

Centering Stories...

2020 Pathways To Prosperity National Conference

The Impact of COVID-19 on Marginalized Communities

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MANSO

MANITOBA ASSOCIATION
OF NEWCOMER SERVING
ORGANIZATIONS

WWW.MANSOMANITOBA.COM

Two quotes that drive this presentation

The truth about stories is that is all we are. You can't understand the world without telling a story, there isn't any centre to the world, but a story.

– Thomas King

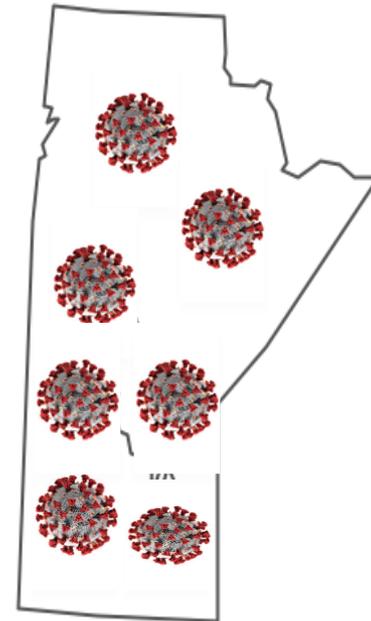
There is nothing equitable about the impact of COVID-19 on workers. Who is getting sick, who is dying and how they die tell all tell a story that's older than this pandemic. It's a story about power, belonging and systems built to keep others out while letting some in. COVID-19 has exacerbated existing inequalities and brought into sharp focus the systems that fail the most marginalized, those with the least access to power in this country.

- Sane Dube

The story of COVID 19 in Manitoba

The Story of COVID 19 in Manitoba

- March 20, 2020 – Original lock-down and gradual reopening
 - Press releases, counts of the sick, the dead, the recovered
 - Lock-downs, job loss, restrictions
 - Difficult decisions every day for families
 - Fear, confusion, frustration
 - Code Green, Yellow, Orange, Red
 - Low numbers throughout the summer, with some flare-ups, regionally
 - September numbers begin to steadily rise
-
- **Beginning on November 12, 2020, entire Province enters CODE RED**
 - **Restrictions on almost everything**
MANITOBA HAS THE MOST CASES
Per Population in Canada



The Story of Marginalized Peoples

Who are marginalized peoples?

- Are groups and communities that experience discrimination and exclusion (social, political and economic) **because of unequal power relationships** across economic, political, social and cultural dimensions.
- They are **people who, for whatever reason**, are denied involvement in mainstream economic, political, cultural and social activities. Targeting or ignoring one group can ultimately affect the whole society.
- Some examples include:

Immigrants, Refugees, and Migrants

Women and Girls

Victims of Human Trafficking

Mentally Ill

Children and Youth

People of Differing Sexual
Orientation (LGBTQ community)

