

Leadership and Expanded Consciousness

The Manifesto's demands were framed in terms of coursework, but including minority students in the CED student body meant it served a secondary purpose: developing minority leadership. Architecture, landscape architecture, or planning wasn't an avenue to wealth or significant political power. But, what was needed at the time, and still to this day, were mediators between the dominant power structure and the various minority communities.

I suggest an expanded consciousness to avoid the pitfalls of false consciousness inherent in leadership. As the clips illustrate, this is especially the case for Black leaders.

But more to the point, I advocate for the use of psychedelics to address the mental health disaster we presently face. The impact of technological change has profoundly altered our ability to cope in efficiently optimized environments, and the lack of “slack” in our interactions fosters addiction, anxiety, major depression, and post-traumatic stress disorders—conditions that psychedelics have clinically been shown to relieve. They appear to work by encouraging the growth of new connections between neurons in the brain.