

Presenting:

**"The Rainbow Humanity
Banner for All"**

This flag is meant to serve as a symbol of mutual respect and peaceful co-existence between peoples of all kinds with each other by virtue of the great principals for which it stands. It is intended to be as inclusive as possible, and seeks to unite us all.

Every stripe and every symbol of this flag represents something. Counting from the top down, the first 5 of 12 horizontal stripes represent the following:

1) The Black Stripe

Represents:

All Black People everywhere and the continent of Africa.

2) The Brown Stripe

Represents:

All People of Color everywhere, including all Bi-Racial and Multi-Racial People. It also represents all Hispanics and all Latin American Nations.

3) The Beige Stripe

Represents:

All Asian People everywhere as well as the entire Continent of Asia, from the Far East to the Middle East (including the Israelis) and from Central Asia to the Pacific Islands.

4) The Dark Red Stripe

Represents:

All Native American Peoples and all Indigenous Populations everywhere, and since, such people were the original inhabitants of the Americas and Australia etc., it also represents those continents.

5) The White Stripe

Represents:

All members of the so-called "White Race" in all its National, Ethnic and Cultural Diversity. It also represents the Continent of Europe.

Of course, all Other "Races" are just as nationally, ethnically, and diverse as White People are.

And, in truth, there is only One Race: The Human Race to which we all belong.

The Human Rainbow Quintet

I'm fairly certain that many people reading this and looking back at my flag can see themselves as being represented by two, three, or more of these five stripes (which I call: "The Human Rainbow Quintet"). That's because the Human Race is very diverse and people of all "races" are scattered across the globe. And each of these five stripes represents specific regions of the world as well as different "races", the overwhelming majority of people will find 2 or more stripes are representative of them. To illustrate the point, consider this: There are white people who've lived all of their lives in Africa. Hence, they can see themselves as being represented by both the white stripe (for their race) and the black stripe (because of where they live). By the same token, there are black people who've lived in Europe all of their lives. Hence, they too are represented by both the black and white stripes of this flag, there are endless more combinations of representation. All of us Americans—for example—can claim representation by both the dark red stripe (because we're all North Americans) as well as black, white, brown or beige stripe for our race. Infinite other combinations of representation are possible too. Bi-Racial people might find that they are represented by 4 or even all 5 of these stripes for various racial and geographic reasons. My point in emphasizing all of this is to stress the "Oneness" of our species, despite all of our differences, for it is a oneness which crosses lines of race, color, creed, class, nationality, and culture. Making such distinctions which divide us totally irrelevant to our common humanity and basic equility. This was my number one reason for creating this flag.

The Rainbow Stripes:

The remaining 7 horizontal stripes represents well known humanistic ideals and principals which all people of good will support

On the Rainbow Humanity Flag a colorful septet of these ideals is representd as follows: The main ideal or principal is given in bold letters after each color it stands for. Then, numerous subsidiary or corollary concepts are given beneath each of those: followd by an explanation of why I chose that particular color to represent those ideals and concepts.

1) The Blue Stripe:

Stand for: Freedom

As well as: Personal sovereignty, diversity, anti-authoritarianism, individualism and an open liberated, ultra-tolerant society where permissiveness and respect for eachothers/everyone's autonomy are the order of the day, and where non-conformity, creativity and a "Do your own thing"/"Live and let live" worldview are celebrated and protected.

I chose blue to represent these ideals because it is the color as

wide and open as the sky. Hence, the seemingly limitless azure sky on a clear day is the perfect symbol for the maximal liberty, self-determination and independence of the heart and mind for which this stripe stands.

2) The Red Stripe

Stands for: Equality

as well as: Unity, the inherent worth and dignity of each and every human being, plus an equitable distribution of wealth, power and resources to eradicate poverty, but above all else, this stripe stands for the recognition of the brother/sisterhood of all people everywhere, the family of humankind and the pressing need for a genuinely egalitarian new world order, as the only means to achieve this goal.

I chose red to represent these ideals because red is the color of human commonality and solidarity. For, unlike hair, eye and skin color, all human blood is red. Hence, it is the one color we all share, and a constant reminder of our inter-connectedness to each other as members of the same species.

3) The Yellow Stripe

Stands for: Justice

(Both legal and social.)

As well as: Progress, human cultural evolution and the never-ending fight against oppression and tyranny. Along with the need to put an end for all time to every form of bigotry, prejudice and discrimination, so that universal fairness and equal treatment for all may reign supreme across the globe, and among all humankind.