People of Differing Religions

Incarcerated People (and their
Families) and those released

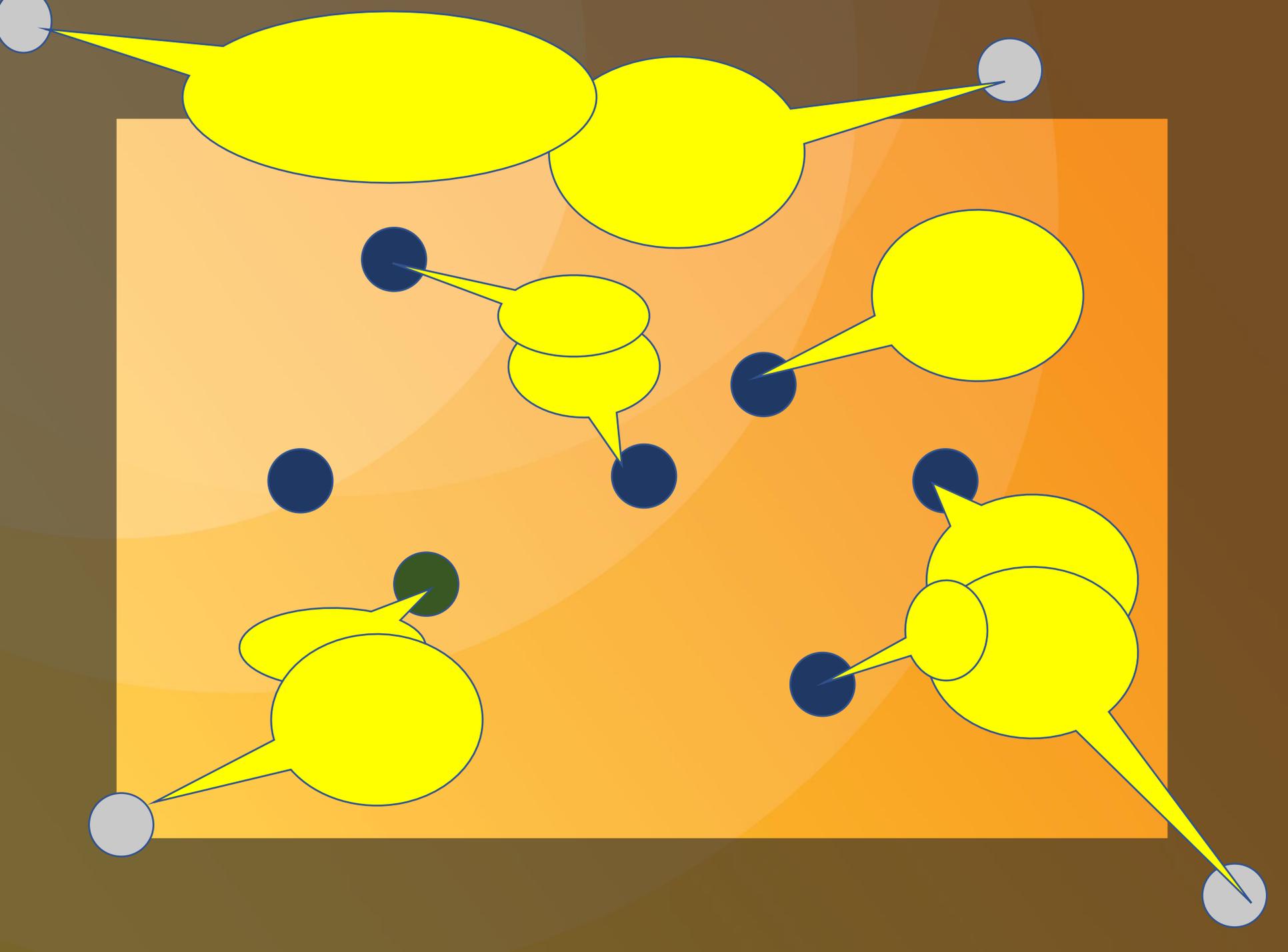
People of Low Socioeconomic Status

Unemployed People

People of a Particular
Ethnicity/Country of Origin

People with a Differing Political
Orientation

Not residing in the right location



Centering Stories

Centering Stories....

The Danger of a Single Story - Chimamanda Adichie

(Ted Talk – Must See)

“Stories matter. Many stories matter... But stories can also be used to empower, and to humanize...

But stories can also repair that broken dignity.

...That when we reject the single story, when we realize that there is never a single story about any place, we regain a kind of paradise.”

Centering Stories....

Three (3) Stories of People who might be seen as being in the margins....

While these are their stories, they are representative of hundreds of stories that could be told.

If we have ears that really hear, eyes that really see, and a heart that's open....

Might allow us to connect, to be human, and not see margins, but see people

Silvia - She and her husband were sick with COVID 19

Diwa – Volunteers with migrant workers in Manitoba

Iftikar – Will share about the impacts of COVID 19 on her and her family

Now lets meet them and hear their stories....

