

Unknown Speaker 0:03
Just what would

Unknown Speaker 0:04
I do without?

Unknown Speaker 0:05
I mean, I think one thing that safety was already doing is kind of situating. us. So we're at the end of this lab. But we're also in the middle of a process. And I think this we'll have time today to talk about kind of the relationships that we've built and nurtured this week, and kind of where we hope to see that going. But we also just wanted to look back at where we've come from.

Unknown Speaker 0:37
Yes,

Sukti 0:38
thank you so much. Meg, had a little bit of a tech issue.

Yeah, so here we are. This is that infamous roadmap. And it's, I mean, we always check in briefly before the lab begins ameesh Meg Mela and I and we all collectively feel like this has, it's just surpassed what we had hoped we could co create together. And we just feel the sense of wanting to understand with all of you what you know, the future might look like, and how we can continue to really accompany and support each other in this PAR work. And so I mean, just want to start the day by just expressing real, real gratitude to each of you for taking the time, for bringing your whole selves to these conversations for being willing to make fun of yourself and share your most horrific moments and to laugh and to listen to good music. And so just really, thank you so much for for all of that.

And so here is a, what is it called Misha, it's called a Padlet. Right?

Unknown Speaker 1:53
Right.

Unknown Speaker 1:55
Yeah, yeah. Yeah, that is right. And I actually put the link to it in the chat, if anyone wanted to click on the Padlet. And you can edit any of the points. So if you wanted to add to your point on the map or change it, it's all there to play with.

Sukti 2:16
And I'm just seeing the chat. That's wonderful. The packages are arriving. Yay. Is there anyone that's left that hasn't received their packages? I hope not. Oh, certainly.

Unknown Speaker 2:30
Okay. Shreya got a call. Okay.

Sukti 2:34

That's always a great sign, right? Sure. When you get the call. So this is, you know, this, all of our pictures are funny. And that's the that's is clearly maybe that our most ideal moments, but this is who we are. We embrace us for all that we are. And then this is just different screenshots from different sessions. And I think my screenshot taking skills needs work.

Unknown Speaker 3:04

I think this I think that is the all of us being an action is a a sign that none of us are like posing, right? We're just actually here together.

Sukti 3:13

Absolutely. If we were in person, we would look like this, too. So here we go. So I got before we get here.

So we wanted to - let me stop sharing for a second.

You know, thinking about the week and you know, we're going to spend the rest of today, as Meg I mentioned, thinking about both our individual kind of growth, assuming that there has been some growth or learning or just reflection that's happened throughout the lab process. And then also, like, collectively, what does it mean for us as a community in what we're doing together? And where do we kind of see this, this work being nurtured? And so Following this, we're going to have a wonderful session led by Mila on the tree of hope exercise, and then we'll we'll break out into groups. And we'll think about, you know, how the lab has affected us and what sessions really resonated, what questions are kind of left remaining, and then Meg and I will really encourage all of us to think about what future possibilities might look like and we'll you know, we'll share a couple ideas and then really save time for you all to provide inputs.

But before then my mag wanted to share kind of bringing us back to day one a little bit because that's how the world is circular- Meg, over to you. Okay, so I thought it would be interesting if anyone has thoughts or,

Unknown Speaker 4:45

you know, experience memories of the things that we all brought to symbolize our struggles and our solidarities like, I've found those things have been very present for me like I keep thinking of my list soil even though she didn't show us the soil. I keep I actually feel that I saw it in this way, which is really interesting. And Antonio, that amazing butterfly still kind of, you know, just enveloping us in this lovely way. So I just wondered if, you know, if anyone had a similar experience where you've kind of gone back to those as touchstone. So just an invitation to share if you have But no, no need.

Unknown Speaker 5:31

And I can say one more thing about the soil. I've been thinking, of course, about the difference between being connected to soil and not. And particularly, of course, as a white American, what

it means to be on this land where I am today, which is, you know, Manabe land. It's not European land. But here I am. And I'm in this concrete structure. And so it's been that metaphor and the reality of the soil has been very present for me, as I think about how do we construct solidarity in these spaces.

Sukti 6:08

I had her hand up, ready to just go from right here. Oh, you're right. You shifted from over here to over here, it's over to you.

Unknown Speaker 6:22

As I was like, wrapping up my work for today, and getting ready for the session, I was just thinking about how at the beginning of the lab I was my primary apprehension was that I wouldn't understand what's going on in the lab, because I felt like people here have been have the kind of experience that I can only dream of having, you know, you know, as time goes on, but I don't know, it's been really reassuring for me that the questions of ethics, and you know, what the value of the work is and how, you know, we carry the work and means versus the end, it's really heartening to know that, you know, as if anything, people as they're, you know, they learn and they work more, these questions only get deeper as opposed to like, you know, getting more clarity on these. And I'm, it's also reassuring in a way where now I know that I don't, there are no absolute answers. So maybe I can shift my focus on things that are a little more manageable. Within like my scope of work. Thank you.

