

POC Gatherings
Wednesday, April 27, 2022

During our discussion today we discussed how we self-identify. What we heard most was folks don't feel like they can truly "fit in a particular box." We learned that BIPOC really got popular after the George Floyd murder because it highlighted and centered the races that were still dealing with racism in this country. That centering really has to do with American centering not globally. Although, using this term globally could uplift the racism that has occurred allowing other countries to get a glimpse at what's going on. One of the members said, "It's important to be versed with data and know-how terminology is used and why, but for the average person that has no idea, then they don't understand why this language is important. I feel like using the term BIPOC is like playing offense and POC is more defense because it's not really targeting the white supremacy culture." We were unable to conclude which name the group would like to identify with so we will be continuing the conversation at our next POC gathering on June 22nd, 2022.

A couple of key readings:

- Book referral '[Brown Girls with sharp edges and tender hearts](#)' by Prisca Dorcas Mojica Rodríguez
- [Racial battle fatigue](#) is real. Lookup William Smith Critical Race Theorist coined the phrase in 2008.
- <https://www.healthline.com/health/bipoc-meaning#origin>
- ["Black is not synonymous with POC: all Black people are persons of color, but all persons of color are not Black."](#)
- Listen to this 49 min interview:
<https://www.mprnews.org/episode/2021/07/13/bipoc-latinx-poc-how-we-do-and-dont-identify-and-why>