OPTION 3 - INDEXED COLOR -FUNCTION (FOR MULTICOLORED DESIGNS)

This function can be used to reduce/separate colours from a multicolored design. Even with this function, begin by making sure that the size of your design is as desired, and chance the resolution to **720 ppi**: Image -> Image Size, Tick Resample

Change the colour mode to RGB: **Image -> Mode -> RGB**

Change the color mode from RGB to Indexed Color:
Image –> Mode –> Indexed Color. A window opens:

- **Palette**: try any Local palette for different results

- **Colors**: choose the smallest amount of colors, where the image still looks good (usually less than 20). The amount of colors can be reduced even more later.

- Ticking **Transparency** makes a transparent background behind the image. This is usually not needed.

- **Dither**: noise or diffusion would make fine pixel mesh – kind of raster - in the edges of color areas (instead of neat and clean edges)
  This could cause problems in screen printing - to avoid it, select: **Dither: None**

After changing to indexed color mode, reduce the amount of colours further:
Image –> Mode –> Color Table

First change all really similar tones to one and continue until you've reached the desired amount of colours. Click a colour, and select new from the design or colour palette.

Change the image back to RGB: Image –> Mode –> RGB

Then change it back to Indexed Color -mode. Now the Palette should show as Exact and the correct number of colours.

SAVING THE SCREEN FILE(S)

Open **Color Table**, and change each color either **white (R:255, G:255, B:255)** or **opaque black (R:0, G:0, B:0)**

You might make two files to print multicolored images:

Or, rather in this course, just reduce the print colors to one:

Consider the appearance of screen files from the perspective of (hand) printing:
fix e.g areas that would be too difficult to align by drawing or filling.

Check that resolution is 720 ppi and save the file to TIFF from Indexed Colors mode.

NOTE: Remember, that even the final *file* is black and white, the design is going to be coloured when printed with colours!