I chose yellow for these most noble of ideals because yellow is often associated with gold, so what better color to stand for what I consider to be humanity's greatest treasure of all? Namely, the struggle to make the world a better place and to speak out and stand up for all the disenfranchised, downtrodden and hurting people in the world, both in spirit of radical, or even revolutionary zeal, as well as more moderate advocacy for legal, political, economical and social reform.

4) The Green Stripe:

Stands for: Peace

As well as: Non-aggression, non-violence and non-coercion.

Moreover-as you might well imagine, this green stripe also represents the beauty and glory of nature, the sanctity of ecological systems and the need for environmental protections. It also stands for the sacredness and inviolability of all human life, from the moment of birth to the moment of natural or self-chosen

death. I chose green to represent nature, the earth's ecology and environmentalism for obvious reasons and, since this naturalist outlook bids us to value all living things, it follows that respect for human life should go hand in hand with that kind of worldview.

From this progression of ideas, I think it's quite clear why I decided upon green as a color that should stand for peace above all else.

5) The Pink Stripe

Stands for: Love

As well as: Compassion, empathy, caring and charitability. It also represents: Joy, pleasure, happiness, and hope for a better future.

In fact, this sweet, bright, candy colored stripe-more than any other-encourages us to accentuate the positive in our lives and our communities while striving to eliminate negativity and discord. Hence, pink is absolutely perfect for representing humanitarianism and love in all its many forms.

That's why I chose it to stand for this wonderful ideal. What's more, many psychology experts believe this color has calming and up-lifting effects upon the human psyche, because it somehow seems to exude kindness, well being and positivity. Maybe this is why one of the dictionary's definitions for pink is: "being of the highest degree."

6) The Orange Stripe

Stands for: Reason

As well as: Truth, enlightenment, logic, critical thinking, objectivity and a non-dogmatic/non-absolutist worldview which is dedicated to situation ethics, the scientific method and a truly secular society.

For it is only under circumstances where these ideals are embraced that free thought and free spiritedness can flourish, thus permitting each and everyone of us to achieve our fullest potential by actualizing the creativity, innovative thinking and talents we all possess.

I chose orange to represent these most progressive of all ideas because they are-in a poetic sense-the golden building blocks for creating a new society, free of superstition, irrationality and totally unnecessary legal, social, and moral constraints, and where the enlightenment of knowledge, education and open-mindedness are our guiding lights, and since orange-like yellow-is often associated with gold, it's a perfect choice to represent these ideals.

7) The Purple Stripe

Stands for: Democracy

As well as: Inalienable rights and liberties which must be meticulously protected and absolutely guaranteed to all, equally, together with a form of government (and a society in general) dedicated to universal inclusiveness, institutional transparency, multi-culturalism and a truly participatory democratic nation.

Under such a system, everyone will have a voice and a hand in running the organizations and power structures that affect their lives.

I chose purple to represent these civil libertarian concepts, along with various populist notions (such as: Inclusiveness and participation) because purple is actually a mixture of blue (freedom) and red (equality) and since these two concepts, taken together, constitute what democracy is all about, this truly lovely color is perfect to stand for this idea.

The Minty Green Stripe

The vertical minty green stripe running up and down the right side of the Rainbow Humanity Flag represents all infants, children and young adults.

Because minty green is the color of new life, this stripe is perfect for representing all young people everywhere of all races, creeds, colors and nationalities, and from all classes and backgrounds as well.

The Gray Stripe

The vertical gray stripe running up and down the left side of the Rainbow Humanity Flag represents all middle-aged and older people from say, 35 or 36, to centenarians, for gray is the color of wisdom and maturity. So, it's perfect to represent all older people, everywhere, of all races, creeds, colors and nationalities, and from all classes and backgrounds as well.

The Light Blue Circle

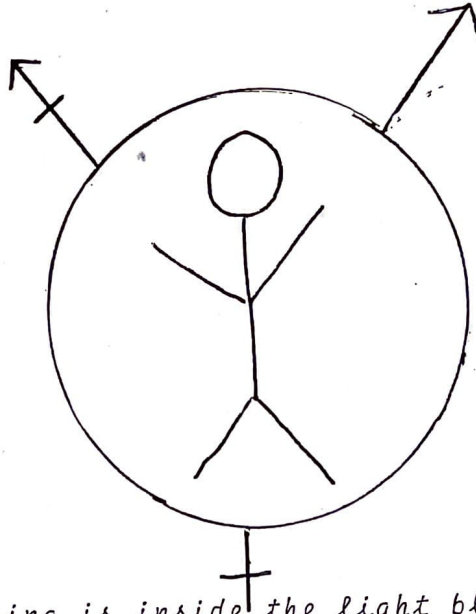
This represents the earth and all that dwell therein (human, animal and botanical), and every bit of land, water, and sky, etc

On this flag, it is right in the center, for this planet is every-one's home and hence, central to our very existence as a species.

