



DIVERSITY/ANTI-VIOLENCE

We will work to develop a more racially interactive community, which celebrates and honors diversity, while eliminating all form of violence (sexual orientation, gender, racial, relationship, child abuse, discrimination and oppression) and abuse (physical, sexual, verbal and emotional).

Source: 10 Point Grassroots Agenda created in 1998

- 1) Have you seen an increase in equality of opportunity in this area in Marin County during the last 10 years? If yes, please specify.

Yes and No – college of Marin has began to better serve immigrants and minorities but still has a way to go. On the other hand racist groups like the minutemen have started a chapter in Marin

Novato Unified School district developed and approved a multicultural curriculum to fight racism, homophobia, etc. Political and civic leadership has become more progressive and diverse (i.e. Pres. Fran White at COM, Sue Brown at Ross Valley) Anti bullying programs to fight verbal and physical violence in schools throughout Marin by the Human Rights Commission.

- 2) Based on the 10-Point Grassroots Agenda statement above, should we change our strategy to further advance equality of opportunity in this area during the next 10 years in Marin?

Expand local democracy through local participation in local government through city town sponsored forums that affect the citizens. Get leaders in the seats at town councils and local school boards.

More of the same is needed, we need to better provide diversity on all appointed and election ballots. Get more people involved in local democracy and specific issues (as oppose to just putting dots on walls)

- 3) What is the role of leaders and legislators in ensuring that there is equality of opportunities in these areas?

Listen to the needs of people not corporations, make decisions based on constituent needs not the bottom dollar.

Provide affordable housing, fight cuts to education, and listen to the people – not corporate lobbyists. Attend more forums like this one to inspire and engage people to promote more representation.

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