag. Black Feminist Future, July 22, 2022, and Slide 2 of 2 are written around the flag.

How can Black femmes & Black sex positive spaces be more inclusive?  creating a greater sense of belonging [red cell phone illustration with a heart and an x on the screen]
Relationships, Sex & Sexuality [written in a white ribbon banner]
[Two circles, one red and one white]

What we are navigating [next to red circle and illustration of a map]
- Interpersonal violence & coercion
- Desexualization & infantilization
- Internalized ableism
- Disabilities weaponized
  - Custody
  - Family separation
  - Non-consensual crisis response
- Lookism
- Potential loss of services & resources if married
- Navigating dating app inaccessibility & disclosures

What we want [next to white circle and red illustration of shooting star]
- Bridging reproductive & disability justice [red bridge]
- Sins Invalid!
- Professional competency on disability & sex
  - Physical therapy
  - Mental health
  - Sex education
- Interdependent care
- Expansive understanding of pleasure
  - Self-pleasure
  - Non-monogamy
  - Not just about orgasms
• Disability4Disability
• Co-imagining & creating new structures & realities

Care that centers interdependence: networks & collectives [next to gold illustration of lowers and butterflies]
• Build [gold bricks]
  o Ensuring Black women are not harmed in the process of building
  o Ella baker school of organizing deep relationships, a moving disabled coalition
  o Disrupt cycles of codependence & gendered nature of care
  o Building on the skills of disabled people
• Connect [gold bridge]
  o Mutual aid networks
  o Deep attendance to intersections of oppression
  o Abolition
  o Networks of accountability
• Grow [gold seeds]
  o Seeding new cultures & ways of being beyond our lifetime
  o New anti-capitalist models & economies decolonized care work
  o Creating a culture that enable self-care & interdependence

Collective Liberation [in-between red broken chain]
• Ruth Wilson Gilmore’s definition of “organized abandonment” Abolition of all forms of incarceration like nursing homes
• Conscious raising on Black Disabled Feminism
• Community crisis response
• A radical act to want to know each other
• Coalition building
• #BringBrittneyHome
• Peer-led respite
• Fighting both the school & abuse-to-prison-pipeline

Dreamscaping [written in a gold ribbon surrounded by stars and a moon]
• Publishing the stories of Black disabled women
• Healing
• Rest!
• Seeing more joy
• Global disability perspective
• Grant funds to support Black autistic people
• Black disability studies book series
• Living into the world we want
• Cultivating more space for Black disabled people