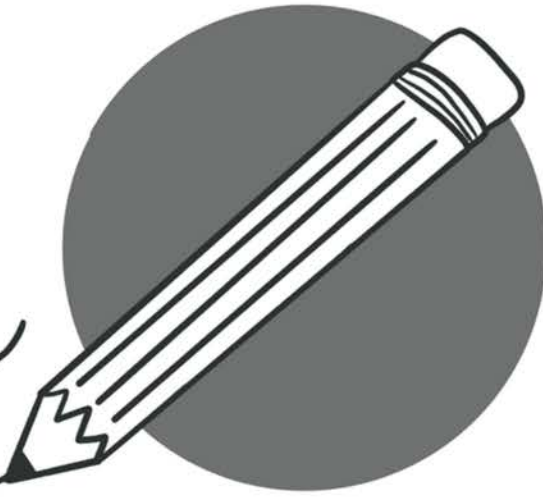


MRiNN x JUST BEGINNINGS

YOU MATTER:
an
ILLUSTRATED
GUIDE
FOR YOUNG PEOPLE
beyond
MANDATED REPORTING
COLOR ME!

Who
made
this



Mandatory Reporting is Not Neutral is a collective of community members that works to share stories about the impact of mandatory reporting, educate communities on harm reduction practices and change the conditions that lead to violence and abuse.

Just Beginnings Collaborative is a donor and organizing community re-examining the root causes of child sexual abuse and how to resource true prevention. Together, we dream of a world in which communities can transform the ways we help children stay safe while honoring their self-determination.



Gratitude: Special thanks to Radical Roadmaps, Franny Choi, Abby VanMuijen, Chi May Praseuth, Eva Chuc, Khansa Ali, the Goodfoot Arts Collective Youth Council Interns and the project team; Laura Chow Reeve, Shawn Koyano and Shannon Perez-Darby.



LET'S GET GROUNDED

in our senses

LOOK AROUND you & name...

5 THINGS YOU SEE 

4 THINGS YOU FEEL 


3 THINGS YOU HEAR 

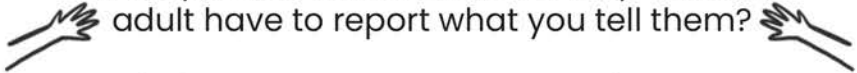
2 THINGS YOU SMELL 


1 THING YOU TASTE 



"ZINE" IS
SHORT FOR
MAGAZINE OR
FANZINE! IT
IS A SELF-
PUBLISHED
BOOKLET


HELLO!

This zine was developed to support young people, especially those under the age of 18, to answer the question, "when something hard happens who can I reach out to for help?" 

!!! The reality of mandatory reporting can make it hard for young people to know that if they reach out to adults for help will that adult have to report what you tell them? 

This zine helps answer the question, "What is mandatory reporting?" and helps explore what support you have, what support you need, and uses art, poetry, and music to explore what's possible. 

 We invite you to use this zine as a tool to doodle, draw, journal, and explore. 

 As always, it's good to keep in mind that anything you write down may be read by someone else.

 **THANK YOU FOR EXPERIMENTING WITH US** 

what is
MANDATED REPORTING?

STATE BY STATE LAWS
THAT REQUIRE SOME
PEOPLE to REPORT SPECIFIC
HARMS to GOVERNMENT
AGENCIES.



IN SOME STATES,
all ADULTS are
MANDATED REPORTERS.

IN **MOST** STATES,
MANDATED REPORTERS are
LIMITED to SPECIFIC JOBS LIKE...



TEACHERS



COACHES



THERAPISTS

**DRAW
& / OR
WRITE**


What would your community look like
if it had everything needed to support
you?

DRAW & / OR WRITE

What would your community look like if it had everything needed to support people?

→ IN MOST PLACES,
mandatory reporters
ARE REQUIRED TO
MAKE REPORTS when
PEOPLE UNDER the AGE
of 18:

- ARE BEING HURT by an ADULT
- EXPERIENCE sexual violence FROM SOMEONE else UNDER the AGE of 18
- HAVE an ACTIVE PLAN to END their own life



MANDATORY REPORTERS
are USUALLY REQUIRED
by LAW to REPORT
HARM by an ADULT to
SOMEONE UNDER 18 to
the LOCAL CHILD PROTECTIVE
SERVICE AGENCY & HARM
BETWEEN to PEERS to
the POLICE. 

