

ACR-GNY Roundtable Breakfast | April 1, 2021

ZOOM MEETING PUBLIC CHAT TRANSCRIPT

**PUBLIC NETWORKING**

- 08:02:05 Niki Borofsky | JAMS | NYC-NH: Welcome! Please rename yourselves and include your location.
- 08:04:25 Pierre de Ravel d'Esclapon: Greetings from Amagansett
- 08:04:31 Niki Borofsky | JAMS | NYC-NH: Good morning and welcome! The program will begin at 8:30 am. Thank you for including your name and location in your screen name.
- 08:09:03 Niki Borofsky | JAMS | NYC-NH: Happy April Fools' Day! Before the program begins at 8:30 am, we are sharing stories of pranks and tricks.
- 08:10:05 Niki Borofsky | JAMS | NYC-NH: Hop-Frog by Edgar Allen Poe:  
<https://poestories.com/read/hop-frog>
- 08:12:08 Niki Borofsky | JAMS | NYC-NH: To add your location to your name, go to the upper right-hand corner of your image, click on the 3 horizontal dots, click on rename
- 08:12:32 Maria R Volpe - NYC: If you are calling by phone or anonymously, please rename yourself including your location.
- 08:13:38 Rajiv Naik, Mumbai: For those with their videos turned off, the way to do this is to go to Participants and then click on your name and then select rename.
- 08:15:39 Amy Jeu: Good morning
- 08:16:49 Niki Borofsky | JAMS | NYC-NH: When Constitutions Took Over the World by Jill Lepore:  
<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2021/03/29/when-constitutions-took-over-the-world>
- 08:24:23 Niki Borofsky | JAMS | NYC-NH: INTERNATIONAL PSYCHOHISTORICAL ASSOCIATION: Understanding the Past, Shaping the Future | <https://www.psychohistory.us/>
- 08:29:13 Niki Borofsky | JAMS | NYC-NH: Welcome everyone! Please add your location to your screenname.
- 08:30:45 tsipora: I live in Oregon and would like to continue joining the breakfast meetings. Would you make it available for zoom participants?

**PRESENTATION RECORDING BEGINS**

- 01:19:16 Niki Borofsky | JAMS | NYC-NH: This meeting is being recorded, and the video and public chat transcript will be available by next week on the ACR-GNY website at:  
<https://acrigny.org/RTB-Videos>

- 01:22:50 Niki Borofsky | JAMS | NYC-NH: More about today's speaker Thomas Rothschild: <https://thomasrothschild.com/>
- 01:23:47 Niki Borofsky | JAMS | NYC-NH: Please submit your questions for Tom via chat.
- 01:35:53 Cornelia Zelter: I did not understand the plurality concept in this context. Can anyone kindly catch me up?
- 01:36:39 Ron Vero - Albany: 4 people running for an office with 10 people voting.
- 01:37:01 Harvey Newman West Palm Beach, FL: Is Unanimity minus one close enough?
- 01:37:11 Ron Vero - Albany: one person gets 4 votes, one gets 3, one gets 2 and the other gets 1 4 wins.
- 01:38:17 Viviane Topp: SO what happens when there is a group of people that will obstruct everything unless it is their point of view. ie the Republicans are present because are voted in but that does not have any intention to find common ground .unless it is their point of view. IF there is no intention to find common ground does not matter what tool one uses IMO
- 01:38:23 Joe Siegel: Can this approach work with a group where there has been a breakdown in trust over a long period of time?
- 01:40:40 Ilan Bass 白義蘭 - Italy: @Cornelia - A plurality is whoever receives more votes. Majority is over 50% of votes. I think this is the difference.
- 01:40:51 Chris Kane DC: I am not sure why consensus would necessarily be lowest common denominator. I thought it meant near unanimity? Where would consensus be on the scale.
- 01:41:36 Cornelia Zelter: @Ilan - Thank you
- 01:41:45 Viviane Topp: MY WAY of the HIGHWAY
- 01:42:28 Pierre de Ravel d'Esclapon: Tom: isn't your model limited to local or community decisions? the consensus model does not appear well suited to making hard political decisions. Remember the difference between a politician and a statesman? the politician looks to the next election, hence seeks consensus, a statesman looks to and cares for the next generation. To do that a statesman often has to ride herd over "consensus". Next, how do you handle the tyranny of minorities now so prevalent and well analysed by Tocqueville?
- 01:42:48 Harvey Newman West Palm Beach, FL: Twelve Angry Men is a perfect example.
- 01:43:19 Ilan Bass 白義蘭 - Italy: @Cornelia - You are welcome! To add: Majority means you poll more votes than all opposition combined

