

SOULFORCE

2021-2022
PROGRAM
REPORT

Leading
from the
South

Letter from the Co-Directors

Cultivating strong partnerships with activists and people of faith on the front lines of social change is how an organization as small as Soulforce is able to make a major impact on the landscape of Religious Right violence. And in a moment when so many are grappling with how to safely maintain our human connections in the midst of a global pandemic, we know that prioritizing strong communities will keep us resilient for the long haul work of liberation in our lifetimes. That is why we knit together a diversity of tactics and tools to support greater capacity for resilient, well-equipped communities confronting white Christian Supremacy in hostile contexts.

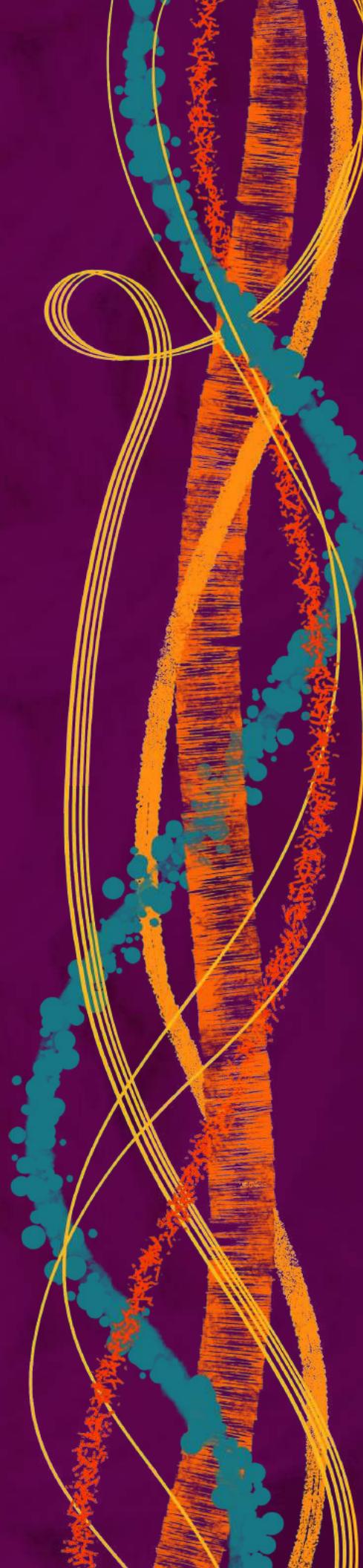
It's in this spirit that we present you with this year's annual report: a celebration of our rich tapestry of communities working alongside each other –across differences, borders, and languages— to collectively end religion-based violence against LGBTQI people.

Because you lend your support and your trust, Soulforce has accomplished so much this year: growing our team beyond the US border; releasing a new Bible-based resource and curriculum that combats the rising tides of transphobic ideologies; founding an international think tank for research and strategy on Spiritual Violence and healing; the flourishing of our Teología Sin Vergüenza community; new communications strategies; the continued support of our fiscally-sponsored program, the Religious Exemption Accountability Project. And an overhauled website that provides visitors with clear pathways to learn about our mission, vision, and projects.

All this and more is made possible by the support that our community braids into this work. We sincerely thank all of our dedicated volunteers, donor activists, organizational partners, programs and operations teams, and our Board of Directors. We hope that as you read this report, you are as amazed as we are about Soulforce's growth and expansion into new facets of our ever-steadfast mission: to audaciously, relentlessly work together until we stop Spiritual Violence.

With hearts ablaze and spirits unyielding,

Rev. Alba Onofrio & Yaz Mendez Nuñez
Co-Executive Directors



Making Ideological Change

Of the many issues that impact LGBTQI communities, none of them exist in a vacuum. When we take a step back, we can see that there are different ideas, assumptions, and beliefs that justify, even moralize, our persecution.

Those ideologies are woven into the fabric of our society on which institutions carry out system-wide harm, individuals justify their own violence and bigotry, and internalized oppression wracks the soul and damages our sense of self.

As our movements continue to build power to address these urgent issues at the systemic level, we simultaneously have to unravel the beliefs, ethics, and worldviews that create ripe conditions for violence. If the prevailing mindset is that certain people deserve fewer rights than others, then a change in policy will be insufficient to stop the many forms of violence and discrimination that come from such harmful belief systems.

Some of the most difficult ideas to decode and transform in our contexts are the ones that have been intertwined with Christian tradition, scripture, and theology. *Everything we*

do at Soulforce is meant to address these toxic religion-based ideologies and the harm they cause.

When we are able to understand these toxic ideologies and refute them in ourselves, *we can heal from the damaging effects of Spiritual Violence*, imbuing us with the confidence we need to challenge those harmful ideologies and become agents for change. We call this process developing an “indomitable spirit” -- a spirit that cannot be dominated by white Christian Supremacy.