LAWS CAN CHANGE GREATLY FROM PLACE TO PLACE

TO LEARN more about the LAWS in your AREA GO TO:



DRAW
&/OR
WRITE

Think about times you have felt truly safe. What does it **feel** like? What does it **look** like? **Who** is there? **Where** are you? What **resources** do you have?

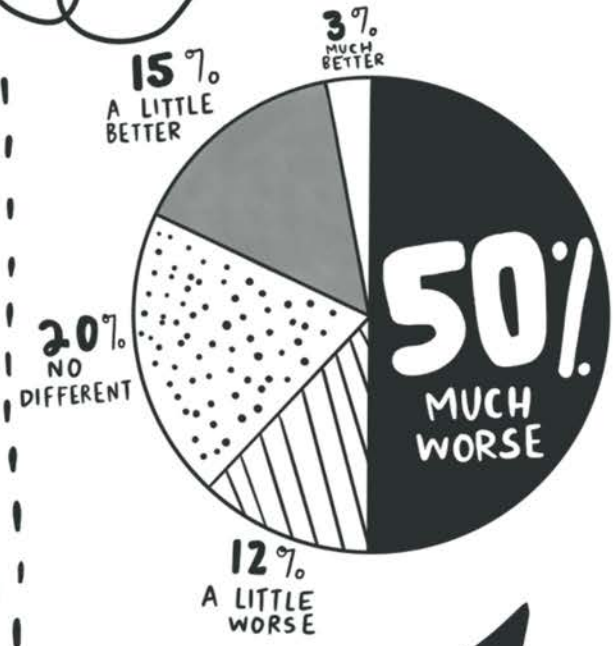
In the poem, the students see many violent practices that might feel very normal to us as horrifying and in deep contrast to practices and support they experience in their life. Below, List a few of the differences you notice:

<i>museum</i> EXHIBIT OF THE <i>past</i>	SUPPORT <i>in the</i> FUTURE
ex: POLICE & PUNISHMENT	ACCOUNTABILITY PRACTICES

IN A REPORT CALLED **THERE'S NO ONE I CAN TRUST**, OVER 3,600 PEOPLE SEEKING HELP FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHARED their EXPERIENCES of MANDATORY REPORTING

THE MAJORITY OF PARTICIPANTS SAID the MANDATED REPORT made the SITUATION WORSE OR HAD NO IMPACT.

REPORTS LIKE THIS, LIVED experiences, & FRONTLINE ADVOCACY HAVE LED ORGANIZERS to PROCLAIM THAT...



MANDATORY REPORTING is NOT NEUTRAL!

IN THIS ZINE, we INVITE you TO REFLECT & EXPLORE your OWN FEELINGS & EXPERIENCES →



and the guide spoke of safes, evidence rooms, more profit. Marian asked about raiding the rich, and the guide said, *In America, there were no greater protections from police than wealth and whiteness.* Finally, Zaki asked what we were all wondering: *But what if you didn't want to?* and the walls snickered and said, steel, padlock, stripsearch, hardstop. Dry-mouthed, we came upon a contraption of chain and bolt, an ancient torture instrument the guide called "handcuffs." We stared at the diagrams and almost felt the cold metal licking our wrists, almost tasted dirt, almost heard the siren and slammed door, the cold-blooded click of the cocked-back pistol, and our palms were slick with some old recognition, as if in some forgotten dream we did live this way, in submission, in fear, assuming positions of power were earned, or at least carved in steel, that they couldn't be torn down like musty curtains, an old house cleared of its dust and obsolete artifacts. We threw open the doors to the museum, shedding its nightmares on the marble steps, and bounded into the sun, toward the school buses or toward home, or the forests, or the fields, or wherever our good legs could roam.