The Universal Earth Symbol

Here below is pictured, what I call "The Universal Earth Symbol." It is a circle with 3 prongs sticking out of it, with nondescript stick figure in it:

Below, The Universal Earth Symbol: It is a circle with 3 prongs sticking out of it, with a nondescript stick figure in it.



On this flag, the whole thing is inside the light blue circle is superimposed upon it. Hence, it represents all of humankind living upon the earth as the highest and most advanced life form yet to evolve upon this whirling blue orb, which is our planetary home. The circle itself represents "The Circle of Life" which all living creatures pass through, from birth to death.

Each prong on the circle has symbolic meaning as well:

The Right Prong

The prong on the right of the circle that looks like an arrowhead represents all male life forms on this planet, human, animal and botanical.

The Bottom Prong

The bottom prong on the circle which looks like an inverted cross represents all female life forms on this planet: human, animal and botanical.

The Left Prong

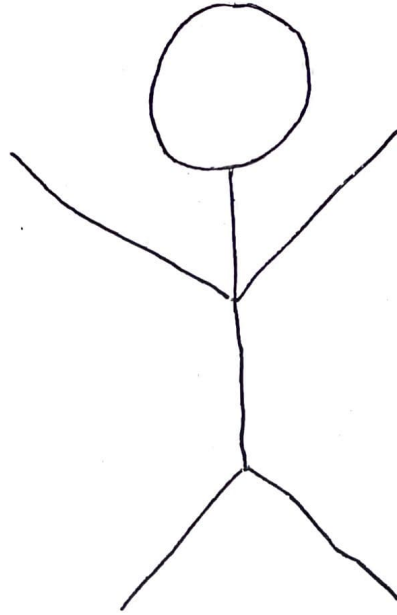
The prong on the left of the circle that looks like an arrowhead with a line through it represents all of the non-cisgendered, transgender and gender non-specific life forms on the planet, whether human, animal or botanical.

The Generic Human Figure

The nondescript stick figure inside of the Universal Earth Symbol is what I call: "The Generic Human Figure."

This figure (pictured by itself below) is meant to represent every human being who has ever lived upon the earth, as well as all those of us alive today and future generations of humanity yet to be born as well.

The Generic Human figure Below:



This figure is perfect, as a truly universal symbol for all of human-kind because it is the very first thing that kids across the globe draw when they first try to make an image of a person, and I'm certain that the earliest humans in prehistoric times, tens of thousands of years ago, must have made stick figures that looked something like this in their cave drawings as well.

Of course, most stick figures have faces, hands and feet. This one, however, does not and that is a deliberate omission. It is meant to serve as a constant reminder that there are a great many people in the world who have no eyes (ie: blind), no ears (ie: deaf), no mouth (ie: the mute), and no hands, feet, arms and/or legs. (ie: the crippled, the mobility impaired and the dismembered).

Yet, such people are nonetheless 100% human and are therefore our social, moral, and legal equals. We must never forget that!

What's more, prejudice and every kind of discrimination against such people is every bit as much a form of hate, intolerance, reprehensible bigotry and/or social injustice as are: racism, sexism, xenophobia, homophobia, transphobia or anti-semitism, etc...

Symbols of Human Unification

Whereas divisiveness has been the root cause of so much evil, discord and awful oppression in the world, since the dawn of human existence, right down to the present day. This multi-colored banner, and especially the universal earth symbol, with the "generic human" at its center (as indicated in the preamble) "seeks to unite us all" and by that, I do, indeed, mean all of us Male, female, or non-cisgendered, heterosexual, homosexual, or bisexual, young, old, rich or poor. Indeed, this flag and its symbols represents people of every language, culture, and belief system from across the globe, the large and the small, the short,

and the tall. All joining together to embrace the progressive/humanistic ideals for which its rainbow colors stands, for in truth, whether we are able-bodied or handicapped, mentally "normal" or "abnormal" (whatever the hell those two words mean) heavy set or thin, goodlooking or unattractive, bright or not so bright... The self-evident truth, the undeniable reality is that we all possess inherent worth, intrinsic human dignity, and true personal value, regardless of who we are or what we are. Furthermore, socially speaking, we are all created equal and endowed with inalienable rights to-as Thomas Jefferson put it:

