



# DULUTHINK

NEWSLETTER OF THE LAKE SUPERIOR FREETHINKERS

**Join us Sunday, May 4th at 10am at the Hillside Community Center, 12 East 4th St., (at the side door), in person and via Zoom for a presentation by Arielle Lee and Alicia Joel**

## RELIGIOUS TRAUMA

### A CONVERSATION

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**Doors open for coffee and chat at 9:30 am**

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LAKE  
SUPERIOR  
**FREE  
THINKERS**

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**LAKE SUPERIOR FREETHINKERS**

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MAY 2025

# RELIGIOUS TRAUMA

## A CONVERSATION



**ARIELLE LEE**



**ALICIA JOEL**

**A**licia and Arielle will each share their personal stories growing up in constrictive religious households with emotionally destructive belief systems and will share their journeys coming out of it into healthier ways of thinking, being, and living. They each had a different response to this upbringing: one, the good compliant child taking on multiple layers of shame, and the other, the rebel, who questioned and resisted the belief system as a young child at every turn.

At the end of their talk, there will be time for questions and personal sharing. Alicia will also touch on the religious trauma support group that she started leading in January.

### ARIELLE LEE

stands strong as a voice against Christian extremism, having educated herself on the practices of Christian nationalist organizations for decades, and surviving a childhood directly impacted by their practices.

### ALICIA JOEL

is a trauma-conscious yoga guide, cuddle therapist, bodyworker, and Sacred Counsel Guide. She facilitates gatherings for people to explore the connection to themselves and others. Her goal is to bring more connection, understanding, and wholeness to the world.

**To join the meeting via Zoom, click the link below**

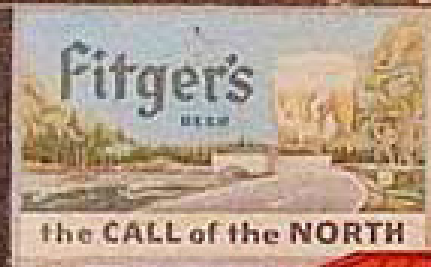
<https://zoom.us/j/92979628251?pwd=Pvw6OQDacOBpxaPc3v1d2bw9quo94L.1>



# Happy Hour

Join us from 4:00-6:00pm Thursday, May 1st  
at Mexico Lindo, Fitger's Brewery Complex,  
600 East Superior Street, Duluth

Mexico Lindo will validate your covered parking  
and we will validate your skepticism about religion.  
Bring a friend, and enjoy the merriment of Lake  
Superior Freethinkers. See you there!





MAY 2025



# MAY SOCIAL DINNER

**Join us Wednesday May 21st at 5:30pm for LSF's Social Dinner**  
**At Sara's Table Chester Creek Cafe, 1902 E 8th Street, Duluth**





# Pavilion Parties Return May 24th

Pavilion Parties return on the fourth Saturday of each month, May through October, Rain or Shine, at the home of Bill Van Druten, 2931 Greysolon Road.

**Plan to arrive at 1pm.** Consider bringing something to share: maybe some leftovers or a snack you've prepared or maybe some liquid concoction that's fun to drink in good company. We'll talk about religion, old friends, new venues, bird watching, weather, etc.

**Please remember that we can park anywhere on Greysolon Road, but NOT on 30th Avenue!**





# Gloria Steinem



**F**eminist leader and journalist Gloria Steinem was born in Toledo, Ohio in 1934, to Leo and Ruth (Nuneviller) Steinem. Her father abandoned the family when she was 10, leaving her to care for her mother, who was dysfunctional from depression. She went to school when possible, tap-danced in talent contests and mothered her mother. In 1951 she moved in with her older sister in Washington, D.C., and completed her high school education. She was accepted by Smith College, where she first started to write, and graduated magna cum laude in 1956.

The recipient of a two-year grant to India, she discovered that she was pregnant. During a stopover in England en route to India and facing a desperate crossroads, Steinem managed to arrange an abortion. She was later on the vanguard of those calling for legalized abortion. She moved in 1960 to New York City to start a journalism career, where she was met with sexist roadblocks such as the Life magazine editor who told her “We don’t want a pretty girl. We want a writer.”

In 1969 Steinem wrote her first feminist article. Throughout the next five years, she stumped for feminism around the country, becoming the women’s movement’s best-known, most quotable exponent. She helped found Ms. Magazine in 1971, convinced that freedom would come through “individual women telling the truth.” She defined feminism as “the belief that women are full human beings.”

In 1972, McCall’s magazine named her Woman of the Year. She was an influential participant at the National Women’s Conference in Houston in 1977, a landmark gathering. “Outrageous Acts and Everyday Rebellions,” her first collection of essays and articles, was published in 1983. She also wrote “Marilyn: Norma Jeane” (1986), a biography of Marilyn Monroe, “Revolution From Within: A Book of Self-Esteem” (1992) and “Moving Beyond Words” (1997). An idea generator and original thinker, Steinem remains one of feminism’s most elegant, loyal and thoughtful advocates.

*“It’s an incredible con job, when you think of it, to believe something now in exchange for life after death. Even corporations, with all their reward systems, don’t try to make it posthumous.”*

— Steinem, interview with Annie Laurie Gaylor, *The Feminist Connection* (November 1980)