Sukti 7:39

Okay, well, we'll have more more time as we go throughout the day to think about these questions. Mila, I am going to pass it to you I will share the screen

Unknown Speaker 8:02

I'm having a bad day. Sorry, one second everyone.

mela 8:13

Can you see it? I think is just see my crazy. top right.

Unknown Speaker 8:21

And that no, we don't see anything. It just says it started screen sharing but it's just at least for me, just says that. Okay, there's imagine a beautiful tree. I can I can I should be able to do this. Let me try. So there's a tree.

Unknown Speaker 8:41

Okay, I'm gonna try this. It's really Friday. Okay,

Unknown Speaker 8:49

you have it now, right? Yes, here we are. Yes. Okay.

mela 8:57

Thank you. Thank you, sukti. Thank you, Meg.

during a lot of our usually in the beginning, and at the end of our PAR processes, we often draw our, our trees of hope. And this the tree is a reminder for us of a lot of things,

I would like us to draw this tree of hope that we know that everyone has their own tree

The roots, the trunk, the branches, the leaves, the fruits, and also the flowers in the seeds. And

using our, our notebooks, and probably some of us have received the very beautiful notebooks that we have had in our care packages, maybe we could draw our with the pencils as well, that we could draw our, our trees of hope. And on the roots, we can state our our histories, what is anchoring us and what makes us continue standing to where we are now. And one of the beautiful significance of the roots is that usually, you know, with a tree, if it is grounded, when it has very strong and healthy roots, even if it's cut down, it will still again start to to grow again, because because of the roots, and

the trunk is our gifts that keep us standing for the tree to continue standing for us to see the beautiful flowers, the beautiful seeds, and it needs that that trunk that makes everyone stand on it. And on that we would like to put all the gifts that we have, that makes us continue standing and that also support all the other foods, the branches, the leaves and everything in our struggles in our lives. And then the branches now, this we are going to put our our hopes and our dreams the future that we are seeing and where we want to where we where we want to get at and

we also have our we call them our ancestors before we just started were discussing with their with Sukti. And Meg and in Emese, about our our ancestors, I said oh, I have no other way we usually call them ancestors, those

And we don't need to be related through kin or lineage. But those people that inspire us in our struggles, they can be anywhere and some of them may be living right now some of them may not be there. But these are the people that inspire our struggles. And then we have the fruits which are the legacies passed on to us. And on that on our tree we can we can write the legacies and then on the flowers in the seeds either legacies that we ourselves hope to leave.

And I would like us to draw our beautiful trees. And then I will pass it on to Sukti if we are going to be having some time to share, but we can always share in the chat boxes. But I am going to leave this time to sukti now as we draw our tree of hope. Thank you.

Sukti 13:33

Thank you Mela. Yeah, I think we will have time for a few folks to share their their their trees. So why don't we take the next? I don't know. 10 minutes. People need 5-10 minutes to draw your trees, to think.

Put some music on. We can turn your video on. You can turn your video off whatever you feel but let's let's come back in about 10 minutes. Does that work for everyone? Yeah, okay. And then we can

we can talk about our trees. Thank you Mila. Good day.

Okay, I think we are going to make our way back.

Gonna try to turn this mela Are you there?

I think Mila might have stepped away for a second so we'll just give her a second. There's Mila. Hi Mila.

mela 24:52

Hi. Sorry I always hear but sometimes they just use square my bathrooms are Don't apologize, please. Yes. So maybe you could see it with. Sorry.

Unknown Speaker 25:17

Go ahead. Well,

mela 25:20

yes. For those who'd like to share?

Sukti 25:23

Yeah.

Do we have anyone who's willing to take the plunge and be the first to share their artistic geniuses?

that's gonna motivate. Mine. The problem with my handwriting is that I can't even read it myself, which is the challenge.

So, okay, let me remember what I wrote. Um,so in terms of my roots,

I just always think about my grandmothers and so my grandmothers and kind of thinking about the importance of education and, and family and really, both of them really embodied a very much like an open home way of being.

The mountains, so coming from Nepal, and feeling really at home.sounds insane to say in the Himalayas, but like any sort of mountain space, just feeling the sense of sometimes our problems can be magnified. And then when we are in front of such majestic beings, and we kind of see ourselves, we take ourselves a little less seriously.

In terms of hopes and dreams, I think, for there to be a healthy planet, for our children and our children's children and all the animals that are with us to have communities really owning and directing and leading their struggles and not only having to lead struggles but to lead a much more abundant way of being

auto solicit. Yeah, women feeling like we're poor enough. And then, in terms of legacies, I would say that, for me, it was to pass on my grandmother's belief in education. She was married at eight. She was married off at eight and had her first child when she was 13 years old, and was one of the only women in her generation to know have the capacity to read and so I would see her when I would go visit Nepal and the first question she would ask is not are you married yet? But what are you reading? And I just think that idea of education and the legacies to leave our that legal empowerment and power continue to flourish the world and that more community justice is really at the heart of everything that we do. So that's my tree. I think I took way longer than necessary, but it would be wonderful to hear from from someone else in the group.

