

Ethics & Social Justice 2106
Fierce Light: Where Spirit Meets Action
Reflection Assignment
Due: May 18th

Considering your own experiences and your viewing of the documentary *Fierce Light: Where Spirit Meets Action*, respond to each of the following questions.

1. How would you define the word *spirituality*? Do you consider yourself to be a spiritual person? Why/Why not?
2. Explain what is meant by the Ubuntu philosophy which states, "I am because you are." How may a philosophy such as this impact the process for global peace and compassion?
3. There were several activists featured in the documentary. Which speaker/activist did you find most inspirational? Explain why.
Here are some of the people that were featured, although you may choose others:
 - Dharma Punk (the juvenile offender, turned meditative/spiritual guru);
 - The people who fought for the farming garden in South Central Los Angeles;
 - John Lewis, the man who had been a civil rights activist along side Dr. Martin Luther King and who proclaimed: "When you show me Hate, I will give you Love in return.";
 - Julia Butterfly Hill, who lived in a tree for almost two years in an effort to save the tree from demolition;
 - Judy Rebicks, who encourages people to embrace diversity because, as she says, it is impossible for any living system to exist if the organisms are all the same.
4. "Hope is not something for the future. We have to recognize that Hope must exist within ourselves, in the here and now." With reference to your own sense of 'self' and life, explain what this means.
5. "They pave paradise to put up a parking lot." Explain the meaning for this statement. What are the economic and social implications of such practices or attitudes? In other words, what is the fate of our wallets and our souls when we favor industrialization over the environment?