The Goals of Our Work

- » expose and decode toxic Christian ideologies and anti-rights rhetoric
- » amplify queer feminist resources on radical Christian theologies
- » support the work of activists and human rights defenders in hostile fundamentalist contexts
- » promote the healing and resiliency of oppressed peoples from Spiritual Violence

By the Numbers

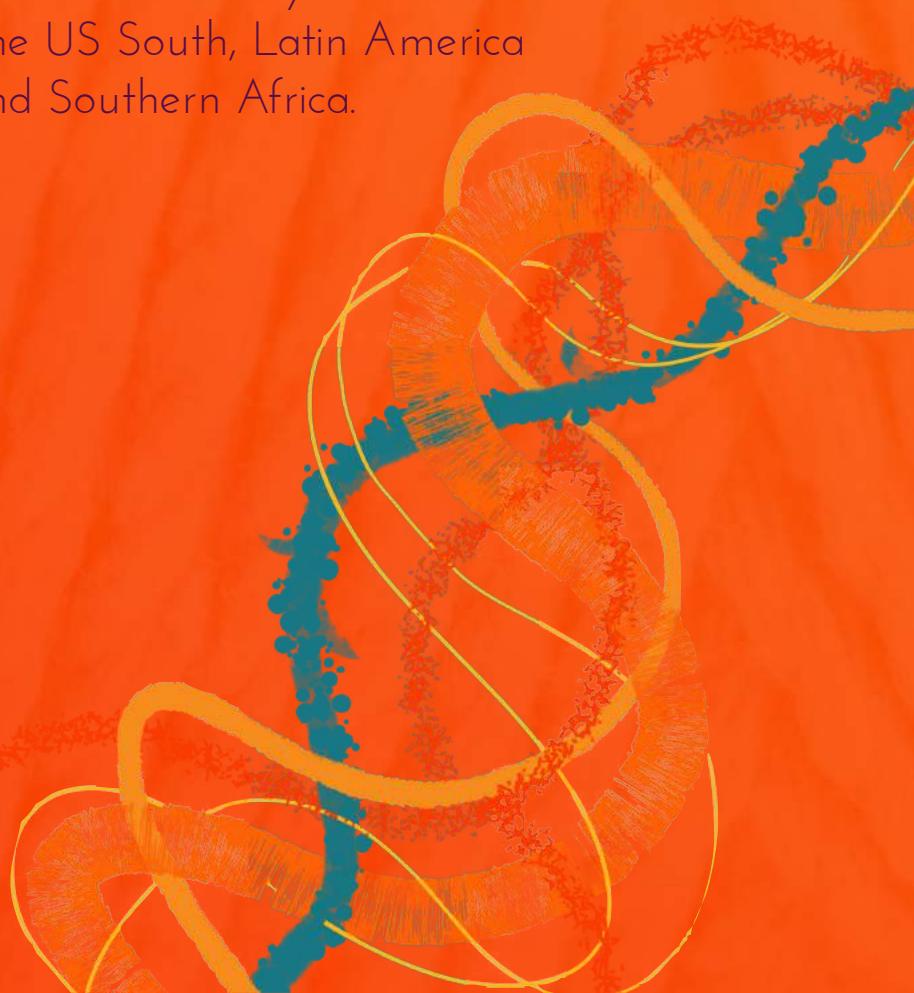
- » 48 partnerships & movement collaborations this year
- » 8,215 politicized theological resources delivered to activists in all 50 US states & 48 countries to date
- » 3,000+ followers of Teología Sin Vergüenza from 45 countries & 70,000+ views
- » 14 programs reaching activists & people of faith in 46 countries & six languages

How We Do the Work

Creative resistance blossoms in harsh environments. As a US-based organization of Southern people working internationally to end the misuse of Christianity to harm Queer and Trans people, we believe that *the world should be looking to activists in the US South and the Global South for strategies, ideas, and inspiration* on how to combat weaponized religion. After all, we are intimately familiar with the impacts of Spiritual Violence and white Christian Supremacy.

So we focus our relationship building in the South, where centuries of weaponized Christianity have created hostile, religiously conservative Christian contexts where religion-based violence is plain to see.

We prioritize nurturing lasting connections where we can share tools, platforms, and resources to support the critical yet under-resourced work of partners in the US South, Latin America and the Caribbean, and East and Southern Africa.



Our Growing Spirit Resource Library

A global upswing in attacks on Trans and Gender Non-conforming people has all of us in dire need for political and spiritual tools to counter transphobia. Arguments for trans-discriminatory laws and policies are based on mainstream Christian concepts of a gender binary, even when their religious foundations are left unnamed. Even for Christians who want to be earnest allies to our movements, or who are Trans themselves, there are very few resources to guide us in breaking open the lies given about gender and expanding perspectives within a Christian context.

In response to this dire moment, we researched and published "Breaking Open Gender Diversity in the Bible", a short booklet developed in partnership with activists, theologians, and people of faith. This short booklet explores the many Bible stories that feature eunuchs: people whose genders were understood as neither male, nor female, but another gender altogether – people who bust the myth of the male-female gender binary.

The Breaking Open Series

Our *Breaking Open* series turned five years old in 2022! We've been celebrating these resources' global impact by giving them each a visual refresh by creating a new digital library on our website, and registering each one with an International Standard Book Number (ISBN) so they can enter libraries and bookstores around the world.



