

Indigenous Roots of RJ

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In many cultures around the world, a Talking Circle is called upon when the community wants to discuss, address, and act upon an issue as a group. Ancestral nations around the world are built upon such principles of respect, integrity, and accountability where councils were structured as such in order to advise on such issues like tribal wellness, housing/relocation, hunting, using this method as a form of mediation in order to resolve conflict or to address a pressing issue. First Nations from the northern and southern continents of America call them “talking” or “wisdom” circles (what is left unsaid), in Mexico, they might be referred to as “Huey Tlahtohkan” or “Wise Word”, while in Southern African rituals they might be known as “cleansing the chest of grudges”.