Unknown Speaker 29:24

I can go

Unknown Speaker 29:27

on that I was picked on I was like, I'm gonna have to do it gonna have to go back to Shreya I need to get better with silences I feel because every time there is a song, like maybe I should just say something- not great, not great for me. But it is it is nice to have a chance to share this. Thanks for you know, being the first to volunteer. So for my tree in the roots, it's you know, the first word that came for histories was trauma, and that that was surprising but you know, we we all know this and you know we kind of grow up with it.

Unknown Speaker 30:24

for my trunk I did put friends, family, you know, my partner, my pet, and

Unknown Speaker 31:07

ancestors for me was complicated given how closely patriarchy and caste is tied to, you know, the kind of privileges I do have in the society, it's hard to, like, think of ancestors in a good way. But my grandmother, while she's like, you know, she's still very much sure and, but she's just such a huge influence in my life. And like, you know, why I even started going on the path of feminism and, you know, political activism, and very much like you, Sukti, like her biggest dream was like, for herself to have, you know, access higher education gone to the National Library at some point. And so it was the biggest thrill for me to be able to do those things. And, you know, she was always so proud, because of that

Unknown Speaker 32:29

Legacy they want to leave behind definitely, you know, a kinder world and, you know, just just the knowledge of people having experienced some form of gentleness, some form of love, because of my existence like that, something that I definitely want want to leave behind, but also, for people to have safe spaces and support systems that exist beyond me. So I don't have

to exist, like these are just ingrained, and institution and spaces and communities that we occupy. And also at a personal level, the legacy I want to leave behind is, I hope I stop the cycle of generational trauma, you know, like, do the work I need to do to heal to you know, make progress, so that, you know, my nieces are slightly better, you know, when when they have to deal with the emotional weight of the world. So yeah, that was that was my tree.

Unknown Speaker 33:19

Thank you so much.

Sukti 33:21

Thank you so much Shreya.

that you could share? Yes, I

Unknown Speaker 33:42

have here great. Very happy. But I will explain.

Unknown Speaker 33:53

First, I will start with the sisters. And I think that is a and I'm thinking about like my my grandmother, who was she? She was she belongs to an exile family from the Spanish Civil War, and also from the other side of the family. The other part was like they were Jewish communists. So I think that impacts on me a lot. Then, thinking about my history, like my personal history, I wrote that I am like,

Unknown Speaker 34:32

I was when I was a child. I was a middle class, gay boy, but who didn't know i mean cuckooland Express. He was gay, who raised in the border of the border, because I was raised in in the, in the surrounding area of Buenos Aires the capital city of Argentina, in in the capital city of the state of Buenos Aires that is called

Unknown Speaker 35:00

laplata but in the border of that city, so it is in the border of the border, and also argentina is the border of the border because it's in the south of the south of America. So I think that

Unknown Speaker 35:18

okay, the gift, I think that like the perseverance and working hard is like the gift that I can say, and thinking about the legacy passed on to on to me, is like the fight, I mean, that they need to find work for what I think is fair. Besides, I mean, independent from the, the consequences, because I mean, during the last dictatorship, for instance, in La Plata, it was very heavy. And my, my, my grandpa, their parents suffer, I mean, they they enter to to their houses, they they take my grandma, I mean, I have a history regarding that. So so I think that fighting for what you would you think is fair is something that is important. And the legacy I want to I need not only individually, but collectively because I think I can't do it individually. But I will

Unknown Speaker 36:26

a phrase that sentence that is like a world where we are socially equal, humanly different, and totally free. So that that I think is the legacy we went with, we need to achieve. And, and the hopes are more they are more simpler, they have to do with the legacy, but they are simpler. And they have to do and I think that the pandemic,

Unknown Speaker 36:55

what I want is that the pandemic doesn't leave many more people out of the map than what we have right now. So that's my hope.

Sukti 37:07

That's beautiful. Thank you so much really big. Who else might want to share? mega Misha or Mila? Would one of you maybe you want to share your tree?

Unknown Speaker 37:30

I'm getting the look of maybe not okay. Well, I can email what I can do, because I can see from Oh, oh, okay, so Oh, okay. So what I'll do is I will just give a very brief view. And maybe in the meantime, while I'm speaking, somebody might unmute themselves or might raise their hands, Aakanksha your hand. Thank you for always being there. God's gonna raise your hand.

Unknown Speaker 38:04

Emese, you wer gonna show a picture. And then we'll go to Aakanksha , right. Yeah.

Unknown Speaker 38:10

Perfect. Yeah, I'll just, I'll just show my tree real quickly. And just so I'll give the briefest story with with in the histories, thinking about knowing my history as something that sustained my family through the efforts to deal our story in order to minimize my ethnic community. And so that knowledge of history being this like radical act of of standing, and being able to really sustain our futures. And then and then connected to that

Unknown Speaker 38:56

I did want to share, I'm going to put this into the chat, should anyone ever need something beautiful in your back pocket, but one of the things that keeps me standing is being able to think about joy and grief, as very integral to each other. So that idea, and I'll just link a little quote in the chat

Unknown Speaker 39:27

Thank you, Emese. I'll also try and make it quick. So, this is my tree and I took the exercise in a relaly, theoretical way. So I have

Unknown Speaker 39:52

I have caste and class privilege, which only now I'm coming to what it is.