Spirit Resource Library

8500+ copies delivered to

48 countries



Resource Trainings in East + South Africa

With hundreds of pounds of booklets in tow, we hit the road with our partners in Uganda, Kenya, Rwanda, and South Africa this spring to deliver workshops on gender diversity in scripture.

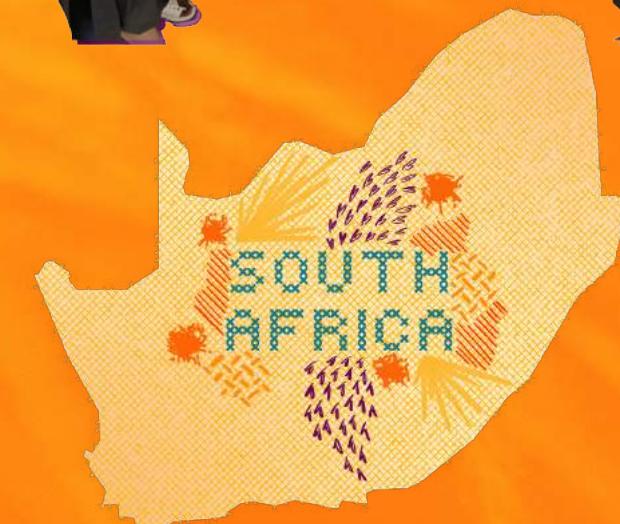
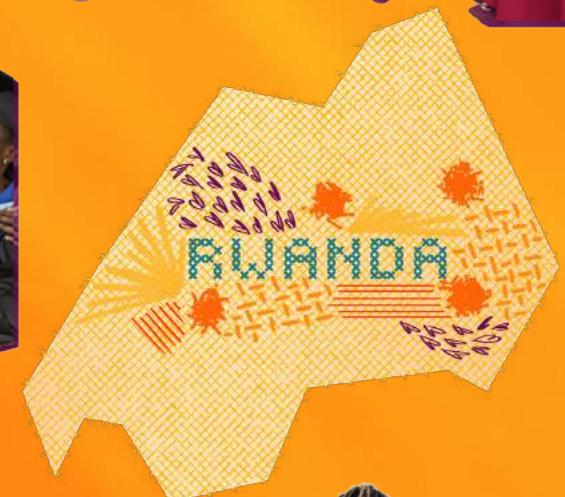
Our trip began with celebrating the graduates of Wawa Aba, a womanist theological and leadership cohort of LBQ women in East Africa organized by the Fellowship of Affirming Ministries. After being part of the training team in 2019 for the initiation of this cohort, we were able to return to close out their program with new queer- and trans-affirming theological resources to support them in community leadership. We developed a new curriculum just for this trip, one based on the content of our new gender resource, and trained with 89 activists and delivered 700 theological resources to community partners, like Sexual Minorities Uganda and Cosmopolitan Community Church in Kenya.

"This workshop is about how God loves those of us who are 'different', about gender diversity in the Bible, what Jesus said about it, and how we reflect the creativity of Creator and Creation with all its diversity."

We talked for a long time, well into darkness, even though some have traveled more than two hours on public transport to get here. They stay till the end and linger even longer. The trip back after dark is worth the risk. The content is life-saving in a different way...one person says the workshop gave them a voice, and another says: 'I was told I was crazy, but now I know that I am not crazy... Or if I am, I at least am not alone.'

-Rev. Alba Onofrio on their time with community partners in Nairobi, Kenya

Ashes to Purpose, Turning Tides, and the Global Interfaith Network co-hosted a week of workshops in Johannesburg, South Africa, for LGBTQI community members and religious leaders to unpack Spiritual Violence and learn about gender-expansive theologies. Our hosts translated two of our booklets on trans-affirming scripture into Zulu, ensuring that *pastors and activists can comfortably explore the many facets of Christianity that validate gender expansiveness.*



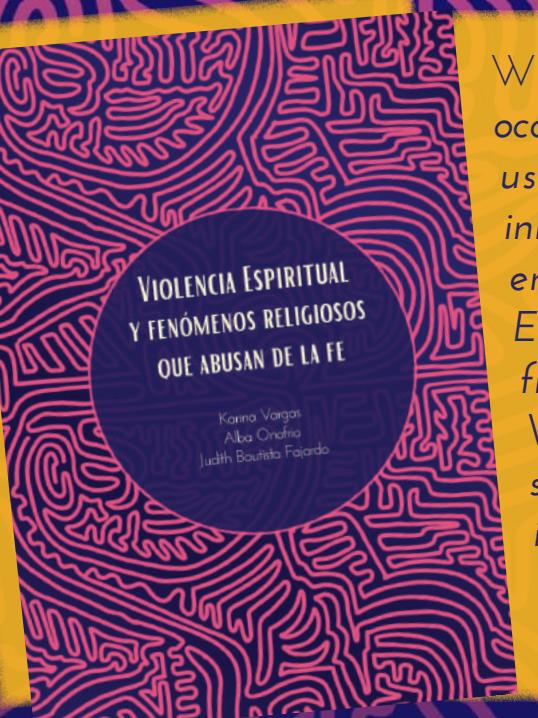
Spiritual Violence

The faces and places may change with time, but putting an end to Spiritual Violence has been the heart of Soulforce's work for all of our 24-year history. With decades of work under our belt, we have learned that ending Spiritual Violence has to come from not only challenging the sources of spiritually violent messaging; it comes from *identifying and healing the places where Spiritual Violence makes its way into our beings.*

Institute on Spiritual Violence

As fundamentalists and other extremists continue to consolidate power in legal and political spheres across the region, we're living in a critical moment for intervention. This is why we are so incredibly proud and excited of our newest body of work: the Institute on Spiritual Violence, Healing, and Social Change.

