

"When two elephants fight,  
it is the grass that suffers"

- African Proverb -

When I look out into the world, this is what I see - Two inflexible single-minded (group think) ideologies. They rule not by consensus but by manipulation, suppression, and bending others to their will

(to be apart of them, you must give up a part of "you" - that's just part of the deal)

But Freedom of Expression ... Freedom from Suppression, always finds a way to shine through!

... but such things don't "just happen", it takes words but mostly action, so the catalyst to this caption

is you.

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The middle painting represents those of us who are Free-thinkers, who not only hold on but revel in our individuality!

... but who also know that it takes all of "us" to secure our (and everyone's Freedom (the freedom to "be" us) - hence why such onus is "on us"

This is why, if you look closely, you'll see that the blotches of color in the middle of the painting are positioned in a way as to create a five-pointed star (to my understanding, used all a symbol of Freedom on our American flag); and if you look even closer, you'll see that said blotches of paint aren't just blotches - that each blotch holds within it the fingerprint of a different individual from within these walls. This was done as a way to symbolize how individuals can work together while still keeping their individuality - and also as a way to allow a small piece of us (in here) to exist and be with you all out "there".

At an even closer glance, you'll see that even what looks like solid black and white also holds "variety" - all I used 3 distinctly different brush strokes to create 3 distinctly different "wave-lengths" or "frequencies" within each side. Such wavelengths symbolize the fact that though we might think people to be the same, if we cared enough to look closer, we'd see the distinctions ... those remnants of individuality white-washed or blacked-out by the broader overarching - and overbearing - ideologies.

... and let me note that we have to get back to caring enough to make that distinction, b/c it is our "in" ... our way to connect to the part of them that's "real" and distinctly "them". Only then can we help pull them out of "them"

... b/c the moment we stop doing that is the moment where we become "them".

This concept (and the cardboard box used to create the frame) all ties into a piece i wrote, forever ago, that unfortunately is still all too relevant today, where I speak on the "boxes" we tend to place each other (and ourselves) in, and the danger that comes with doing such - a danger that has been all too apparent in these days and times.



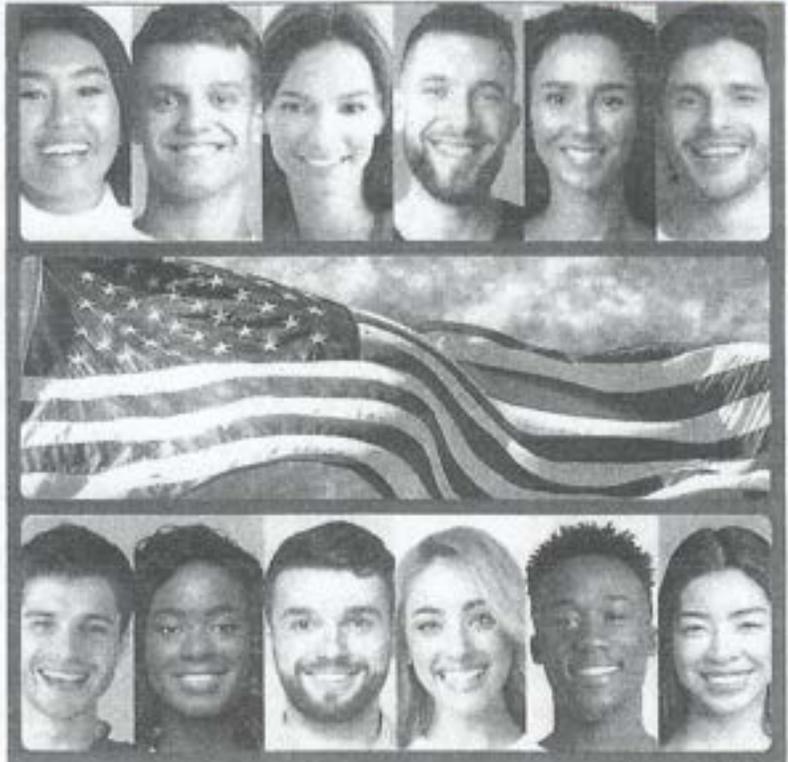
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NOIGO ISMS "..."  
To: You

Wed 7/27/2022 7:11 AM



Personally, I think this thing (woven into the very fabric of America and hurting us ALL) is something called "ism." Ism, like Covid, is a disease, and Covid has many variations.

"isms" make people feel less or put unnecessary pressure on others to be "more" than...

isms that create ceilings for some and springboards for others cause resentment for said "others" even though that other person probably had nothing to do with making a ceiling or the springboard. (And if you read this and see "other" people in these "isms" but didn't see yourself, then, like the rest of us, you too have been affected/infected.)

Though there are variations, the one thing that ALL "isms" have in common is that they keep us from seeing people (because we place them in the box of our ism). When you put people in a box, not only do you not "see" them, but you silence your voice. And when people feel unseen and unheard, you get everything from frustrated youth taking it out on their own communities to frustrated adults taking it out on their own country (January 6).

Whether it's made us feel less than or better than, entitled or unworthy, mistreated or misunderstood, unseen, unheard, or unloved; "ism" is a problem that we ALL face in this country, and we have ALL been victims of it, ...just as we have all been perpetrators of it

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If you have specific questions on the job or your work, please contact your supervisor. If you have any other questions, please contact your HR representative. If you have any other questions, please contact your HR representative.

to be "more" than

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... just as we have all been Perpetrators of it.

What's bad for the hive (country) is also bad for the bee (individuals living within it); and we will Continue to hurt (and Be hurt) until we can all look at ourselves And each other and say:

What's hurting you is "me"

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P.S.

This was in response to Ted Cruz's refusal to respond to a journalist who asked him why do these mass shootings happen in America more than any other country in the world. I am also comfortable with being published as "anonymys" as I understand people's stigma of incarcerated citizens.