- 01:44:41 Pierre de Ravel d'Esclapon: Science is another field where decision by consensus should not be the model
- 01:51:55 Harvey Newman West Palm Beach, FL: I'm reminded of a friend who used to say, "It sounds logical, but is it psychological?"
- 01:52:30 Mark Soboslai, Westport, CT: Are we saying there is not one "single" truth?
- 01:52:36 Felicitas Kort NYC: How do you develop Trust?
- 01:52:41 Niki Borofsky | JAMS | NYC-NH: "The Promise of Paradox" by Parker J. Palmer: <https://www.amazon.com/Promise-Paradox-Celebration-Contradictions-Christian/dp/0787996963> (sorry, Amazon was the easiest link)
- 01:52:46 Pierre de Ravel d'Esclapon: Tom when you speak of his truth, her truth are you not using the word truth as a substitute for perception?
- 01:53:36 Laura Dadagian-O'Rourke - Massachusetts: When you say "I don't have all the answers" are you referring to instilling that idea in each participant, or are you referring primarily to the person in the role of the mediator?
- 01:53:52 Niki Borofsky | JAMS | NYC-NH: Harkening back to "I statements" :)
- 01:54:58 Amy Jeu: What happens when there is trust has been broken and people feel disrespected from things that have happened in the past, and both sides have moved to polar opposite sides of the spectrum?
- 01:57:03 Barbara Odwak: can you give examples
- 01:57:23 Almitra Gasper (she/her): Play is important to dropping masks and guards and allowing for trust
- 01:57:54 Robin Beckhard (she/her)-NYC: @Amy, yes, was wondering the same.
- 01:59:45 Joe Siegel: How do you handle trust-building when there is a power imbalance in the group, for example, supervisors and employees?
- 01:59:58 Laura Dadagian-O'Rourke - Massachusetts: How has Zoom affected your practice — as, for example a seat changing game or the blindfold obstacle course are now impossible?
- 02:00:00 Almitra Gasper (she/her): Great example for improving relationships among colleagues
- 02:00:37 Harvey Newman West Palm Beach, FL: Zoom rooms could be used effectively.

02:00:50 Niki Borofsky | JAMS | NYC-NH: HROC (Healing and Rebuilding Our Communities): <https://www.quakersintheworld.org/quakers-in-action/205/HROC-Healing-and-Rebuilding-Our-Communities>

02:02:24 Linda High / NYC: Please share the slides, I am not able to stay for the entire presentation. Thanks!

02:03:48 Maria R Volpe - NYC: The recording of this session will be posted at [www.acrgny.org](http://www.acrgny.org)

02:07:26 Carol szamatowicz-NYC: How do you support the person something troubling was said too, if the group disperses? Do you return to it, at end of break?

02:08:23 Shreya Shankar: Thank you so much for that wonderful session. It was very enlightening!

02:12:55 Diane Kirschner: What is looping?

02:14:33 Laura McGrew-DC: I would greatly appreciate hearing his entire presentation and then going to detailed questions later

02:16:33 Willie B: Is there a place for caucusing / separating the parties? Shuttle diplomacy?

02:17:05 Kathy, Ay;lah and David - flying freedom: I am interested in a very deep shift that you mentioned..when you said a person 'steps' out of themselves to move into the group...that is a big step for a person to step out of their own ego.

02:18:02 Viviane Topp: I read this article - very very interesting!!

02:19:19 Niki Borofsky | JAMS | NYC-NH: Getting to Yes: A Nursing Home's Mission to Vaccinate Its Hesitant Staff | <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/03/28/health/nursing-home-covid-19-vaccine.html>

02:19:45 Diane Kirschner: The link to the Adam Grant article: <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/01/31/opinion/change-someones-mind.html?searchResultPosition=1>

02:20:21 Niki Borofsky | JAMS | NYC-NH: We will circulate Tom's slides and a link to the recording in a follow-up email.

02:20:41 Laura Dadagian-O'Rourke - Massachusetts: Thank you for all of these links!

02:20:50 Niki Borofsky | JAMS | NYC-NH: Contact: <https://thomasrothschild.com/>

02:20:54 njenkins: Thank you Mr. Rothschild

02:21:08 Andrew Cooper - LI/NYC (Jericho, NY): Thank you Tom!

02:21:12 G Warner Williams: Thank you!!

02:21:21 AmyJeu: Thank you Tom. A wonderful presentation, I learned so much.

02:21:28 VT - Kathryn Santiago: Thank you!

02:21:29 Allen Waxman: Great discussion. Will the deck be circulated

02:21:32 Susan Cushman: Excellent presentation, Tom. Thank you!

02:21:33 Margo Cates: Thank you very much.

02:21:52 Barbara Odwak:thank you. a very thoughtful presentation

02:21:58 Allison Camargo: Thank you Tom!

02:22:06 Ilan Bass 白義蘭 - Italy: Many thanks to Tom! Very interesting presentation

02:22:32 Janice Tudy-Jackson: How can we receive a copy of Tom's PowerPoint?

02:22:42 Bill Reuter: Thanks Tom and ACR team, very valuable presentation. Thanks for sending the slides and information!

02:23:18 Chuck Newman - NYC: Thx, Bill. Also, Maria Volpe's John Jay/CUNY DR Center

02:23:52 Cornelia Zelter: Degree of attachment: It is not so much your opinions, but how you hold them.

02:23:53 Kishor Dere: Is it really possible to mediate without adopting a give and take approach?

02:24:13 Janice Tudy-Jackson: Niki, thanks for making the slides available.

02:25:14 Barbara Odwak:how do we get the slides

02:26:00 Ilan Bass 白義蘭 - Italy: Could Tom please comment on where these kind of unity decision making processes are being employed, whether currently or in the past?