The Institute is a bilingual (Spanish-English) vehicle for research, alliance building, and new thought leadership in the social sciences. We are proud of Soulforce's reputation as an activist organization, and the development of this new thinktank creates more opportunities for collaborations with institutions and organizations that otherwise aren't positioned for direct partnership with activist groups. Through the Institute, we are creating new partnerships with academic institutions, politicians, and law experts to encourage a stronger understanding of Spiritual Violence, Religious Abuse, and the ramifications of those on individuals and societies.



What is Spiritual Violence? Spiritual Violence occurs whenever religious morality or God is used to question or deny the sacred worth and inherent dignity of a person or group. It produces emotional, psychological, and spiritual wounds. Even when enacted unintentionally or by a close friend, partner, or family member, Spiritual Violence causes harm. It can happen in any social context by any person, group or institution, it is based on social and religious ideologies of Christian Supremacy that deny the authenticity and sacred worth of a person or group.

New Book on Spiritual Violence

We published our first-ever book on Spiritual Violence. *Violencia Espiritual y fenómenos religiosos que abusan de la fe* (in English, *Spiritual Violence and Religious Phenomena that Abuse Faith*) was created by a group of queer theologians, feminist activists, and radical researchers based in the US southeast, Colombia, Mexico, and Costa Rica. This team was inspired to create this new resource after facilitating our month-long cohort on Spiritual Violence for Teología Sin Vergüenza in 2021. With over 20 years of experience, they set out to create *the first publication to examine the nuances of Christian Supremacy's impact on the bodies and spirits of individuals and communities* in a Latin American context.

Each section of *Spiritual Violence* unpacks the concepts of Christian Supremacy, Spiritual Violence, Spiritual Terrorism, Religious Abuse, and Spiritual Trauma; it asks questions for readers to examining their experiences, and offers exercises to promote a re/connection between the mind, the body, and emotions. The English-language adaptation of this book is forthcoming in 2023, and will be restructured by a team of editors in the United States for a US-based audience.

Soulforce in the Classroom

The Spiritual Violence Institute has developed a Spanish-language course through Vanderbilt Divinity School's Public Theology and Racial Justice Collaborative.

This course guides students through a 5-week curriculum, offering video lectures, forums, and live sessions to spark conversation and greater thinking about the ideas presented in *Spiritual Violence*. The course has over 100 registrants so far.

Training with Legal Advocates



Concerned with the rising number of cases of Religious Abuse involving prominent public faith leaders, lawyers from the national public defender's office in Costa Rica reached out to the Institute for guidance, insight, and best practice in preparing those cases. Our Institute's coordinator designed a set of trainings to help these legal professionals better understand the landscape of religion-based violence, the language used in these religious spaces, and the relationships of power within religious communities that can be used to manipulate and abuse followers.

Connecting Political Advocates Across Borders

To promote collaboration between legislators and advocates defending human rights, the Institute on Spiritual Violence is *creating a virtual bank of proposed legislation condemning Spiritual Violence and Religious Abuse in Latin America*. This compendium is a resource that will hopefully provide reference material for activists and politicians who can use those bills as reference material in crafting their own legal proposals or political demands. So far, we have banked legislative bills from Mexico, Costa Rica, and Argentina.





Sharing Knowledge Across Borders: The Community of Teología Sin Vergüenza

Across Latin America and its diaspora, Spanish-language communications and media are dominated by fundamentalist Christian discourses that attack our people and their basic human rights. In response, we collaborate with Latinx queer feminists to create *Teología Sin Vergüenza* (TSV): A North-South queer feminist media project by and for Latinx communities across the Americas who experience violence from weaponized Christianity in our homes, communities of faith, and in society at large.

TSV began as a digital media project to amplify liberatory approaches to queer feminist theologies, but quickly became *a diverse community of activists, theologians, and people of faith*: a community we call *La Comunidad de las Sinvergüenzas*. We have aired 53 episodes of TSV over the course of four seasons, hosting public conversations about religion, gender, sexuality, race, faith, and other topics vital to our lives as Queer Latinx people. Las Sinvergüenzas are tuning in from 45 countries, joining a digital community that reduces isolation and weaves strands of liberatory theologies and strategies across borders and disciplines. Many Sinvergüenzas have shared that TSV feels like their faith community, and that they feel less alone for being part of this digital space.

AfroLatine Theology

In season 4, TSV partnered with the AfroLatine Theology Project to showcase and uplift theology from Afrodescendent peoples throughout Latin America and its diaspora. We interviewed five theologians with roots in the US, Puerto Rico, Colombia, and Peru. This mini-series received over 2,000 views from viewers in 10 countries in its first month, highlighting the urgent need for Queer theological reflection rooted in the many diverse experiences of Blackness.



