

1. HISTORICAL VIEW ON BELOVED COMMUNITY

Excerpt "What Do We Mean We When Say, 'Building the Beloved Community'?" Carl Gregg - Mar. 31, 2015 - <http://www.patheos.com/blogs/carlgregg/2015/03/what-do-we-mean-we-when-say-building-the-beloved-community/>

The term “Beloved Community” was coined by the early twentieth-century American philosopher Josiah Royce (1855-1916). But most of us learned it not from Royce but from The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who often spoke of the “Beloved Community” as his ultimate goal.

As an early example, after the Montgomery Bus Boycotts in speaking about the larger movement toward which they were building, Dr. King said:

the end is reconciliation; the end is redemption; the end is the creation of the Beloved Community. It is this type of spirit and this type of love that can transform opponents into friends.... It is this love which will bring about miracles in the hearts of men.

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**Excerpts "Already, but not yet: Co-creating the Beloved Community" - Greg Elliott - Oct 7, 2015 - <https://www.afsc.org/friends/already-not-yet-co-creating-beloved-community>**

"In radical-progressive faith communities, the 'Kingdom of God' is often translated as the 'Beloved Community,' a concept popularized by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. This vision of the Beloved Community included not only the redemption of the oppressed, but also of the oppressor. Agape love, or God's love, was at the center of this transformative view of redemption and at the heart of Dr. King's nonviolent activism."

"We know that the Beloved Community is 'not yet,' because we still see the trauma of white supremacy and free-market colonialism playing itself out across the globe on a daily basis. But is there also an 'already' quality of the Beloved Community that we can tap into and co-create together?"

"Co-creating the Beloved Community – We engage in the ongoing process of re-building our relationship to all of life around us, fostering trust and accountability with communities most impacted by injustice. To accomplish this we commit to accompaniment and followership, staying in it for the long haul, getting out of our meetinghouses and our comfort zones, and co-creating the Beloved Community in ways that de-center whiteness."

*Prepared by Mey Hasbrook, Jan. 2018, as a resource for discerning queries toward "The Art of Beloved Community" 2018, organized by the Fellowship of Quakers in the Arts. Page 1 of 3*

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Also, see the section on "Beloved Community" from the web page "The King Philosophy" on The King Center web site - <http://www.thekingcenter.org/king-philosophy#sub4> .

2. MILLENNIALS

Beloved Community -- Sustainability as Earth care with "dignity of all"

"Millennials believe we must incorporate 'environmental' stewardship in how we live, work and play. Sustainable communities must be inclusive communities, environmental justice issues should be as important as social justice issues like 'racial profiling and police brutality'. Having access to fresh, organic, non GMO food should be as important as having access to modern rail systems, walking and bike trails. A Beloved Community considers every touchpoint where people interact and where services are rendered. A Beloved Community considers the dignity of all. Building sustainable communities is as much of a technological exercise as it is a heart exercise, we must consider others as we build."

(Web site: PURE - Project Urban Renewable Energy. Article: "The Beloved Community: Building Sustainable Communities" by [Djuan Coleon](#) . Jan. 19, 2015 - <http://purecities.org/the-beloved-community-building-sustainable-communities/>)

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*A Survey of the GenForward Project at the University of Chicago*, <http://genforwardsurvey.com>, publishes surveys taken by young people, especially youth of color: "The report reflects the Black Youth Project's sustained commitment to documenting and amplifying *knowledge, voice and action* among young people, particularly young people of color."

## 3. GENERAL QUERIES ON DIVERSITY & BELOVED COMMUNITY

### **Diversity**

- How well do I work toward creating a community of different people, rather than a community that just lets different people in?

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- Are we willing to be in communion with each other, open to our differences yet secure in the one Spirit that calls us all to be Friends?
- Do I seek out and listen to perspectives that promote equal access, inclusion, and welcome for people of all cultures and backgrounds?

( <https://www.fgcquaker.org/cloud/frederick-friends-meeting/announcements/queries-june-2015> )

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How do we work toward creating a community of different people, rather than just being a community that lets different people in? How can we continue to grow in our efforts to become the Beloved Community? (<http://charlottesvillefriends.org/index.php/witness/what-is-this-thing-called-white-privilege-and-what-are-we-at-cfm-doing-about-it/>)

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We talk and talk about race in our own spiritual society. We name committees, hold audits, host conferences and yet... change is achingly slow. How do we build out the beloved community in our spiritual home. What are Friends doing to bring diversities into our meetinghouses? (<https://friendsjournal.submittable.com/submit/81848/jan-2019-a-racially-diverse-society-of-friends> )