Unknown Speaker 40:16

knowledge that I've acquired, I still feel like it really

Unknown Speaker 40:21

grounds me. And then in my channel, I have things that keep keep me going, which is the transformative power of action, and the hope in a better world,

Unknown Speaker 40:35

and the inherent worth of human life and time. And, you know, the power of law to make people's lives better.

Unknown Speaker 40:45

In the fruits I have, the fruits are legacies which are so the other categories, which are legacies I want to leave behind and legacies that have been left for me, as well as,

Unknown Speaker 41:00

you know, what I think and like, who our ancestors are, and what they stood for. So all those would be ideas of humility, and freedom and fraternity, but also like accountability, and, you know, and in my ancestors, I've put, you know, my parents to change the way I think about what your job is, and what your purpose in the world is. But at the same time, all of like, my previous bosses and my current, like, you know, supervisors who I work with, because the interactions I have with them really change the way I do things on a day to day basis. And, of course, like, most importantly, now, the people I work with, and our collaborators, because, yeah, thank

Sukti 41:52

thank you so much. Again, I think we have time for one or two more.

Unknown Speaker 42:05

Anyone else want to

mela 42:13

I will share my tree very beautiful ones that my, my roots, I think I'm rooted in my grandmother as well. Having been born during the war. And I didn't know my my father, because he had gone to join the war. So I was with my grandmother who told me a lot of things about nature, about the importance of the soil, about the healing of the soil, and all that about the reef and stories of rivers that could talk and animals that could talk and birds that could sing. So, yeah, that that is what grounds me. what keeps me standing is the love which I have received from my late grandma. And my son and my daughter that I really would like to inspire about what I have what I have been told and what I have learned. And my, my my I have quite a number of ancestors, but my grandmother is one of those ancestors. And I'm really inspired by Maya Angelou. I think I have read I have been stalking her for for very long from here. And yeah, and I have quite a lot of my ancestors are still living and some are within the movement. So I have quite a number of ancestors but those two they really stand out for me. And then on on, I will just cut some of the things but what I really hope what I really hope for is a just world and I'm really inspired sometimes by by zebra and in how you know it is all colored, black, white and how you know his

power lies within the heard, that it gets his power with others in this is really what I want to leave in this world. The world that I envision where there is peace, there is love in where you You know, people live in harmony with nature with other living organisms. Yeah.

Sukti 45:09

Thank you so much Mela. I think one more Antonio might want to share something about your tree.

Unknown Speaker 45:20

Yea sure, this is my little tree. In my history on my roots like put like stories of resilience, I put my values, my grandparents. So another shout out for my grandmother's, my indigenous roots that I have. I come from, like very mixed families in regards to like, spaniard black with indigenous directions, especially on my mom's side. And that's something that I'm really proud of

Unknown Speaker 45:54

my trunk, my nieces, my community, myself care I like to take care of myself as well.

Unknown Speaker 46:03

Then branches are like the dreams and hopes, you know, like ending the cycles of trauma,

Unknown Speaker 46:10

liberation for all, seeing the world because I haven't travel further than when I came to the United States

Unknown Speaker 46:16

20-21 years ago. And to capitalism, I sobered up many of the oppressions that many of our communities like

Unknown Speaker 46:25

experience, the fruits, I think that I mentioned, I was kind of a caring, I consider myself a very caring person. And I think that comes from a legacy that was left behind for me. And then finally, what I hope to leave behind is like a sense of hope, and the empowerment of others so that they can continue the work that I won't be able to do.

Sukti 46:50

That was wonderful. Thank you, Antonio. Okay, so I think we will take a break. And come back. Let's take like a seven eight minute break. So take it we'll come back at 10 o'clock. And before that, yeah. Are you gonna share? No, no.

Unknown Speaker 47:12

I just want to like everyone put up the painting that they did for the tree and we take a screenshot. Love it.

Sukti 47:20

Thank you. This is when you know you're working with community because you recognize the importance of doing that. Thank you Diyary. Now, I realize somebody has to take the screenshot though, so maybe I can do that. Okay. All right. Okay. All right. Yay. Okay, done.

Unknown Speaker 47:48

Thank you, Diyary, for that. Appreciate the reminder. Good idea. Okay, so we'll be back in in seven minutes everybody. Thank you so much for sharing. And

Unknown Speaker 48:44

Unknown Speaker 49:12

Sukti 54:10

Hi everyone as you start to come back if you could signal by maybe turning on your video just so we know. You're back in it there's some children running in the background so apologies to that there's there's baths that are being that are happening right now. So Bethany, did you hear what song was on break?

