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**Healthcare provider, educator, advocate, community member, global citizen:
Social justice implications for counseling psychologists**

Rebecca Toporek

The roles that we play as counseling psychologists vary by setting, population, and circumstances. Yet, social justice can be a unifying force requiring us to move beyond the boundaries of our daily responsibilities. We become aware that no matter how insightful or profound our theories and practice are, if they are focused on individual change alone, they will never be sufficient. In some ways, they may actually perpetuate injustice. Injustice and the insufficiency of traditional, individually focused paradigms present tensions between the positive work of helping individuals cope with life's challenges and oppressive work of maintaining systems that perpetuate these problems. This session explores this dichotomy and avenues for moving to action and personal sustainability in the face of fatigue. Experiences as a counselor and counseling psychologist in have shaped the way I see advocacy and activism in our profession and given rise to strategies I have found helpful. National and local community challenges across the globe reflect enormous differences in contexts, needs, politics, and resources. Yet, I believe sharing strategies for social action, activism and advocacy can provide seeds for optimism and action toward justice and positive change.