There's Nothing to Cure!

In the last few years, conversion therapies have resurged as a vehicle for violence against LGBTQI people all around the world, and especially across Latin America. *Because attacks on Queer and Trans people know no borders, we also work transnationally to combat it!* In June, TSV launched a digital campaign, **#NoHayNadaQueCurar** (**#ThereIsNothingToCure**) to amplify the stories of activists in the Americas who are working to end conversion therapy practices. The campaign has so far highlighted stories from activists, lawyers, and politicians in Mexico, Costa Rica, Argentina, and Chile.

Filming Live in Cuba

This year, we brought our US and Mexico teams together for the first time for a trip to our partners in Cuba. We gathered together to share conversations about affirming Biblical interpretations, as well as a workshop on physical and spiritual self-defense. The TSV team interviewed spectacular activist-theologians to create a new season of *Teología Sin Vergüenza* dedicated to Cuban feminist theology, which will air later this year.

TSV on the Air

Fun fact: did you know that *Teología Sin Vergüenza* was originally designed as an audio podcast? The onset of the pandemic created an urgent need for live digital community spaces, but now, every live episode of *Teología Sin Vergüenza* is being re-released as an audio podcast available wherever podcasts are found. In addition, each week a past episode will air Thursday evenings on the Mesoamerican digital radio station, Radio Cabuya, run by a feminist communications collective based out of Costa Rica. These strategies will be especially accessible for listeners with a weak internet connection or who desire more privacy online than their Facebook account affords.



Working Together to End Religion-Based Violence in the Americas

TSV and the Institute on Spiritual Violence have joined a regional project to end Religious Abuse in the Americas. This project, Fe Sin Violencias (Faith without Violence), is led by a coalition of women of faith in Chile and Argentina who are *organizing to prevent Religious Abuse by raising public consciousness and taking legal action.* TSV joined the project's first in-person meeting in Argentina, where the coalition set goals to accompany survivors of abuse in their healing journey, and to work with politicians, legislators, and judges to better understand Religious Abuse to help prevent it. Partners in this coalition served as a review board for our virtual course with Vanderbilt Divinity School to offer their expertise and feedback as scholars, activists, and survivors of Religious Abuse.

Defending Reproductive Freedom with Bible-Based Tools

Reproductive justice and LGBTQI liberation are inherently intertwined; at the heart of both movements is the struggle for bodily autonomy. LGBTQI activists, feminists, racial justice organizers, and so many other groups are fighting an ideological battle for sovereignty over our bodies, lives, families, and communities. *After publishing two new resources on consent, bodily autonomy, and reproductive choice in English last year, we were able to release both resources in Spanish this year with much success.* TSV's digital campaign promoting feminist theologies and supportive Biblical interpretations on reproductive justice culminated in a collaboration with Catholics for Choice in the US, Mexico, and Argentina, and Ecuménicas por el Derecho a Decidir (Ecumenical Christians for the Right to Choose) in Honduras. TSV hosted this live forum featuring a leading Latin American feminist theologian and a feminist activist pastor who discussed faith, abortion, and the God-given right and responsibility to discern the choices before us in life. Viewers watched and participated in this 90-minute digital forum from 13 countries across the Americas.

TEOLOGÍA Sin Vergüenza



Seeding the Movement with Religion-Informed Strategy

At Soulforce, we believe that our movements will win if we can eradicate the ideological frameworks that moralize wide-scale violence and injustice, aka white Christian Supremacy. Therefore, our goal is to seed all our movements with a working knowledge of white Christian Supremacy, how it functions, and the tools to combat it. Here's how we do it:

