

Dottie Chicquelo's message in Plymouth, Massachusetts

I am standing on indigenous soil, mother earth, where pilgrims came to shore.

Pilgrims had good intentions, however their behavior became detrimental to the first peoples. It is my understanding that Pilgrims insisted that my great-grandmother and great-grandfather were not human, lowest on the totem pole, and forced to forgo their Native origin and identity. I felt hurt and pain at the thought of such actions. My ancestors were given blankets as a sign of friendship; however, the blankets were filled with disease, not fellowship. Thousands of Natives died on the trail of tears because of others' greed.

Thinking back in time, I would have never come to Plymouth Rock. For what? To celebrate those that took total advantage of my ancestors? No!

As most of you know, this conversation is not new. This subject matter isn't easy; but history is history, there is no way to avoid it. We should share it, embrace it, and continue to learn from it.

I believe that wrestling with acknowledging and repenting for our history should be a crucial first step toward building a better future for each one of us, our children, and bring lasting peace.

Now, at this moment, during this time in history, I have repented. I am possessed with spiritual growth and guidance. I have love in my heart. I have forgiven those that historically caused me to feel sadness when thinking of my ancestors. I have calmer thoughts.

Yes, thought patterns are changing. However, the work must continue. As the Mother of Peace, Hak Ja Han Moon stated in her book, Chapter 7, page 221, "Each new generation endures heartache."

Our children and young adults need continuous spiritual blessings as they take the lead, especially during this wonderful Peace Road 2020: Reconciling All People. Only good work can result.

So, women, the Mother of Peace continues to remind us of our charge. And you know, we know, how to ensure we are working to address root causes, of whatever it may be.

We as women do it every day, in our homes, our organizations, and again in the streets. We want change, we want lasting peace.

We want reconciliation, love, and respect for the person sitting next to you. It is about re-educating; "it is about cleaning up this mess".

Do we move forward with protest, marches, and other forms of movements? YES.

Our movement continues today, here at Plymouth Rock. We are not shouting, we are not destroying anything, but spreading love and the beauty of forgiveness, to all peoples that can hear us. It is about having faith and encouraging reconciliation so that all peoples can feel the beat of a soulful heart.

Do we want peace? Do we want Peace?

Well Peace has Started with Me, and Peace Must Start with You.

Let's unite with Mother Moon, the mother of peace and build a peaceful world together.