Community Care

What does community care mean?

Community care is the principle of making sure the community is healthy, not just its member separately (even though that is a hugely important part of it!), but also that the community functions as a whole as a large group. That there's structures in place to reconcile differences, take care of one another in an empathetic way, and that no one regardless of social status, racialisation, disability, or anything else is left by the wayside and forgotten. Community care is above all a responsibility, not one that should be taken by only one or a few people, but everyone in the community. But one that is often lacking or completely missing in modern communities, this zine hopes to help remedy that and help you make your communities safer, more robust, and overall more caring.

The importance of community care in ALL communities

You might think to yourself that your space doesn't need community care, or at least not anything formal. That things are fine in your activism circle, or your hangout spot like a bar or community center, or even at home in your family. But communities might not always visibly need care; harm might be hidden from you, or even when harm isn't present yet—it almost certainly will be in the future. It is best to plan out and work with your community to set up the structures that can heal and prevent harm **before** harm happens, so that victims know they will be taken care of, so that the community can heal without banishment or overly harsh punishment of other sorts, and people don't feel threatened to admit wrongdoing.

Formation, and upholding, of community

Managing conflict and abuse

Help with creating safe(r) spaces

Privilege, space, safety

So, what now?

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