



EAST PRESTON FAMILY RESOURCE  
CENTRE

# SEXUAL VIOLENCE PREVENTION COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

**June Issue: Afrocentricity**

Although there is diversity within African Nova Scotian (ANS) communities, as a collective, ANS communities tend to view things similarly to each other and differently from other ethnic groups. Afrocentrism is a cultural worldview that focuses on the history and values of African peoples, and how persons of African ancestry view the world. Afrocentricity is a way of thinking and acting in which African history, interests, values, and experiences are at the center.

People self-identify in their own unique ways. For people who don't fit neatly into a specific racial category, self-identity can be complex. Some ways that African Nova Scotians identify are Black, Indigenous Black, and/or African Canadian. The term African Nova Scotian (or ANS for short) is used when referring to Indigenous Black Nova Scotians. .



# A Note on Language

African

Black

Indigenous  
African Nova  
Scotian

Colored

Negro

The N-word

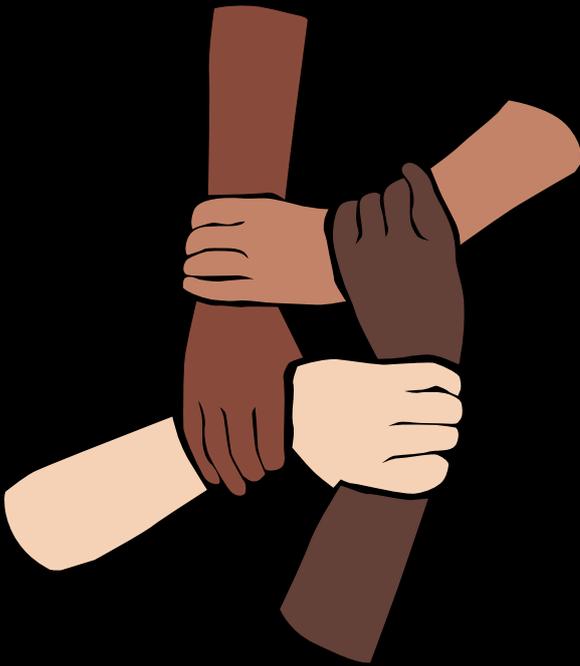
All of these words have been used to refer to people of African descent. The N-word has roots dating to the Latin word, niger, meaning black.

The N-word was used by White people to degrade people of African descent during the Trans Atlantic Slave Trade. Over the years it has been used as a racist insult that continues to stereotype black people as lazy, dirty, and worthless.



To take the online training, please visit  
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Some people of African descent have claimed the N-word as a term of unity. It is used to refer to other people of African descent, especially amongst friends and sometimes family. For many, the “N-word”, “colored”, and “Negro” still hold negative meanings especially when used by White people. The N-word, used in any form, and any way, whether African Nova Scotian or not, can be harmful.



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The East Preston Daycare and Preston Area Family Resource Center would like to welcome back Justine Colley-Leger as the African Nova Scotian Sexual Violence Community Engagement Coordinator.

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