Bethany 54:40

Yes, I just love that. I don't know folks are listening to the water skirmish but I just Yeah, I love the way that the the song kind of flipped the power dynamics and actually forced the guards to do something even you know for someone who it is essentially just made their jobs a lot more difficult and contradicted the very institution that they they get their their livelihoods from and so and really just so you know, it was it was really, I just love how the fact of that that song kind of made just like force the power shift in that one little moment.

Sukti 55:35

Does anybody know? Or do you know the history of San Quentin Prison for those of us that are not familiar is like a it's a pretty large prison institution in Northern California. It's a male prison, and it's has a violent history as most prisons do. Do you know the history the background of how he got invited to sing there?

Bethany 55:56

I don't actually that would be really interesting. Yeah,

Sukti 56:01

yeah, we'll have to I don't know if anyone else knows otherwise. It's it's a really fantastic. There's a really great documentary about this as well.

Unknown Speaker 56:11

It inspired me to pull out my San Quentin CD, and yes, I still have my CDs, I'm going to check the liner notes to see if they have the story. Do you still listen to your CDs? Yes. And record. That's, that's wonderful. That's wonderful. Okay, so

Sukti 56:26

we'll wait for Poorvi to get back to us on that. So we're now going to break up into a few groups, or Misha, did you want to kick off this discussion?

Emese Ilyes 56:38

Sure. So I'll put these prompts in the chat as well, in case it is helpful to have it in both places, but we just wanted all of us to just spend some time talking about what the lab has stirred up in, in your work. How has it sort of shifted how you how you approach your work or your life?

Unknown Speaker 57:04

And

Unknown Speaker 57:06

and what are some things that you would continue to like to think about to explore more. And so this is a chance for us to just like, share, how this space has been, how it has been impacting us, how we continue to feel its effects, but also to kind of think about, well, what else can we imagine together? So to have a sort of start thinking about that.

Sukti 57:37

Right, so I'm going to stop the share so I can do the breakout rooms, but I'm sure you'll put those. Are you ready? Because you're awesome. Okay, so I'm going to start sending you all off into your rooms. And we will be back in I think we have a good amount of time. I think we have like 20 minutes or so. Right? 20-25 minutes. Anyways, you'll get a warning. We'll figure it out. Okay, see you all soon. Thank you

Unknown Speaker 1:22:08

Does anybody want to whoever was caught? Want to finish their? Their thought you want like the next 30 seconds to finish? Yeah. Shreya, you were in the middle of a beautiful thought everyone is waiting.

Unknown Speaker 1:22:25

Actually, as it was like something that we were concluding with, like on the last question about, you know, what, what we are going to rely on. And what I was saying is that, you know, what we are learning is like, what's important is to develop an instinct. So all the all the core work is really going into you like and for you to have like a, you know, an instill sense of ethics and instill sense of you know, what is the best way forward, because you do have to go with the flow and take a call based on what's best for the community and the different groups within the state. So that's where we were.

Sukti 1:23:02

That's pretty powerful. Thank you. Shreya. It looks like there's a Mela, you had mentioned that Noor was also good to complete her sentence. If you please complete your sentence,

Unknown Speaker 1:23:18

I will be happy to share, to try to make something to the people who are really been robbed me to give them awareness about what they should do if they face something illegal or unethical. And to have information what to do next. That was where I wanted to say thank you.

Unknown Speaker 1:23:46

I wanted Philippe to share. So Oh, if he's willing, because he was saying something very powerful.

Phillipe 1:23:52

Yeah. We're thinking about legal empowerment and how sometimes we put a lot of emphasis on communities, but not that much on the judicial system itself. And how the judicial system needs to adapt to that kind of demands to to make changes because if not, I mean, it can be very useless than the language of law, if the judges and so on are not prepared for that. So I don't make a quote of a trans Argentinian either that she died, she told that if one trans person enters to the judicial system, to work in a system, that the life of her is going to change. But if many trans enter to the judicial system, the system will change, the whole system will change. So I think that that that's interesting to think about how are we making the system react to the community demands

I think I don't know if we heard the last part. But I think you said How could you say the last part again? was like,

How can How? How are we asked? In the digital system to react with? It isn't? Okay. I think so I think what you're saying is that, and maybe maybe you should jump in. Yeah,

Unknown Speaker 1:25:33

I mean, I think that he, Philippe just summed it up really beautifully with that, that quote from the trans woman. But I think it was also just the way that the system has to be transformed. It can't just be communities, making demands, and then being channeled into the system, because that just basically disempowers the community. And so that dynamic with legal empowerment is just so crucial.

