

Prompts for Self-Guided Version of Psychology EDI Reading Group, Monday November 22nd,
10:30-11:30am

Wampum Belts
by Tehanetorens

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- Indigenous histories are often treated as if they are “natural history” rather than international politics, geopolitics, etc. Reading about the wampum belt uses among the Iroquois and with other nations made me reflect on this. What are the ways our education system has and still perpetuates this? What are the ways our own linguistic practices do? What could we do differently?
- Most of what I read was new to me. For example, Indigenous nations are typically painted, in settler discourse, as sort of “junior” fighters to the “real” armies of English or French nations. I understood much better how centrally involved Indigenous nations were to political struggles between those nations. What is something that was new to you?
- What impact did seeing the Wampum belts have on you? What impact did seeing the (mostly?) children and youth holding them have on you?