Go With Grace + Sunday School

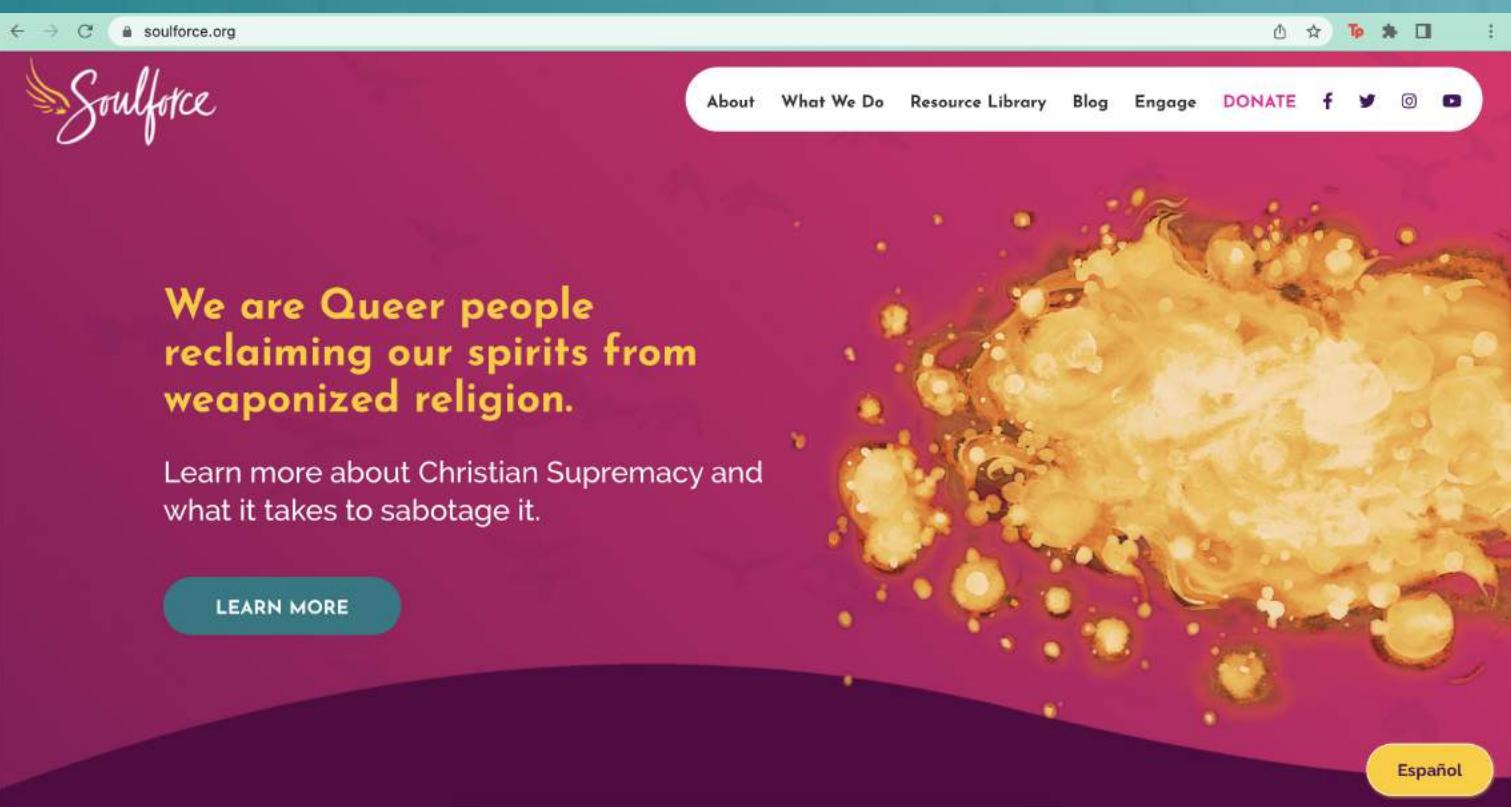
Go With Grace is a monthly podcast that explores the connections between white Christian Supremacy, Spiritual Violence, resilience, and current topics in the public eye. This media project is geared explicitly towards US activists seeking tools to unpack religion-based violence in their work, but also in their own spiritual healing. At the end of each month, we host Soulforce Sunday School: a Twitter teach-in conversation where we invite Soulforcers into a guided conversation that explores the themes of that month's episodes, or other relevant topics at the intersection of weaponized religion, gender, race, and sexuality.

Our Newsletter

In our digital newsletter, we share monthly updates on our work and reflect on brave resistance and resilience-building work we are appreciating in movement spaces online. The goal of each newsletter is to *create a digital moment for expanding political analysis, sharing organizational and programmatic updates, and amplifying change-makers and offerings of artistic expression.*

Rebuilding the Soulforce Website

In a world where we rely on digital networks to connect us, we must create our own spaces that are authentic to us and our values. That's why we've overhauled our website this year: to create a new digital space that is beautiful, accessible, multilingual, and reflective of the creativity and fiery boldness at the heart of our work to cultivate spirits unyielding to white Christian Supremacy.



Equipping Our Movements with Tools for Policy Change



The Washington Post
Democracy Dies in Darkness

RELIGION

Dozens of LGBTQ students at Christian colleges sue the U.S. Education Dept., hoping to pressure Equality Act negotiations

By Michelle Boorstein
March 30, 2021 at 6:00 a.m. EDT



Elizabeth Hunter is among more than two dozen past and current students from Christian colleges who are suing the U.S. Education Department. (Kevin Truong)

Religious Exemption Accountability Project

We are proud to fiscally sponsor the Religious Exemption Accountability Project (REAP). This groundbreaking program empowers queer, trans, and non-binary students at more than 200 taxpayer-funded religious schools that actively discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity/expression. Through civil rights litigation, documentary film, oral history, research, and public policy, REAP works towards a world where LGBTQI students on all campuses are treated with safety and respect.

REAP made waves across the country by filing a class action lawsuit last year against the US Department of Education, calling on the government to nullify the religious exemption to Title IX that allows widespread discrimination against LGBTQI students at faith-based colleges and universities. *Ample media coverage and networking among students and alumni at Christian colleges have brought forth countless more stories of discrimination and trauma from other LGBTQI people at these schools.*

Since the first filing, REAP's legal defense team has added eight new plaintiffs to *Hunter et al. v. Department of Education*, now representing 48 plaintiffs in this landmark lawsuit at 25 colleges in 18 states. This past year, Attorneys General from 18 states and Washington DC officially signed on to the lawsuit in support of LGBTQ students. The evidentiary hearing for the case was held in early November, where plaintiffs testified in court and key witnesses explained the discrimination and violence happening to LGBTQ students at their Christian colleges and the long-lasting effects of Spiritual Violence.