Sukti 1:25:58

Yeah, and then when you think of PAR and, legal empowerment together, it's it. Like, we won't be seen as this, oh, it's not really research. It's not really, I mean, you're kind of brought into and legitimize that only through you and your community, but also from these other systems that are bending towards your demands. That's a really important point. Thank you, Philippe. That the sense was for us to do what we're already doing, which is just to share back a little bit about what you all talked about. I mean, we've heard some things are they're going back to the questions. But would folks mind sharing a little bit more about to the whole group, maybe just

some things that have you feel like the lab has stirred in you or just par in general in your work? The instinct one is, is just so profound, I think. Shreya. And so if others wanted to share, we had some really good discussions in our group as well. So I might ask our friends to, to jump into

Unknown Speaker 1:27:02

one of the things that came up a lot in our discussion was how there's this like shift of power that happens. And so often, it happens in spaces of organizing and advocacy. But how it's refreshing to sort of see that conversation enter into the space of research and academia. And that was just sort of a common thread, a lot of what we spoke about

Sukti 1:27:42

who else would like to, I mean, I can share a little bit of our group and then maybe ask Antonio or Luciana Aakanksha to come come to join me. But things that came up were around, really this desire to learn strategies of how we do this work a little bit more like more concrete ways. And Aakanksha, I don't want to speak for you, but you mentioned mail as maybe you should just say, because it's your words, but

Aakanksha 1:28:08

I was just giving the example of Mela and the tools that she'd employed using chart papers and asking women in the community to draw their visions as opposed to using a medium that they weren't the most comfortable with. And essentially, I want to learn more about ways to capture you know, these insights and this information and ways that information travels within and knowledge travels within the community, which especially through informal channels, and which aren't recognized by quote unquote, you know, research practices or data collection methods.

Sukti 1:29:01

Luciana, do you want to add on or Antonio want to add on and today you had mentioned the point around political education, which I think people will resonate with folks and then Luciana as well.

Antonio 1:29:13

Yeah, I think I remember being inspired to kind of like, bring back now this conversation about the research that I wanted to add, okay, right. And then also learning how to be flexible, but just seeing the connections between like popular education and to the participatory action research my like, how we can use that process to empower individuals at the same time that they also learning, like how to do this way for themselves. I think that that's gonna be the exploration that I'm gonna try to do. Then Then I look for examples like what Mela like showcases in the case studies, and then also like the knowledge that you will have so thank you so much. I learned a lot this week.

Luciana 1:30:04

I just want to add one point that we we've been discussing. And so because he made a point about the par and time, in two sessions, where we discussed the bar examples, and then in the session of May, if you really take seriously community ethics to cover these, to make par true to

research we commit to community work is you got to be totally open to long term process, not like just work on projects or time that is already fine, and also totally open to see where they weigh Oh, and not have like a goal that I want to do this with this report. And I expect this as an outcome. And this is a challenge familiarization. Because you say, well, when they have received funding to the research, they need to they need to show what they are doing. And also for organizations that we support organization is, we want that to be open. This is a process that we started and we don't know where we go and when we are going to finish. And we know that it's so this is alarming for me for this week is that I really see with more questions and more challenges, how to do this and how to support our members on how to work on on this. And yeah, the other point that I mentioned is that PR is fascinating to see how easy. We can connect even when is online. Only thing that we have in common is working in different scenarios, different countries, we never met each other well some of us Yes, but we never met a and how we can go deep in conversations when we are working in different contexts in detail. And in this week that going very deep in it fascinates me. So thank you. And with this, I'm going to say why I have to leave a session before because I have my daughter and like party, the end of the course. So I have 20 minutes. So I have to go Now, thank you. And I hope that this is the beginning. And we continue that five minutes. And I thank you so much.

Tom 1:32:13

I we had a great reflection in our group. And I think what I tell Emese and Erin is that, you know, this is the week long evening calls him and so energized. And you know, so inspired by all of you, you know that the Spirit has a strong connection, right? Like, I hope all the meetings from now on start with music, break with music and with no secret or share laughter I haven't laughed so much on screen as we do. And we ask tough questions, we ask uncomfortable, we touch uncomfortable things and deeper try to find a better question and learn so much from violence of a thing. And I feel the solidarity that so present is someone who worked many years before I joined the movement and the new people. It's just so rich, and I'm so inspired the way it's being facilitated carefully thought through and really inspire me. I told my team like this so much that we could try you know, deeper. Yeah, I really appreciate that. I forgot everything I say in the group. But we have so many great there

Sukti 1:33:55

please. Thank you so much, Tom ameesha. And Erin, was it ameesha? And Erin, are? You said okay, yeah, would either of you like to share?

Erin 1:34:13

I think Tom captured a lot of it. One thing we were just reflecting as similar to Luciana'

s point just on the sense of connection, and how valuable that's been, particularly at this moment to be in solidarity with each other and the amount of time we've taken for that, and it made me think a lot about how I will enter into and facilitate future workshops and spaces for community building. And then we're just sort of grappling with the question of how do we take the richness of this approach and share it with others and expand access to this orientation to research and some of the practical tools that legal empowerment organizations in particular

might need to take it up a notch in their work. So those are a few things. we're touching on residences with what others have shared.

