

Title of the Presentation:
No Space in Time: FASD, Historical Trauma, & Suicide
Three Inseparable Subjects
Track: Substance Abuse

An Essential Understanding of Three Tightly Interwoven Subjects, FASD, Historical Trauma, and Suicide Checklist/Task List:

STEP 1 Understand the Nature of Organic Brain Damage & Cognitive Impairment

STEP 2 Understand the impact of Historical Trauma on the individual, Community, and FASD

STEP 3 Understand the inseparable connection between FASD, Historical Trauma, & Suicide

STEP 4 TO ADDRESS ONE, YOU MUST ADDRESS THEM ALL!

STEP 5 Accepting we have a problem

Description of the STEP purpose and sub-steps:

STEP 1: Understand the Nature of Organic Brain Damage & Cognitive Impairment

Organic brain damage and cognitive impairment plays a large role in suicide, in fact they are inseparable. Before you can begin a prevention plan, you must understand the connection between organic brain damage, cognitive impairment, and suicide.

STEP 2: Understand the impact of Historical Trauma on the individual, Community, and FASD

The health of the individual affects the health of the community and the health of the community affects the individual. This is common knowledge that everyone ignores! As a whole, we all fail to address historical trauma. We need to understand the impact historical trauma has on the individual, the impact of historical trauma on the community, the impact FASD has on historical trauma and the impact of historical trauma on FASD.

STEP3: Understand the inseparable connection between FASD, Historical Trauma, & Suicide

The three subjects of FASD, Historical Trauma, and Suicide are inseparable. The impact of one subject has a direct effect on the others. Understanding this interconnectivity is an essential step towards healing.

STEP 4: TO ADDRESS ONE, YOU MUST ADDRESS THEM ALL!

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Suicide + Historical Trauma= FASD

Genocide and assimilation created mass trauma in a community. The loss cultural and personal identity created Drug and Alcohol abuse thus creating Suicide. Directly following Historical Trauma and Suicide is FASD. This equation continually reiterates itself and the outcome becomes more complex. If you do not address the each item simultaneously then you are not changing the overall outcome, simply creating a variation of the equation.

STEP 5: Accepting we have a problem

By accepting we have a problem we can begin to understand the problems we face. WE have a problem with FASD and because we have problems with FASD we have problems with Historical Trauma and Suicide. Early intervention is the key, if we can create, implement, and sustain FASD Diagnostic Clinics then we can begin to address the issues of Trauma and Suicide. Having a diagnosis of FASD will grant access to resources that are available.