Living and Working How We Love...Collectively

Once upon a time...there was no Black and Polyamorous community. Then came the question, “Do Black people really do this?” From that a Facebook community sprang forth. Next we became a nationwide organization. Then we were worldwide...And now...we are being touted as a global movement. Y’all made that possible!

This month’s outline will touch upon where we go from here in hopes to galvanize the community and call those to action, who have yet to awaken to the possibilities of true change and community empowerment.

Leaders, this is a meeting in which taking notes is imperative. We are holding this meeting in an effort to engage our community. We need to listen...

* Grassroots organizing - Being An Active Community Member
  + B&P Website is now up and running. We need you!

<http://blackandpoly.org/>

* + - Blog writers
    - Email addresses
    - Graphic artists
    - Whatever you do best
    - Money

<https://www.patreon.com/bePatron?c=882352>

**Questions for Discussion?**

1. We are an organization and global movement fastly approaching 10,000 members. How do we inspire the individuals to contribute to the B&P community beyond just having an online presence?
2. `Suggestions for grassroots campaigns to raise funds for B&P
3. Join the team! What talents do you yourself have, that we have yet to hear about?

* Meet Ups
  + More than just outline discussions. Look at what’s happening around the B&P community!
    - Join the FB group for our global calendar of events

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/blackpolyamory/>

* + - Join our email group for updates to our website

<http://blackandpoly.org/>

* Have the courage to come out of the shadows and make our presence known
  + Poly Pride
    - Finding way to live openly in the Black community as poly families
    - Coming out as poly groups to assist at local “normal” events in an effort to make our presence known and push towards normativity
    - Disassociating the polyamorous orientation from being sexually centered to more family and relationship oriented
  + Armed with knowledge to combat naysayers
    - Wealth of info in the files of the FB group
    - Poly reading list

<http://blackandpoly.org/poly-reading-list/>

**Questions for Discussion?**

1. What are some topics that you would like to see discussed in future MeetUps?
2. What is your vision for the community 20 years from now? (Not just the B&P community, but the Black and poly community at large)
3. What stops most Black people from living openly poly?

* B&P’s vision for community empowerment
  + Work Collectives in lieu of communes
    - Rather than governing households in a communal setting, B&P’s interest is in forming 100% employee owned businesses as a way to build and empower our community.
      * <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Collective>
      * <https://youtu.be/UMpexJFrsDA>
      * <https://youtu.be/0b665Aouoww>

* + - Groups such as the Panthers had a greater sense of purpose and togetherness by being self reliant and working towards a common goal.
      * <http://www.hamptoninstitution.org/black-panther-party-model.html#.WR4DBbvysfE>
  + Brick and Mortar Community Spaces
    - Much like this one:

[https://www.theMadisonHouseDC.com](https://www.themadisonhousedc.com)

**Questions for Discussion?**

1. Can you think of other groups that gained social and economic empowerment? If so, by what means?
2. Would this be a viable means for the B&P community?
3. What are some other ways to approach bringing about social change within our community much like the BPP movement, but using love as a radical act of civil disobedience & community empowerment?