Sukti 1:35:06

Yeah, absolutely. Absolutely. mela unlocked. Mila, would you like to say something?

mela 1:35:17

Yes, we shared a lot of interesting. We had quite a lot of interesting discussions with Tyler in Bethany, and nor, and part of what we discussed is the issue of accountability being a continuous process. And we spoke about bringing in the research participants, they're the activists, the people that are directly affected, who are also part of the of the research process, to bring them on board, Tyler mentioned about the issue of advocacy, and how, you know, that the ethics as well, they have to be, it's not a one off process of just having research ethics. And, and that's it that it is a process of continuously, making sure that, you know, the whole research process is done in a way that does not cause any any harm. But also, Bethany spoke about how, you know, they are maybe Bethany, you could explain this further about that the this whole process that we did, it raised a lot of questions about ethics in organizing the issue of care and safety plans for people affected by the systems that we are challenging, and how we can manage risks, and she also spoke about creating the physical spaces for collective data analysis, maybe Bethany, I will leave you to because she said it in a very beautiful way. And I really would love her to just say it herself Bethany, would you like to

Bethany 1:37:20

share, I think you captured most of it. And they're really just kind of there are a lot of ethical pieces that were already grappling with and organizing it spaces, and that I think, you know, the, the ethics for participatory action research, or they feel very, very similar. In, in many ways, but, but really just making sure that we're, we're taking care of people and that, and conscious of risk and making sure that any, you know, people and communities who are involved in our organizing are consenting to the kind of risk that is involved, right? And just, and that will be individual, and there's not like one answer that we can come to, that is the right one, but just to kind of take every situation and, and make that. And then I think also just wanted to kind of come back to the point that Tyler shared at the beginning of it's just been really a pleasure to be in this space, where we're, we're actively analyzing power, and how to shift power. And, you know, especially I, it actually feels very healing for me to see this happening, and in a space with so many people who are part of academic institutions, because especially here in Texas and Austin, specifically right now, we're seeing a lot of academic institutions really aiding and further just furthering prisons and policing. And, you know, in the ways that they collaborate with police for our data, in the ways that they're taking ideas, you know, from other parts of the world, and then just like plopping them into the context of us mass incarceration, and, you know, arguing for the women's jail. So there's just so many examples, you know, that I think, in our local context of where academic institutions are really not at all interrogating power. And so here in this space, you know, where that is happening is, it's just been really, really a pleasure to be here this week.

Sukti 1:39:46

Thank you so much, Bethany.

So there's some and yeah, we remain committed to staying true to that, Bethany as best we can. So thank you for for uplifting it and for the work that you all do. So there's already some ideas that we're seeing in the chat. And so Megan, I just wanted to take a little bit more time to offer up some ideas that we've been thinking about in terms of next steps. But I think, also to the specifics of kind of what's being discussed on on the chat box is also going to inform that. So maybe I'll start with a couple and then you want to come in. So one, one thought was, you know, most of you have had a chance to connect with ameesha and Mila in the accompaniment sessions, hopefully, at least once before the lab. And we intentionally thought that the lab structure should be more designed in the ways that we've thought about which is around invalidation and power analysis in thinking about data analysis tools, and all of that, with the knowledge that you're all thinking about how that applies to your project. So we didn't like obviously, as you know, carve out three hours for you each to talk about your learning questions or your research projects. But we, we hope that it was it was, you know, tangled up in the ways that you're thinking about it and reimagining what your questions could be. And so, we'd like to offer up, you know, at least in the next month or two is a beginning, just an another accompaniment session or another couple of accompaniment sessions. So you can kind of process together with ameesha and maila, what you're thinking about based on what we did together at the lab. So that's, that's one. Another piece, Meg, do you want to talk about the collaborative article component, and then I can come through

Unknown Speaker 1:41:44

here, I mean, I think we're so excited about this idea of that we've already started to together write this article about how to respond to Delegitimization. And what that means in the par space. And so I think you know this already, but we're going to be taking everything that's come out already, and kind of really letting it brew, and putting it into words, and then coming back to you to, you know, really start to craft it together. And the idea is to have an article that's authored by all of us. And one of the ideas is to really try to challenge the power of individual authorship. And to say, like, these ideas are really coming brewing together, if you will. And so one thought we had, in addition to just promising to be back in touch and to talk about this and to invite all of your ideas is to hold a space for reconvening this group online, maybe in a few months. So in a way, we could all have that container in our head, knowing that we'll be back together to have a few hours to, you know, talk about what has been brewing, I'm thinking actually of kombucha and the little starter and how it takes some time. But it keeps giving. And so some of that will be the article, but then we'd also just create a space for checking in with how all of the ideas that we have brought together have sat with you and your work.