FIELD TRIP to the MUSEUM of HUMAN HISTORY

by FRANNY CHOI

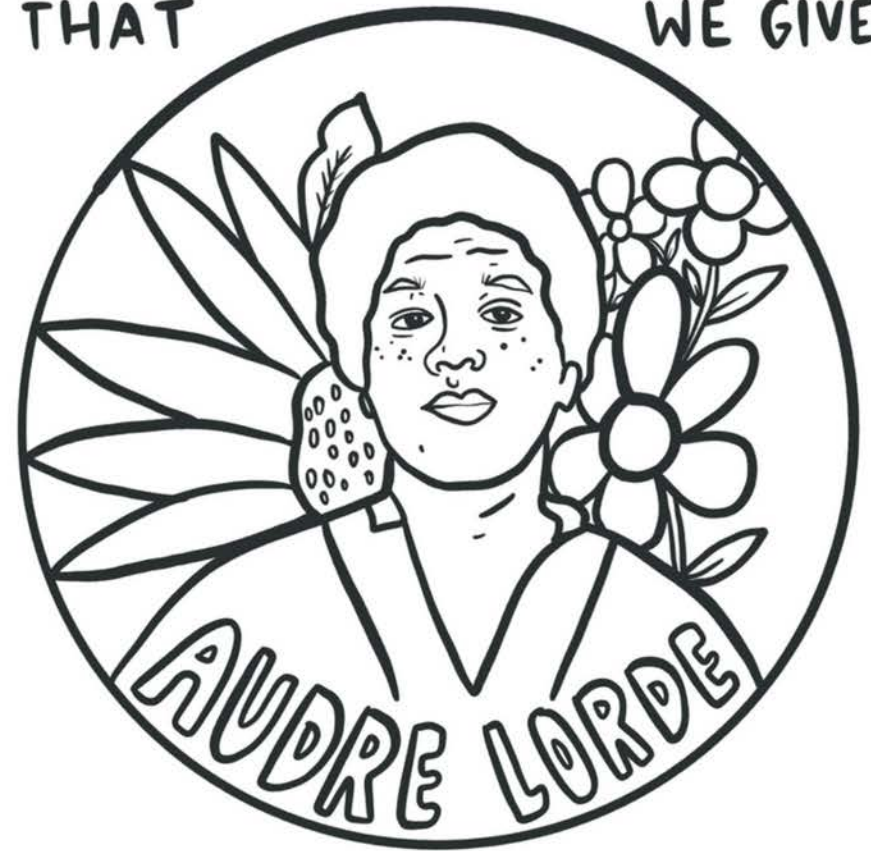
Everyone had been talking about the new exhibit, recently unearthed artifacts from a time no living hands remember. What twelve year old doesn't love a good scary story? Doesn't thrill at rumors of her own darkness whispering from the canyon? We shuffled in the dim light and gaped at the secrets buried in clay, reborn as warning signs: a "nightstick," so called for its use in extinguishing the lights in one's eyes. A machine used for scanning fingerprints like cattle ears, grain shipments. We shuddered, shoved our fingers in our pockets, acted tough. Pretended not to listen as the guide said, *Ancient American society was built on competition and maintained through domination and control. In place of modern-day accountability practices, the institution known as "police" kept order using intimidation, punishment, and force.* We pressed our noses to the glass, strained to imagine strangers running into our homes, pointing guns in our faces because we'd hoarded too much of the wrong kind of property. Jadera asked something about redistribution





THE next FEW PAGES
INCLUDE ACTIVITIES to
HELP you think about
THE MULTIPLE LAYERS
of MANDATED REPORTING.

