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Prefigurative Methodologies for the Capitalocene: Socio-ecological Transformation from Below

#Capitalocene #Climate Justice #Community-Engaged Research #Prefigurative Politics

How did we get here and where are we going? In socio-ecological transformations scholarship, efforts to cultivate more just, sustainable futures are strengthened by engaging with explicit, coherent theories of history. Attending to the past can help make sense of problems and why they are happening, who or what is responsible and/or at risk, and how to respond. This keynote integrates scholarship on the Capitalocene (Age of Capital) and prefigurative politics to address a core question in transdisciplinary scholarship for socio-ecological transformation: How can our research be responsive to the historically situated, systemic forces that facilitate and impede societal change?

Carlie D. Trott, PhD is an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychology at the University of Cincinnati (UC) in the US where she heads the Collaborative Sustainability Lab and serves as Director of Sustainability Research for UC's Center for Public Engagement with Science. Trott's research aims to bring visibility to and work against the inequitable impacts of climate change, socially and geographically. Drawing upon theories within and beyond psychology (e.g., social movement theories; socio-ecological systems frameworks), Trott's climate justice research employs community-engaged, participatory, and action research methods and aims to center the voices and experiences of those most affected by climate disruption and environmental injustice.

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