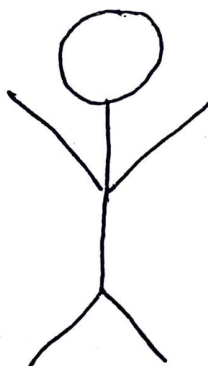
"Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness"

Hence, in a figurative but nevertheless very real way, the rainbow humanity banner for all, along with the universal earth symbol embossed upon it, and the generic human stick figure all stand for the transcendent oneness which overarches and overcomes our many differences, ultimately bringing us together as brothers and sisters in the human family who are united in a spirit of mutually respectful multi-culturalism and diversity, within a greater unity which, in turn, is based upon the inescapable fact that there are more things which we have in common as members of the same species (replete with similar hopes, dreams, desires and emotions between us) than there are things that divide us.

The Symbol of "You" & "Me"

It is my greatest yearning to promote and propagate this figure (once again depicted here) as a generic symbol for all humankind and each and every one of us.

Depicted image below:



Indeed, I want this figure to be spread far and wide so that, once, countless millions of people understand its deepest meaning. We will be able to see ourselves and each other in its imagery. Because in all honesty, in a rather abstract, yet vitally important sense, the generic human figure is "you" and "me", stripped down to our bare-boned humanoid essence.

My Dream

It is my dream, my heartfelt desire and my fondest wish to see this bright banner (and the symbols upon it) "go viral" as they say!

In my greatest dream of all, this flag will oneday become so well known in the future that both it and its symbols will pop up spontaneously on all kinds of memorabilia. Such as everything from tatoos, baseball caps, buttons and t-shirts, to bumper stickers, coffee cups and jewelry, etc. And from posters to wall murals, to billboards and yard signs. Not to mention being glimpsed in would-be commercial advertisements and on T.V. shows, All across the world, including all over the internet. In fact, I want it to become so popular, ubiquitous and instantly recognizable, that everyone knows what it stands for the minute they see it. Much like the peace sign, the anarchist "A", the marijuana leaf, the gay rainbow flag, the green ecology flag and the African American flag have all achieved such fame and notoriety as to have become part and parcel of modern day culture.

More than anything else I've ever wanted in my life, I want both this flag (and/or its symbols) to be proudly displayed, carried, and flown by all those who love humanity and believe in planetary unity, universal equality, social justice, personal liberty, human rights for each and every man, woman and child, and all the other progressive ideals and principals its rainbow of colors represents.

My Request

I ask that as many people as possible post, publish and manufacture this flag and/or the symbols that appear upon it. Please use them as non-violent swords and shields to combat chauvinism, supremacism and intolerance of all kinds. Carry them into marches, protests and demonstrations against all oppressive "isms" (eg: racism, sexism, nativism (xenophobia), heterosexism, elitism, ageism, youthism, disableism and fascism, etc., etc.)

Use them to show support for, and solidarity with, the "down and out" the working poor, the homeless, the disenfranchised, the oppressed and all marginalized individuals and groups deemed to be pariahs by society at large.

Use them to oppose the unjust exclusion of anyone by whatever "in group" may be on top in any given social hierarchy at any given moment.

Use them to oppose bullying, the unfairness of social pecking orders, human rights violations and the gross mistreatment of anyone, for any reason, whatsoever!

Rejecting "Otherness"

Most of all, I implore those who really like this flag, its symbols and the ideas behind them to use them to try and heal the rifts and alienations between peoples who see others as; "The enemy" or as "Not one of us" or even as "Untermenschen" (German for sub-humans) because thinking like that is the root of injustice.

In fact, I beg you, (my readers) to do whatever you can to enlighten the minds and open the hearts of those who are trapped in a vicious "us against them" mentality. And embroiled in the tribalistic nonsense of "me and my group" being better than "you, and your group." For such attitudes have historically always been the impetus to genocide, war and hate crimes.

Bottomline, "otherness" must be unequivocally rejected as the essence of so much that's wrong with the world. Why, just consider what various notions of "otherness" have wrought upon humankind for countless centuries, and right up to the present day.

Jingoistic nationalism always causes bloodshed, imperialism, cultural hegemony, the subjugation of indigenous and colonized peoples, militarized borders and the mistreatment of aliens.

Patriarchy has led to the gross degradation of women (and their second-class citizenship) through the ages.

White supremacy has historically resulted in slavery, segregation and apartheid in the past, not to mention lynchings and racially motivated acts of cruelty and (like sexism and misogyny) institutionalized racism and discrimination, still persist till this day, resulting in the abuse, inequity and oppression of non-whites, almost on a daily basis.