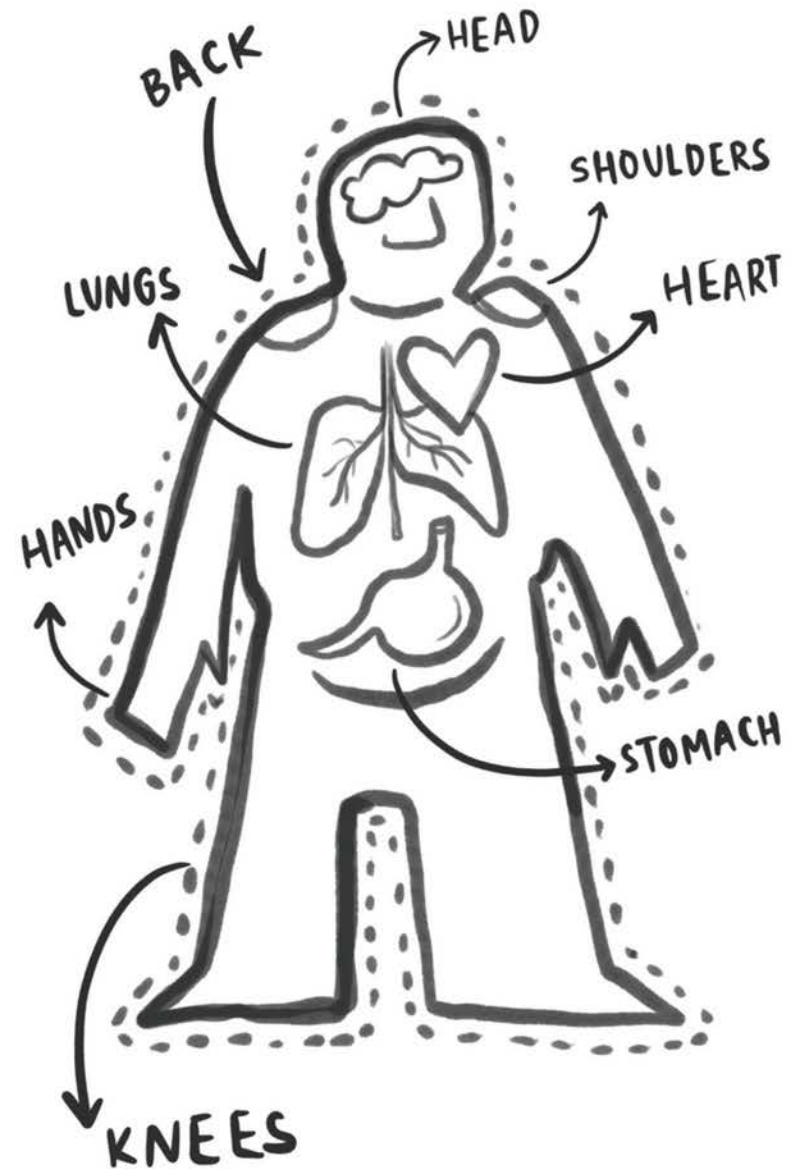
"THIS IS POETRY AS
ILLUMINATION,
FOR IT IS THROUGH POETRY
THAT WE GIVE



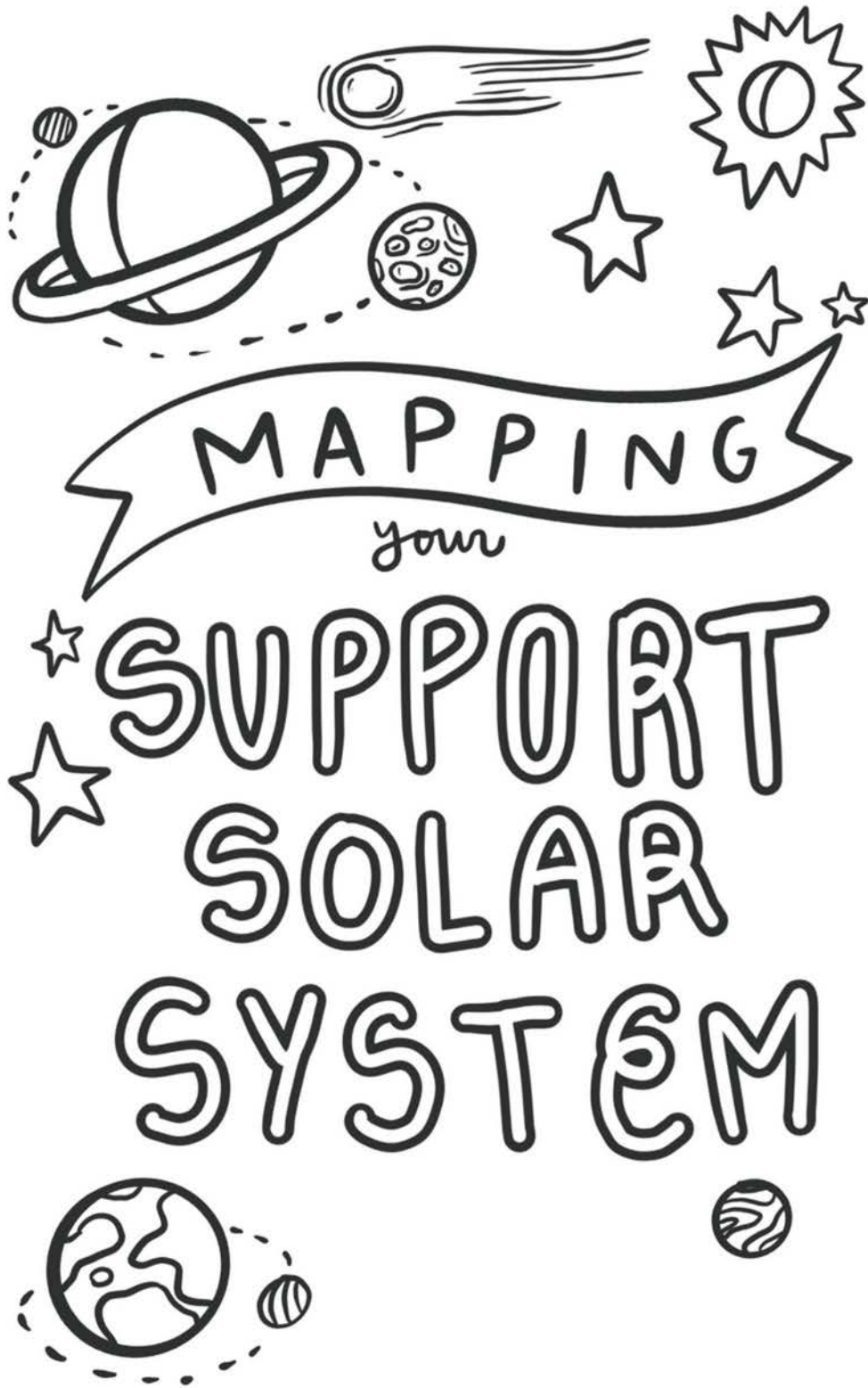
NAME to THOSE IDEAS
WHICH are, UNTIL the POEM,
NAMELESS & FORMLESS —
ABOUT to BE BIRTHED, BUT
ALREADY FELT."

why
ART?

Mandatory reporting is a systemic structure, but it is also a social structure. If we are going to create a world beyond the confines of society's current structures, both legal and otherwise, we must first envision it. Art can be a way of taking an idea trapped inside our minds and making the first step towards bringing it into existence. An idea unencumbered by what is and birthed into the physical world is the beginning of making that dream something that can be believed.



HOW do CONVERSATIONS about MANDATED REPORTING make me FEEL? WHERE DO I FEEL THEM? DIAGRAM+COLOR ON THE BODY ABOVE →



What happens if the person I reach out to doesn't want to or can't help in the ways I need? _____

If everything went exactly as I wanted, what would happen? _____

What positive things can I envision happening?

What is the worst case scenario? _____

Based on my experience, this is what I think is most likely to happen: _____



WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN?

When facing a hard or painful situation it can be really important to get help so we don't have to do it alone. For some people reaching out for help can be easy, for others it can feel really hard. Even when we're willing to reach out for help, the people we reach out to may have a range of responses.

Now that you have mapped out some of the relationships in your life. How do you figure out who to reach out to for what and when the best time to do its?

QUESTIONS to ASK yourself...

