

WORKSHOP >>

HE ROLE OF THE U.S. IN THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY

DATE: TIME: **LOCATION:** Friday, September 27, 2019 **4:00PM - 5:30PM** (support group following) 246 Greene Street, New York, NY 10003

New York University, Kimball Hall, 1st Floor Interpretation available upon request. Venue is wheelchair accessible.

The climate emergency calls for full engagement from every nation. Yet the U.S. government and economic system play an especially negative role globally by deceiving U.S. citizens about climate change, blocking international efforts to address the crisis, and continuing to engage in practices that worsen it. U.S. participation in the United Nations process will be necessary for global success in fighting the climate emergency, including embracing the goals stated in the IPCC report, substantially increasing our commitments under the Paris Agreement, and providing adequate resources to developing nations. In this workshop we will:

- Examine the role of the U.S. government, economic system, and oil industry in the climate emergency,
- Share perceived barriers to the U.S. taking global responsibility and our frustrations with the U.S. role,
- Learn the approaches used by Sustaining All Life and United to End Racism to heal from the damage of oppression, increase our effectiveness in the climate justice movement, and prevent burnout.













THE WORK OF SAL & UER

It is possible to limit the effects of human-caused climate change and restore the environment, but some very large changes in our economy and the lives we live are needed for this to happen.

Sustaining All Life (SAL) and United to End Racism (UER) believe the environmental crisis cannot be resolved without ending racism, genocide toward Indigenous peoples, classism, sexism, and other oppressions.

We believe that the barriers to building a large and powerful movement sufficient to make the needed changes include (1) longstanding divisions (caused by oppression, and especially racism and classism) between nations and between groups of people, (2) widespread feelings of discouragement and powerlessness, (3) denial of or failure to engage with the escalating damage to the earth's climate, and (4) difficulties in effectively addressing the connections between the environmental crisis and the failures of our economic system.

The mental and emotional harm done to us by oppression and other hurtful experiences interferes with our ability to think clearly and sets groups of people against each other. In SAL and UER we have learned that it is possible to free ourselves from these hurts and address barriers to effective organizing. By taking turns listening to each other and encouraging emotional release, people can heal from the mental and emotional harm and become better able to think, speak out, and organize and lead others in building a sustainable world. SAL and UER are projects of and use the tools of Re-evaluation Counseling, which currently exists in 95 countries.





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