

Sample Situation Prompts

1. For Halloween, a friend tells you she's dressing her three small children up as the "Three Little Indians." She says she knows you're going to object, but that it's all in fun.
2. Someone you know fairly well is a sports fan and wears a uniform for a team whose mascot is offensive to Native people. When discussing this issue, the friend says, "Isn't there something more important to worry about? You're just looking for a reason to be offended."
3. A family member has just returned from shopping and has purchased t-shirts for the kids that have images on them of Hello Kitty dressed as a Geisha. When you call attention to the image, the family member says, "What, you think I'm racist for buying a shirt?"
4. You arrive to the home of an acquaintance for an event. The host offers a tour of the home, highlighting all the objects purchased in foreign countries. The host speaks of how the decorations reflect memories of all of their life's adventures together and what they love about our diverse world.
5. During a church event, a member asks to recite a prayer as the closing. To the surprise of many, the member lights sage while chanting, and then sings a song in a style reflective of Native people. Later, when another member asks about that choice, the person who offered the prayer says that no one can possess spirit, and that this is how spirit decided to move that day.
6. A close friend has been taking yoga classes for years. Lately, she has begun wearing a sari and bindi. She says that wearing this style keeps her in a meditative state throughout the day, that it's grounding, and that it connects her with something deeper than just day-to-day issues.
7. When talking to a friend at his home about all that you both have been learning about anti-racism, he calls attention toward an object displayed in his home. He says that he hates that some people would call it appropriation, however, he asked a person from that culture and what told that it was okay and that it wasn't offensive.
8. You approach a friend to share what you've learned about cultural appropriation. This is someone who's expressed interest in these issues in the past, but has had some reservations. As you talk about what you've learned, the friend says, "All this stuff is so confusing. It's like I can't even eat a burrito without being made to feel guilty about it."