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Aida Manduley

February 11, 2019 · 🌐

{CW: discussions of abuse and #metoo; this status is public}

Soooooo here's a big thing. Have you ever recommended and/or read "More Than Two" or other work that's been partly done by Franklin Veaux? Are you part of the polyamory "scene" broadly speaking? Then you might want to be aware of this. Because as more people get the information and courage to name the patterns of harm in their relationships, or individual instances of assault and harassment, the more we will need to have this conversation in an ongoing way.

The dicey dicey thing that happens in this too is that, especially when dealing with abusive relationships or toxic cycles versus one-off assaults, there is often a larger web of harm, and a lot that happens behind closed doors. Often enough, the public will either see one party denying allegations entirely or saying it was mutually abusive or that the accuser is the true abuser. These are not easy to untangle, especially for the untrained eye.

Abusive or even plain unhealthy ecosystems are often very complex, and outsiders—especially untrained ones—making random judgments or trying to act like detectives = often not helpful. THAT SAID, when someone is named by multiple people (who aren't friends, aren't close, and don't necessarily even like each other) for a list of similar if not exact harmful behaviors, across the years...? It's important to *LISTEN.* So that's what I'm asking we do: listen, pay attention, witness, see how this unfolds.

The other piece I want to share? I don't hop on these projects lightly. Even for the "smaller" ones where I'm more removed, they still take a LOT of emotional energy, public and professional risk, and bandwidth. When I am involved in these, it's because I believe in their potential to make micro and macro change, and it's because I have enough information to believe they are being done in good (enough) faith AND have a solid foundation of need. For now, the bulk of the processes I've been public about are ones where I've been witnessing behaviors and situations in various capacities over the years. These are not random people, and that's deeply important to the integrity and meaning of all of this. As someone trained in assessing for domestic violence, trained in sexual assault and hate crime crisis response, trained in community accountability processes, trained in psychotherapy with a focus on trauma, and more...I am asking you to listen because it's important.

Edited to add: And in *this* specific process, I've had access to a fair number of documents and records, as well as witnessing personal interactions. Since most of that is currently not public, I'm willing to go on record to say they are concerning, support much of what this statement is saying, and do show patterns of behavior that can't solely be explained by misunderstandings or miscommunications or "gendered differences" or "mutual abuse" or trauma recollections or whatever.

For transparency's sake, I'm working with the survivor pod as a consultant on this process. So, I'm not part of the core pod doing day-to-day work on this, but an adjacent support to provide some guidance and strategy, as well as help orient the process so that it's within an R.I.T.I.

frame. It's critical to me that as these processes become more common in my circles and fields, especially in sexuality education, we center the guiding principles of

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that we ask the questions of who has been harmed and how, what

consequences, and what the healing look like

is possible, and

what should NOT

cruelty, "getting back at someone," trying to punish people, or things of that nature.

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As opposed to some other processes that have been very public (the one with Reid Mihalko where I was on the survivor support pod as lead, and one that's coming soon for another professional where I'm a consultant on the accountability pod but have been *VERY* involved in the structural elements thus far), with this one I'm more removed. There are some elements the pod has already borrowed from my other work, so if you see some similarities along the way, that's probably why—we made that work with Reid publicly available and accessible, and people have been listening and using it.



MEDIUM.COM

On Light and Shadow: Polyamory's #metoo – Survivor Support – Medium

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- Cassie Lange** Thank you for sharing this. 1
Monday, February 11, 2019 at 8:08 AM (2y)
- Hunter Riley** I can't thank you enough for all the work you do and for talking about it publicly. 4
Monday, February 11, 2019 at 8:13 AM (2y)
- Sheeri Kritzer Cabral** Thank you for all your efforts! Very draining work but sooooo important. 1
Monday, February 11, 2019 at 8:55 AM (2y)
- Jacq Jones** Thank you so much for sharing this. 1
Monday, February 11, 2019 at 9:02 AM (2y)
- Dorothy Darker** Thank you for sharing this. This will be very very helpful for me. 1
Monday, February 11, 2019 at 9:26 AM (2y)
- Lindsey Klinge** I have eternal respect for your willingness to take on projects like this 3
Monday, February 11, 2019 at 9:43 AM (2y)
- Johanna Bobrow** fucking hell. I have a lot of feelings about this, but mostly thank you for all the work you do on this and related topics. It is crucial, and difficult, and you're amazing. 3
Monday, February 11, 2019 at 10:33 AM (2y)
- Mx Kim Rose** Thank you for the work that you do 1
Monday, February 11, 2019 at 10:58 AM (2y)

Chris Cook **See more of Aida Manduley on Facebook** for working on this. This is such hard work, and I'm so glad people are stepping in so mindfully to support the people

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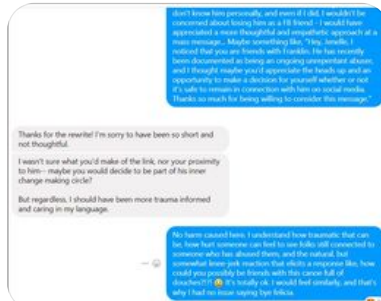
Jenelle Marie Pierce Hi Aida, et al! First, I truly appreciate the immense emotional labor, energy, time, and so much more that is being put into this. I believe the survivors, I see you, and I understand (from my limited knowledge of this particular situation and as a sur... See More



Monday, February 11, 2019 at 11:55 AM (2y)



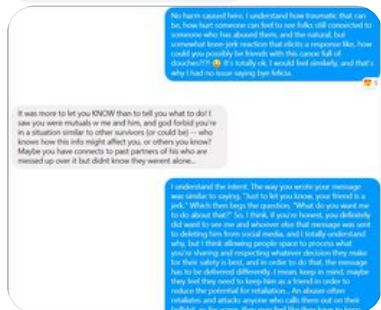
Jenelle Marie Pierce #2



Monday, February 11, 2019 at 11:55 AM (2y)



Jenelle Marie Pierce #3



Monday, February 11, 2019 at 11:55 AM (2y)

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Chrissy Holman Thank you. 1

Tuesday, February 12, 2019 at 1:37 AM (2y)



Jessica Louise We don't know one and other, but I've been following this and respect the thoughtful dialog this is creating in the broad spread community. I noticed that the public timeline has been removed from <https://polyamory-metoo.com> and am wondering why that content has been taken down?



POLYAMORY-METOO.COM
polyamory's #metoo | Survivor Support Team

Thursday, February 21, 2019 at 9:45 AM (1y) Edited

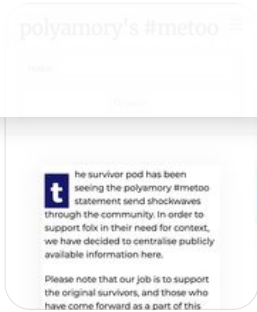
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Aida Manduley showing on my computer...? It's just on the sidebar...

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Thursday, February 21, 2019 at 9:56 AM (1y)



Aida Manduley Jessica Irvin You're on mobile maybe?

Thursday, February 21, 2019 at 10:07 AM (1y) · Edited



Aida Manduley Actually it even shows up for me on mobile as well. Might be something on your end? I just scroll down and the TL;DR timeline shows up. Are you referring to something else?

Thursday, February 21, 2019 at 10:09 AM (1y) · Edited

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