Sukti 1:43:19

Great seeing lots of like, thumbs up, or hearts or emoji. So that's, that's, that's good. So that's wonderful. So we'll have some accompaniment sessions between now and September, whenever we'll figure out a time and then we'll have September to reconvene. There's the article and then there's the handbook. I'm not sure how you are able to see this really gorgeous

handbook that ameesha has been putting together she shared it in the original email but maybe we could put it here again and we send the chat it that will be continuously iterated upon I think the last version was up until the first four sessions that we had so now you know it will

Unknown Speaker 1:44:06

it will grow more with this week, but it just it Yeah, sorry. I'm such a terrible over talker, I apologize. But I just wanted to really uplift emese's method here where she really took the notes and thoughts from the previous sessions like she watched all the recordings and so it really reflects your voices already the handbook and hand in hard book I also love so it's meant to really be this thing that reflects back what you

Sukti 1:44:33

brought. And then the last kind of more concrete thought was and then please share is we have this whatsapp group that all of us are a part of I know we get what we have WhatsApp fatigue, but it's also kind of nice that that we're all connected already for the most part if you're not connected yet. We can put the link in or share it in an email. But let's talk to each other. If there's a resource or somebody sees something like, hopefully folks will be comfortable using that as a way of communicating with each other. And then the other, the other piece is really around the practical tools that keeps coming up. And so we'd like we invite each of you to think about what resources you might already have that would be useful for this group that you've used in the past. We will also do our work and in kind of crowdsourcing additional tools, but just based on the chat, and earlier conversations this week, things that have come up around, how would we create an ethical protocol that feels like it lives up to the the agreements and our collaboration with communities? How folks have used popular education with par, I'm sure Mila in particular has like, a million different examples of how that you've done that Mila in your work. The and then like data mapping, and just like the more practical strategies to actually harness knowledge so we can put together we can start to put together a resource folder in Google Drive that everyone can use. We hope that's useful. And we'll continue to build on that. And then the other question around funding Shreya that you put, like, how do we understand who's out there to actually support this kind of work? What kind of research proposals are successful? That's so important, because unfortunately, we all live in a donor driven, not donor driven, but donor sourced. world. And so who amongst us has gotten support from certain foundations, which family, which organization seemed like they really care about this type of work, I think really being a place of recognizing the role of resources to fund especially when it is very time intensive, is is really important. So that's another piece that will add to our kind of List of, of things.

Meg 1:47:11

And one thing, I'll just add that I really love about this, this space has been also our discussion of frustrations and short fall shortcoming. The way he and I were talking about how there's no good method, there's only like the least bad method. So I think it you know, I say that because I, I would hope that we can all share things that we've used, even if you don't think it's perfect, like I think we'll still learn so much. And just imagine that these are in dialogue, like we don't need to

be offering things up is a perfect solution, or the thing that really encompasses everything, but you know, just to share, and to share our struggles around that as well.

Sukti 1:47:55

So that's what Meg and I had, are there any Ria, you've already given reactions, but anything else anyone wants to add on to or disagree with or, okay? Oh Shreya came through again!

Shreya 1:48:22

I know, I'm sorry, I just really feel like those annoying kids in class who I did not like. But this is this is something that I am very interested in. And I'm sure like a lot of us because then we were talking did talk about this, you know, this community and it's great that we have like the whatsapp group to deal with the separation anxiety now. And you know, how just the way, the methodology or you know, the pedagogy, whatever it is, was followed in this in the way you conducted this session. And this entire workshop, which, for all of us, it was also knew that this will happen in one line, but it was done so well. And so, you know, this is something we really want to hold on to how we can create a similar space for people we work with. And so I was also thinking very specific to PAR, not a training of trainers, but also like how can we, you know, have rich content like this be made even more accessible, even more approachable for communities that we work with? For whom like even education literacy, you know, like there is no base point over there. So you know, when those were and I think those are the situations or par is most useful to kind of churn out academic work

mela 1:49:37

so,

Shreya 1:49:38

so if there are some organizations in India that we are collaborating with trying to do something similar, but yes, I think like, there's a lot of richness over here that we would love to kind of keep transferring to the people that you know, we do work with

Sukti 1:49:59

Thank you. Shreya Yeah, that's something that we can all think through. And that's really important because I think the idea is how do we continuously continue to share this information? erin mentioned this like as we go forward into different workshops and different meetings, how do we not only instinctively imbibe it ourselves, but how do we continue to share it in a language that folks understand so great. So we have to send us off on our weekend. Meg is I don't even know if there's a

Unknown Speaker 1:50:33

history behind this? Michael Brennan. Yeah, yeah, sure. But also, I just want i we've already thanked everyone but I want to thank you. So also, I just want to thank you for being like our host and our emcee and our like carrying facilitator so thank you so much for your heart and all you put into this Okay, so we're gonna go on and son by Michael Bryan, who does like basically takes Haitian roots music like so the same time that we were talking about at the beginning of

the week, and then like adds dance beats to it and stuff and so I love this song about the hair and I just want to put the link at the beginning lyrics that you'll hear because they're just like so awesome. But we want to go out on a really positive like, up vibe. So here we go.

Unknown Speaker 1:51:22

Oh yeah, that's great.

Sukti 1:51:24

And and thank you to Meg for constant guiding and stewardship, and of course to Milla and Meg and Mila. And Misha,

Unknown Speaker 1:51:33

it's Friday, I'm gonna put the music on Okay, here we go