Also, the grossly unfair hegemony of heterosexism and cisgender normativity have ruined the lives of far too many L.G.T.B.Q. people over the years. And, fanatical religious absolutism (with "the faithful" convinced of their monopoly on spiritual truth) has always been responsible for holy wars, crusades, jihads, inquisitions, pogroms and persecutions.

Moreover, an economic system based upon greed, monopoly and a "winner take all" mentality (like our own) has produced a world of terribly inequitable disparities of wealth. That has always allowed the rich to get richer while the poor get poorer. And where working people were often (at least in the past, and in 3rd world countries, today) subjected to an atrocious hand to mouth existence in constant indebtedness, where the drudgery of wage slavery was their only way of getting by. Third world sweatshops are a perfect example of what I mean.

This too, was-and is-caused by the concept of "otherness." In this case resulting from capitalism and its rigid class structures where the "otherness" is between the "haves" and "have-nots."

Indeed, we see these gross disparities of wealth everywhere, near and far....

From the way the global north dominates and oppresses the global south, to the unfair differences between rich and poor, in the well to do, gentrified neighborhoods, vis-a-vis, "The Hood" where crime and squalor are rampant.

In short then, - in the realm of economics - "otherness" has fostered elitism and economic exploitation in which classes are set against each other by ultra-rich plutocrats and corporate oligopolies - who have control of society and most of its wealth. While low level workers scrape by and struggle to make ends meet. And still, others fall through the cracks completely, and wind up living on the streets with nothing.

So, in the final analysis, "otherness" marginalizes and often demonizes certain groups of people (e.g., undocumented immigrants, Jews, racial minorities, Muslims, gays and the transgendered ect, ect...) and drives wedges between us.

Ultimately, it dehumanizes all those who are rejected or excluded from full and equal participation in our society (and a fair sharing of all it has to offer) by whatever ruling group or the "powers that be" are "on top" at any given time.

This has to stop!!!

Therefore, on account of all these reasons, I ask that my flag and its symbols be used to combat and counter-act the great bane of "otherness" wherever and whenever it is encountered.

How else can we hope to one day have a world premised upon peace and prosperity where all are free and equal, unless we first resign ourselves to eradicating the very concept of "otherness"? Thus ending the tyranny and inequality it precipitates and maintains in our law enforcement, penological, legal, judicial, political, economic and cultural institutions. Of course this process of eliminating "otherness" can take a very long-time to achieve. Especially because, as a general rule, the progressive changes of social evolution, towards universal justice usually takes decades, if not centuries to be fully realized.

Nevertheless, if you examine history, you can see that the march towards personal liberty, social equality and human dignity has made tremendous strides in both the recent and distant past.

Just consider the facts:

- * Slavery is no more and Jim Crow is dead, at least on paper.
- * Women have full fledged equality with men, again, at least on paper.
- * Gays and lesbians can now live openly and legally marry.

So, despite all kinds of setbacks, amazing changes have come

about throughout the history of this country. Sadly, while these steps never seem to go far enough, look how far we've come from where we used to be! And since any movement (like one against "otherness") needs symbols for activists to rally behind, I've made this flag to lead the charge! Hence, in some small way, I firmly believe that the creation of my Rainbow Humanity Banner For All is definitely a step in the right direction, even if only a tiny one.

This flag and its symbols are my contribution to the long march of progress! May it help the whole of humanity to take a step towards a better world and a brighter tomorrow. And, always bear in mind the great wisdom of an ancient proverb that says:

"The journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step."

The Gift

And now, I give this flag as a gift to all people of good will all across the globe.

It is my special present to all my brothers and sisters in the human family.

Who and what I am is totally irrelevant to my giving of this gift.

My real name is unimportant, too.

Because I am not looking for fame, fortune, or even personal recognition.

That is why I choose to use the pseudonym at the end of this description of the Rainbow Humanity Banner For All.

A. Humanitarian

To all those who read this essay and agree with what it says, I wish you and yours:



Peace,



Love,



Freedom,



Equality,



And Joy!

Postscript and Final Statement

Now to all those who call me a "head in the clouds utopian," or who reject my idealistic world view as "unrealistic."

And especially to all those who are even more harsh and/or brutal in their criticisms of me and my hopeful beliefs. To all such unkind people, to all haters and to all assorted doubters, I can only respond with the words of the reprise to the famous song by one of my favorite musicians: John Lennon:

IMAGINE

"You may say that I'm a dreamer, but I'm not the only one. I hope someday you'll join us and the world can live as one."

May all creations blessings be bestowed upon you!