BETWEEN WORLDS: A PERSONAL JOURNEY OF SELF-REFLECTION WHILE ON THE PATH OF CONOCIMIENTO

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The purpose of this research project is to create systemic social change by making a documentary film that critically interrogates one’s own identity and experiences through Gloria Anzaldúa’s framework: Path of Conociemiento. In this autoethnography, I utilize the interlinked theories that underpin seven stages of awareness/reflective consciousness within the Path of Conociemiento by putting the framework, grounded in the participants’ experiences, into practice. It is my objective to facilitate this action by producing a documentary film to serve as a pedagogical instrument to educate, inspire, and inform communities subjugated by systems of oppression created and sustained by white-supremacist capitalist patriarchy ideology. This process will create an opportunity for healing, transformation, and positive social change by building bridges over physical and psychological walls. “To bridge is to attempt community, and for that we must risk being open to personal, political, and spiritual intimacy, to risk being wounded. Effective bridging comes from knowing when to close ranks to those outside our home, group, community, nation—and when to keep the gates open,” (Anzaldúa, 2002, p. 3). Within this autohistoria (coined by Anzaldúa: a personal narrative, testimonio, factual accounts, cuento, and poetry that transcends the status quo) the innovative project encompasses the stories of several people living in the state nepantla. The stories of those living in-between cultures, lost and forgotten by the rest of the world, will unselfishly create a humanizing bridge for those living on each side of the normalized us/them binary. Consequently, through self-reflective dialogue, critique and resistance, this project is designed to dissolve the demarcations that divide us, and in turn create a common culture, while still celebrating our differences.