What would feel good to me right now? _____

How do I know someone is able to offer the help I need? _____

instructions

- ① MAKE a CIRCLE called "ME" in the middle of the PAGE



- ② PLOT A few of your PRIMARY relationships: • FRIENDS • FAMILY (CHOSEN + BIOLOGICAL) • TEACHERS • NEIGHBORS

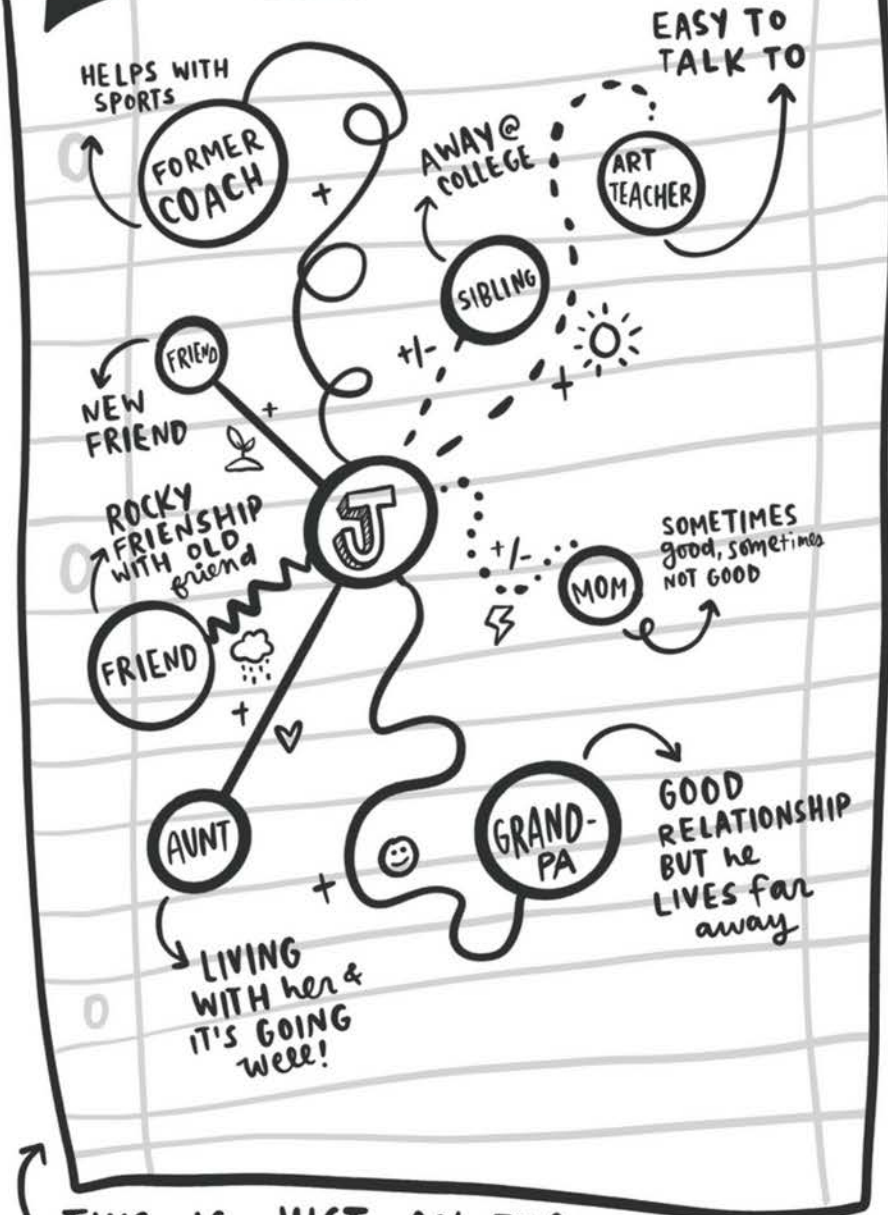


- ③ MAKE LINES of CONNECTION BETWEEN you & your PRIMARY PEOPLE. THE lines MAY look DIFFERENT depending ON the CONNECTION



- ④ USE $+$ OR $-$ symbols TO DESCRIBE the QUALITY of the CONNECTION. OTHER SYMBOLS you CAN USE: ☺ ♥ ⚡ ☀ ☁ 🌱

AN EXAMPLE:



THIS IS JUST AN EXAMPLE!
yours CAN LOOK DIFFERENT based
on your RELATIONSHIPS.

NOW IT'S your TURN!