02:26:02 Chuck Newman - NYC: Slides & link to recording will be emailed

02:27:26 Felicitas Kort NYC: Excellent presentation Tom Thank you! Again about trust...how can you stimulate a collective trust in a community ?

02:29:39 Robin Beckhard (she/her)-NYC: I'm thinking about a family as a community, and the question asked earlier about lack of trust/respect because of past experiences. I know you said forgiveness is a whole different topic, but could you say something about how you might help the family start to address this?

02:30:22 Robin Beckhard (she/her)-NYC: New York misses you too, Tom! ;-)

02:31:38 John Calhoun: Thank You, Tom. Blessings

02:31:42 Ilan Bass 白義蘭 - Italy: @Julie and Tom - Thank you

02:31:42 Cornelia Zelter: Thank you so much for this enlightening presentation and the very best wishes for your health.

02:31:45 Yasmeen Kennedy - CO: Thank you Tom!

02:32:29 Carol Hertz: How enlightening yet so simple. Give and take. Listen more and speak less to make others feel respected and trusted, What is the Quakers way can be considered excellent tools in everyday life as well as mediation, arbitration etc. Thank you so much for an outstanding presentation.

02:32:30 Karen Davis - NYC: In gratitude Tom! The beauty of deep listening and respect. . .

02:34:43 April Y. Walker - FL: I have to sign off early... Fantastic program -- thank you ACR-GNY!

02:36:51 Cornelia Zelter: Think United Nations

02:38:01 Cornelia Zelter: The aspiration is unity, the real-politik is consensus

02:38:29 Maria R Volpe - NYC: If anyone who is not on the NYC-DR listserv wants to be subscribed, send me an email at [mvolpe@jjay.cuny.edu](mailto:mvolpe@jjay.cuny.edu)

02:41:13 marilyn genoa: thank you. I hope zoom will continue as a means of attending once we return to in-person.

02:42:23 Zoom user 2: Excellent presentation! dry theoretical and philosophical concepts ibut your practical and factual explanations made it quite comprehensible and very interesting. Thank you.

02:43:08 Maria Goretti Tai: same here, i hope zoom will go on too. thanks for organizing!

02:44:10 Zoom user 2: oops, meant very theoretical...

02:44:26 Monae Ollivierre: I have to leave early. Thank you for the wonderful presentation.

02:46:46 Carol szamatowicz-NYC: Thank you, Quakers, and Tom. I have another meeting to go to.

02:47:27 Michael Cassandra: Thank you, Tom. Your talk was a good listen to the wisdom of Quakerism. Having been at the United Nations for many years, I can assert that the lowest common denominator was used to arrive at consensus and the results were less than enthusiastic for the most part. But when "unity" was arrived at, such as for the

Chemical Weapons Convention or Nuclear Test Ban, which still left out a few, the excitement was palpable.

- 02:48:00 Noa Zanolli, Switzerland: From Noa Zanolli, Bern: It's a privilege to participate in ACR-GNY's continuing education meetings from Switzerland....Thank you!
- 02:48:19 Shermaya Lorainey: Thank you
- 02:48:39 Shaikh-Queens, NY: Thank you Tom.
- 02:48:40 Regina Ritcey-NYS DRA: Thank you Tom! Thank you Maria & ACR-GNY for hosting!
- 02:49:06 Katerina Denora- NYC: thank you everyone for this presentation! It was very nice to be able to attend!
- 02:49:15 Robin Beckhard (she/her)-NYC: Maria, Julie, Niki et al, and Tom, thank you so very much. I appreciate being reminded of my Quaker (education) roots.
- 02:49:26 Michelle Farrell: Thank you for a wonderful presentation. Please clarify how to request the slides. Was it a direct request to Tom?
- 02:49:31 Elz Larsen: Thank you, Tom and Julie, Maria and Nikki, and everyone for all the great questions!
- 02:49:33 Imma Armadans (Barcelona; Catalonia, Spain): Thank you so very much for all
- 02:49:41 Ilan Bass 白義蘭 - Italy: Many thanks to Tom and all ACR-GNY team for another very interesting and enjoyable event. I would like to connect with people via LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/ilanbass/> Have a great day everyone and take care
- 02:50:13 Kishor Dere: kishoredere@yahoo.com
- 02:50:19 Michelle Farrell: Thank you!!
- 02:50:22 Bradley Roth: Thank you, Tom, and ACR-GNY/John Jay!
- 02:50:46 Allison De La Rosa: Thank you Tom
- 10:05:47 Maria Goretti Tai: Thanks much Tom & ACR! Here's my contact to stay in touch from LA/HK <https://www.linkedin.com/in/maria-goretti-tai-52211960/>
- 10:09:16 Susan Cushman: Thanks, ACR-NY -- always great to be with you. Another wonderful session! See you soon :). -Susan C.
- 10:11:57 Maria Goretti Tai - LA/HK: yes
- 10:20:51 Niki Borofsky | JAMS | NYC-NH: Thank you to everyone!

10:21:03

Kishor Dere: Thanks a lot.