Alongside the lawsuit, REAP has filed more than 40 Title IX complaints on behalf of students experiencing homophobia and transphobia at Christian colleges. The Office for Civil Rights at the Department of Education has opened two Title IX investigations at these colleges. This is a huge win for REAP and the students, because nearly all Title IX complaints filed against religious colleges are thrown out, whether or not the school's religious exemption covers the subject of the complaint.

Why Do We Insist on Partnership?

Soulforce is a capacity-building organization, which means that we specialize in offering tools, resources, technical support, and spiritual support to organizations who are working in their own specialities and contexts to end religion-based violence against marginalized people.

We could never respond to all of the ways in which religion moralizes evil – nor should that be our end goal. We strive to live into collaboration as necessary for our collective liberation, rather than working in a capitalist model of competition with other organizations for resources. After all, we are a planet of interdependent beings who rely on each other for our collective thriving.

In order to overcome the toxic ideologies embedded in our cultures, laws, and psyches, our social-justice movements need a shared analysis of white Christian Supremacy and how we resist it. We promote the braiding together of the many strands of resistance that we practice around the world, creating a strong-enough rope to topple the systems that oppress us.

We are continuously inspired by the many community partners who trust us to support their missions by combatting white Christian Supremacy and Spiritual Violence together:

- » Anti-Racist Research Collective (led by BluePrint NC, USA)
- » Purisaq Warmikuna (Peru)
- » Pro-Choice NC (USA, NC)
- » Political Research Associates (USA)
- » AfroLatine Theology Project (USA)
- » Global Interfaith Network (international)
- » Global Faith and Justice Project (international)
- » Faith in Public Life (USA)
- » Auburn Seminary (USA)
- » The Fellowship of Affirming Ministries (international)
- » Ashes to Purpose (South Africa)
- » Turning Tides (South Africa)

- » Triangle Project (South Africa)
- » Life is Hale (USA, FL)
- » Ron, Tequila y Pisco (Mexico)
- » Facultades EST (Brazil)
- » Vanderbilt Divinity School Carpenter Program (USA, TN)
- » Vanderbilt Divinity School Public Theology and Racial Justice Collaborative (USA, TN)
- » ConCiencia Podcast (Mexico)
- » Radio Cabuya (Costa Rica)
- » Our Bible App (USA)
- » La Comunidad Espiritual Cuir de Puebla (Mexico)
- » Dibinidad (Mexico)
- » Catholic for Choice (USA)
- » Global Faith & Justice Project (USA)
- » HausWitch (USA, MA)
- » State Innovation Exchange (USA)
- » Iglesia de la Comunidad Metropolitana en Cuba
- » Abriendo Brechas de Colores (Cuba)
- » Religious Exemption Accountability Project (USA)
- » Ecumenicos por el Derecho a Decidir (Honduras)
- » Católicos por el Derecho a Decidir Argentina
- » Católicos por el Derecho a Decidir México
- » Las Magdalenas (Argentina)
- » Sororidad y Fe (Argentina)
- » Akira Media (USA)
- » Paul Southwick Law LLC (USA, OR)
- » SpiritHouse (USA, MI)
- » Central Baptist Church (USA, PA)
- » McCormick Theological Seminary (USA, IL)
- » Southern Crossroads (USA)
- » TEPALI (Latin America)
- » OURs Coalition (international)
- » Collaborative for Gender and Reproductive Equality (USA)
- » The Henry Luce Foundation (USA)
- » Stonewall Community Foundation (USA)
- » E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation (USA)
- » H. van Ameringen Foundation (USA)
- » Collingwood Foundation (USA)
- » The Small Change Foundation (USA)
- » Borealis Philanthropy (USA)

Our Team



Rev. Alba Onofrio

Co-Executive Director • North Carolina, USA

Our work of fortifying Spirits against the ravages of white Christian Supremacy and Spiritual Violence feels critical to our peoples' liberation now more than ever. *There is nowhere I would rather invest my time and resources than into this healing work of reclaiming our souls and bodies.* Soulforcers give me life and hope and courage and joy!



Ale Ara

Teología Sin Vergüenza Coordinator • Mexico

The work of Soulforce is important because it dismantles Christian Supremacy, and proposes and amplifies other ways of living our spiritualities that are just, dignified, and liberating for all people and beings.

Nadia Arellano

Teología Sin Vergüenza Coordinator • Mexico



To me Soulforce's work is a constant reminder of what Radical Tenderness looks like. Unyielding spirits finding each other, strategizing against the systems that tried to break us, and fighting for community and belonging against all odds.

Yaz Mendez Nuñez

Co-Executive Director • North Carolina, USA

I believe in Soulforce because I have seen this save countless lives from the throes of desperation and hopelessness. As the work continues to grow in numbers and geography, I will always cherish Soulforce as a special place that celebrates joy, exploration, and belonging.



