

Hello from Lincoln, Nebraska, USA.

My name is Artie Mack.

I'd like to share a few things about myself  
and invite you to engage  
in an interactive learning experience.

First, I'm an artist,  
a full-time kitchen manager at a vegan restaurant  
here in my hometown,  
and a self-proclaimed scholar.

I love to research.

I graduated from University with a degree in English  
and minored in Art and Ethnic Studies.

My mediums are drawing, painting, paper and crafts,  
and sometimes even sculpture.

My pronouns are he / they.

And I identify as hard of hearing  
and deaf interchangeably.

My other interests and skills  
include writing, cooking, dancing,  
and being creative, generally speaking.

I like to be visual,  
and there are lots of ways to do so.

Art has helped me to learn a lot in my lifetime  
and make connections I'd otherwise never have gotten.

reading a bunch of text  
or listening to someone talk for an hour straight.

I realized I could use drawings or social media  
to talk about issues I care deeply about.

Or maybe to tell a story that needs to be told.

Or sometimes just to help someone make a connection  
by giving them a different way to look at something.

Now to the interactive learning experience:

This is our planet Earth.

There are billions of body-minds  
worldwide each with their own unique experience.

It's overwhelming to imagine all the systemic institutions  
working against them on different levels,  
as well as all the culture and beauty  
to be found in each set of DNA.

But I believe it's important to examine these things  
to better understand the societies we navigate  
and how to potentially change them for the better.

Besides, I think a lot of us constantly ponder:

Why is the world the way that it is?

Why are there injustices and inequality?

Why are so many people fighting for accessibility?

Are the societies we built and maintained compatible  
with the body-minds that Nature continues to create?

We could go on all day with these questions,  
but I think you get where I'm going.

Therefore, let me introduce some critical thinking videos  
where we can approach some of these questions  
and explore the ways globalization  
has shaped our understanding of humanity.

We'll explore how capitalism and ableism intertwine.

We'll explore the devastating effects of monoculture  
and how as an artist,

it feels like taking a beautiful painting  
full of colorful strokes representing our humanity,  
and wiping it completely blank for the sake of profit.

These five videos explore  
how profit-oriented societies  
are inherently problematic  
and will use visuals and draw from important texts

to support our exploration.

First we will look at “Globalization”

then dive into “Ableism,”

“Monoculture,” “Removal”

and conclude with examining

how certain groups are targeted as “Liabilities.”

I hope you’ll join me! See you there!