

### **Equity and Diversity Resources**

*Soliciting Temptation* deals with innumerable intersections of privilege, including race, class, gender, and sexuality to name a few. Jason asked me – as someone with experience in arts equity – to put together a ‘primer’ that covers some of the equity and diversity work we’ve been exploring throughout the rehearsal process. The difficult thing is that it’s nearly impossible to put together any sort of one page ‘primer’ when it comes to these complex intersections. As a result, what we’ve compiled here is a list of resources and further reading that we find useful. The resources are vast and varied, but we hope it provides some insight or starting point to this ongoing societal conversation.

Both Jason and I would like to be very clear that we would like this conversation to continue. You can reach out to either of us with questions or conversation by e-mail – our contacts are on this resource table.

We hope you enjoyed the show, and we hope you continue the conversation!

-Jenna Rodgers, Assistant Director, Associate Artist,  
Artistic Director, Chromatic Theatre  
jenna@chromatictheatre.ca

### **Note of Acknowledgement**

I chose this play because I wanted to explore a story that would challenge my privilege as a white straight man, but I also didn't want to tell a story that felt like it has an overt goal of teaching the audience something. I feel that we are most likely to absorb new ideas when the thing we're encountering isn't trying to educate us, but is simply presenting its discoveries.

This meant that I wouldn't find a story that would cover every privilege and air every topic that I wanted to explore. It also meant that these stories might have their own gaps regarding the issues that they cover.

In the case of *Soliciting Temptation*, we realized that the play doesn't actually speak for sex workers. Both characters make statements and assumptions about the sex industry, but neither one truly speaks for anyone who has that personal experience. I feel that it's necessary to acknowledge that although I believe in our story, there are voices in the world of this play that are not represented by the tale we're telling.

-Jason Mehmel, Director, Artistic Director  
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### Useful Websites in Calgary

- [Shift Calgary](#) – A support organization for people in the sex industry that provides non-judgemental, free, and easy to access confidential services.
- [Calgary Communities Against Sexual Abuse \(CCASA\)](#) – A sexual abuse and sexual assault crisis and education service provider for Calgary and surrounding areas. Toll Free Support: 1-877-237-5888
- [HIV Community Link](#) – Provides non-judgemental, compassionate and confidential support for people at risk for, living with or affected by HIV and hepatitis C. They have a drop-in centre, counselling and telephone support at 403-508-2500
- [Calgary Sexual Health](#) – aims to normalize sexual health in Alberta by providing evidence-informed, non-judgemental sexual and reproductive health programs and services.
- [Sheldon M. Chumir Health Centre](#) – provides 24/7 care for people with injuries or illnesses that are not life threatening. Provides STI/HIV testing.

### Useful Websites on Race, Culture, and Allyship

- [Everyday Feminism](#) – a website that focuses on intersectional feminism, allyship, and being a modern woman. Lots of visuals and lists for people who are just entering this conversation
- [Black Girl Dangerous](#) – a reader-funded non-profit blog that amplifies the voices, experiences and expressions of queer and trans people of colour.
- [Angry Asian Man](#) – a blog about Asian America with a particular focus on racism and representation in mass media and popular culture.

### Further Reading (for the keeners)

- [White Fragility](#), an essay by Robin DiAngelo
  - o The premise is that White people in North America “live in a social environment that protects and insulates them from race-based stress [...leading to] a state in which even a minimum amount of racial stress becomes intolerable, triggering a range of defensive moves.”
- [The Colour Code: A podcast about Race in Canada](#)
  - o Developed and hosted by Hannah Sung and Denise Balkissoon, this is an 11-episode podcast that asks bold questions about race in Canada.
- [The White Flight of Derek Black](#)
  - o A former white nationalist discusses his upbringing and eventual decision to leave white nationalism behind.

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