Monica Treviño Alvarez

Teología Sin Vergüenza Coordinator • Mexico

Soulforce's mission matters to me because there are still many people within churches who live their sexual orientation and gender identity with fear. Making visible the Spiritual Violence that we suffer and having the opportunity to express ourselves as queer feminists and people of faith is a historic opportunity that makes the work of Soulforce relevant and necessary in my life.



Assata Dela Cruz

Minister of Beloved Community • Alabama, USA

As an Afroindigenous queer woman in the South, I've spent my entire life plagued by white Christian Supremacy but never had a name for it. Through the work of Soulforce, I am now able to name the Spiritual Violence that has afflicted me, which was the missing piece of my healing journey.



Megan Sharkey

Director of Ruckus • North Carolina, USA

In Soulforce, I found belonging. Through this hard work we do together, I found a community and family. This is exactly where I want to be investing my work, and I am grateful for the opportunity. I love being in this band of fierce beautiful misfits!

Karina Vargas

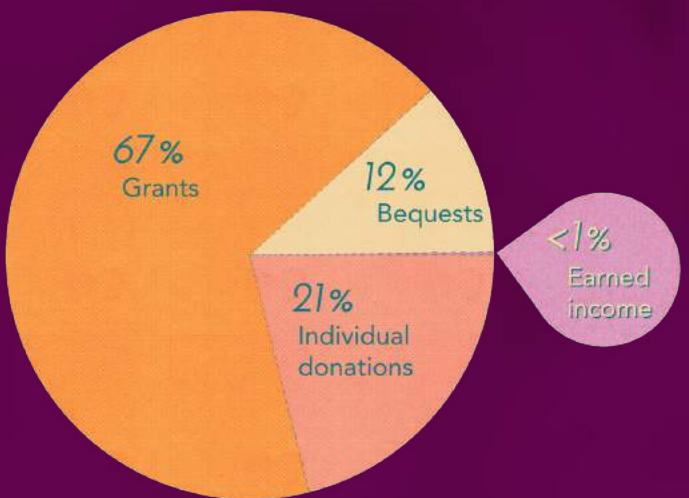
Analyst for Global Education and Strategic Partnerships • Costa Rica



I believe in the work we do at Soulforce because it confronts and challenges the hegemonic systems that have historically brought so much pain and injustice to the world. I love working here because the task of liberation requires courage, and I find that courage in my colleagues and in each person who participates in our projects. I'm in Soulforce because it encourages me to believe and dream again.

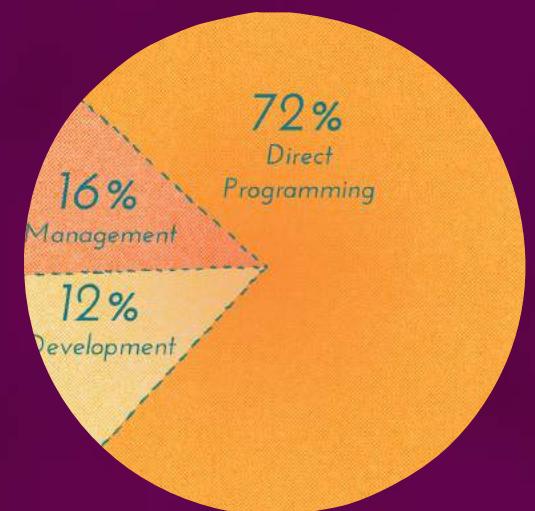
Bryony Dick, Graphic Designer, United Kingdom • Grace Nichols, Go With Grace Producer, North Carolina, USA • Jennifer Flores, Teología Sin Vergüenza Coordinator, Costa Rica • Thekla Clemons, Bookkeeper, Texas, USA

Financial Resources



2021 Income: \$867,700

Income includes prepaid multi-year grant funds for programs.



2021 Expenses: \$389,322

This year we earned a



from Guidestar!

What's to Come

For every Soulforce project that provides life-giving tools and spiritual support to our social justice movements, there's another one still in its seeding stage, because it is not yet fully-funded. We are always looking for donor activists to help bring these project seeds to life.

Here is a short list of projects that require a major gift or philanthropic partnership to come alive. If you find yourself inspired to help grow any of these projects as a donor, let's have a conversation!

- » Providing our partners in South Africa and Uganda with *small grants to print Soulforce's LGBTQI-affirming theological resources* to use in churches, housing shelters, health clinics, home visits, and workshops
- » *Publishing our newest resource, Breaking Open Gender Diversity in the Bible, in Spanish* so that people of faith and trans justice activists across the Americas can use it in their local fights to end conversion therapy and other transphobic violence
- » *Carrying out an academic study on the psychological effects of Spiritual Violence on marginalized individuals.* This research has never been conducted before, and data on this issue would make possible stronger advocacy for laws, policies, and education that helps to stop the sources of Spiritual Violence
- » *Convening a conference on Queer Biblical interpretations and Spiritual Violence for LGBTQI South Africans* combatting homophobia and transphobia in their local landscape
- » *Publishing the English-language adaptation of Violencia Espiritual*, our 2022 book from Soulforce's new Institute on Spiritual Violence, Healing, and Social Change