

Daily Meditation 12/06/2021

Something Positive Religion Could Do for Women Who Have Had Abortions

Morning.

In today's daily meditation, I propose that we could use something very positive around the topic of abortion instead of screaming at each other. And, that is to say, to create rituals for those who choose to undergo abortion, those who want to enter into ritual.

In the very process--because ritual-making is a circle experience; it's not about top-down dictation or rules--in that very process of creating ritual together, eye-to-eye in a circle, to prepare it, plan it, there is an understanding that passes between people and values, and, above all, creativity. Because ritual is an art form.

So, I think very healthy dynamics could derive from creating rituals together. And that is just one ritual we need to do today.

Another area of ritual we need to create together today is that of honoring elders.

Our culture has truly diminished the role of elders, and tended to tell the older people to go off and play golf the rest of their life, if they have the means to do that, or to play the stock market. But that is not what being elder is about.

And usually those who are poorer live with elders. They don't go off to park elders into some kind of home just for the aged.

But again, to meet in circle, and create together, what it would mean to bring back the whole archetype of elder. Because elders are really here to serve us, to serve one another, to bring the stories of the past alive, and to support the young.

So that, too, is something we could really profit from: creating rites of passages for elders, and that has to be ritualized.

And thirdly, another ritual we need to do together in circles, eye-to-eye, is, of course, rites of passage for our young people. Now we have some of these rituals in the attic, such as confirmation. But they're not powerful, they don't make an impact on young people anymore. Because the energy of the structures is what's been lost.

So there, too, I think we should work both elders and young people together to create appropriate rites of passage for young people, and drawing the wisdom of the community, including the wisdom of indigenous peoples, who have not altogether lost the power of ritual, and the power of rites of passage.

So, I think there's a lot of good work that could occur between people. And in the process of creating ritual together, ceremony, you learn a lot, both from the elders and from the young people.

And the young people disclosing what they most want from their rites of passage, for example. And then to involve young people in creating rituals for elders as well. So, you're mixing generations in that regard.

So, I think there are many occasions today to bring healing to one another by way of ritual-making. And maybe to get over some of the flack and some of the loud shouting and get down to the heartwork. The heartwork of the community *is* ceremony. It is ritual.

Thank you. We'll see you tomorrow.