

Reparative Journalism Video Series: Video #3

# Reparative Journalism: The Healing Power of Storytelling

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## Transcript

[00:00]	<p><b>Diamond Hardiman:</b> Throughout this series, we've been exploring what journalism infused with repair feels like: media that is good to us and good for us.</p> <p>Today, we'll be hearing from DaLyah Jones and Tonya Hill, two Black journalists that practice repair through journalism.</p> <p>Let's get to it.</p>
	<i>Title card</i>
[00:28]	<p><b>DaLyah Jones:</b> Storytelling is like, it's part of who the fabric of my family is. Like I remember, like, us sitting around a fire, a bonfire in the yard and just listening to all of the elders, my mama, like my aunties and uncles kind of talk about growing up.</p>
[00:47]	<p><b>DaLyah Jones:</b> So I grew up in the backwoods of deep east Texas, eighth generation, Deep east Texan. And so, whenever I go back to the country, and I see like, these 100 foot like tall pine trees, it like instantly, and then I can see the red dirt. Like my body instantly sinks and my body just instantly relaxes, because it knows that it's in a safe space.</p>
[01:08]	<p><b>DaLyah Jones:</b> It knows that it's the place that I've always called home and that my family has called home for generations.</p> <p>I can't really – I can't ... I try to describe that feeling to folks.</p>

	<p>And also I think that that is the feeling that drives the work that I do, because I want folks to have access to that.</p>
[01:20]	<p><i>Transition</i></p>
[01:23]	<p><b>Tonia Hill:</b> My youngest Auntie, you know, she's one of my favorite storytellers because she's always going to, you know, make you laugh to the point of tears when she's telling you a story.</p> <p>I was a beauty shop kid. So going to the beauty shop on Saturdays. And, again, not supposed to be listening to what adults are saying, but just hearing the types of conversations that they're having in the beauty shop on a range of topics on, you know, health, on the economy, on politics.</p>
[01:57]	<p><b>Tonia Hill:</b> I was a church kid. So I think about that – is like all these women that I've been around, you know, my whole life, and it's just me being in all these different spaces and learning from them about like how to tell a good story.</p>
	<p><i>Transition</i></p>
[02:12]	<p><b>DaLyah Jones:</b> Storytelling ... I don't know. Like, I think the easiest way to put it is like it's a map. It's a trail right? So like a story will tell you where you've been. And a story tells you where you need to go.</p> <p>Reparative journalism is essentially using, of course, like movement journalism tactics, using the tools of journalism, for communities to provide an entryway into liberation for themselves.</p>
[02:43]	<p><b>Tonia Hill:</b> When we talk about repairing harm, how do we center community voice in storytelling? And journalism is a public good, and it's for the people. So I think that is like the really big thing that I've always tried to do. It's not just okay, what are the elected leaders or our policymakers saying about this, like, I really want to center the voice of community.</p> <p>And that's also been reinforced, you know, heavily at the tribe, it's just like ... Is the work that we're doing, honoring the sense or the sentiments of like the community that we're serving, and that we're accountable to, which is black Chicago.</p>

<p>[03:26]</p>	<p><b>DaLyah Jones:</b> I think that that right there is the shift that's needed sometimes to begin movements, to begin to actually change people's minds. Because when you know what that feeling is, you know, what you're trying to protect.</p> <p>Orgs and leaders need spaciousness, the spaciousness to experiment.</p> <p>And I think that money is a way to create that spaciousness, right? And resource.</p>
<p>[03:56]</p>	<p><b>DaLyah Jones:</b> And I often feel as if and know that like, part of that liberation is like being home with ourselves. We don't know freedom until we truly understand what freedom is within our bodies, and within our minds.</p> <p>I think that's what reparative storytelling is. It brings you back home to yourself.</p>
<p>[04:13]</p>	<p><b>Diamond Hardiman:</b> I'm so grateful to DaLyah and Tonia for sharing what repair looks like and feels like in their community. It feels like home, like safety, like freedom and like liberation.</p> <p>So what could repair look like and feel like in YOUR community? What media repair does your community need?</p> <p>In our final video, we're gonna explore what that looks like in all of its abundant possibilities. We're looking forward to seeing you there.</p>