

## ANTI-OPPRESSION WORKSHOP

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At ICOPA 15, a discussion took place at the closing plenary on the question of race and white privilege within this “conference-movement”. Comments were made that ICOPA is predominantly a “white” space, not particularly conducive to participation from Black people, while others expressed opinions that ICOPA is not a racist environment.

Based on the concept of the “Taking Tree” (Estrella, 2015), this workshop aims to allow participants to engage in a reflexive exercise to a) take stock of the nefarious consequences of colonization that include such forms of oppression as sexism, racism, (cis)heteronormativity, able-ism and other forms of oppression. This safe space is meant to provide an opportunity to discuss oppression as well as an opportunity to address privilege in terms of color, sex, gender normativity and physical mobility or mental health.

Further, colonialism is the central framework from which emanates penalty (Agozino, 2003). As such, addressing colonialism and oppression should be a central feature of any penal abolitionist project (Saleh-Hanna, 2015).

This proposal is a follow-up to the closing plenary of ICOPA 15, where issues of race and white privilege were raised. This workshop can be done in English and / or Spanish.

### **Works cited**

Agozino B., 2003, Counter-colonial criminology: A critique of imperialist reason, Pluto Press, London.

Saleh-Hanna, 2015, Black Feminist Hauntology: Rememory the Ghosts of Abolition, *Penal Field*, 12.