

Pacific Yearly Meeting Sacred Space Healing Harm Process

Last Updated May 28, 2023

I. Holding Sacred Space When a Harm Occurs

1. Be in worship together holding the space and ambiguity. Trust that Spirit is here guiding us and that those who say “ouch or whoa” are led to speak.
2. The person who experiences the harm has the right to decide whether to address the issue at that time.
3. When someone is led to speak about a harm, slow down the dialogue, center around the ouch, oops or whoa, as well as Truth that is being revealed.
4. If you are confused or don't understand the harm, sit in silence and hold the sacred space.
5. Go into sacred listening about the harm by focusing on the needs and concerns expressed by the person who experienced the harm.
6. Pay attention to and speak about what's happening in your body. Minister when Truth is nudging you and you sense something in your body. Be willing to expose your vulnerability and reach for healing the wounds.
7. Don't create more pain for people already in pain. Our goal is to stop the harm that has been committed by becoming conscious of it and repairing the harm by seeking healing through Truth being revealed.
8. Ask the person who experienced the harm if he/she/they are ready to proceed or if they need more time.

II. Clerking a Sacred Space Healing Harm Meeting for Worship

The Clerk's role besides helping to articulate the sense of the Meeting is to help the body discern:

- a. What happened (from different points of view). Differentiate observation from interpretation.
- b. What needs were not being met?
- c. What were the feelings experienced by participants?
- d. What were the feelings of belonging by participants (or the lack of belonging)?
- e. What are you noticing about the parts of you that are showing up as we are sitting together in discernment?
- f. What Truth is being revealed? What is the sense of the meeting as it proceeds?