



The Role of the Teacher in Diverse Classrooms

Creating a Culture of Respect

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TRAIN PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

at Texas A&M University

CLASSROOM RULES:

THE RESPECT ACTIVITY



What is Respect?



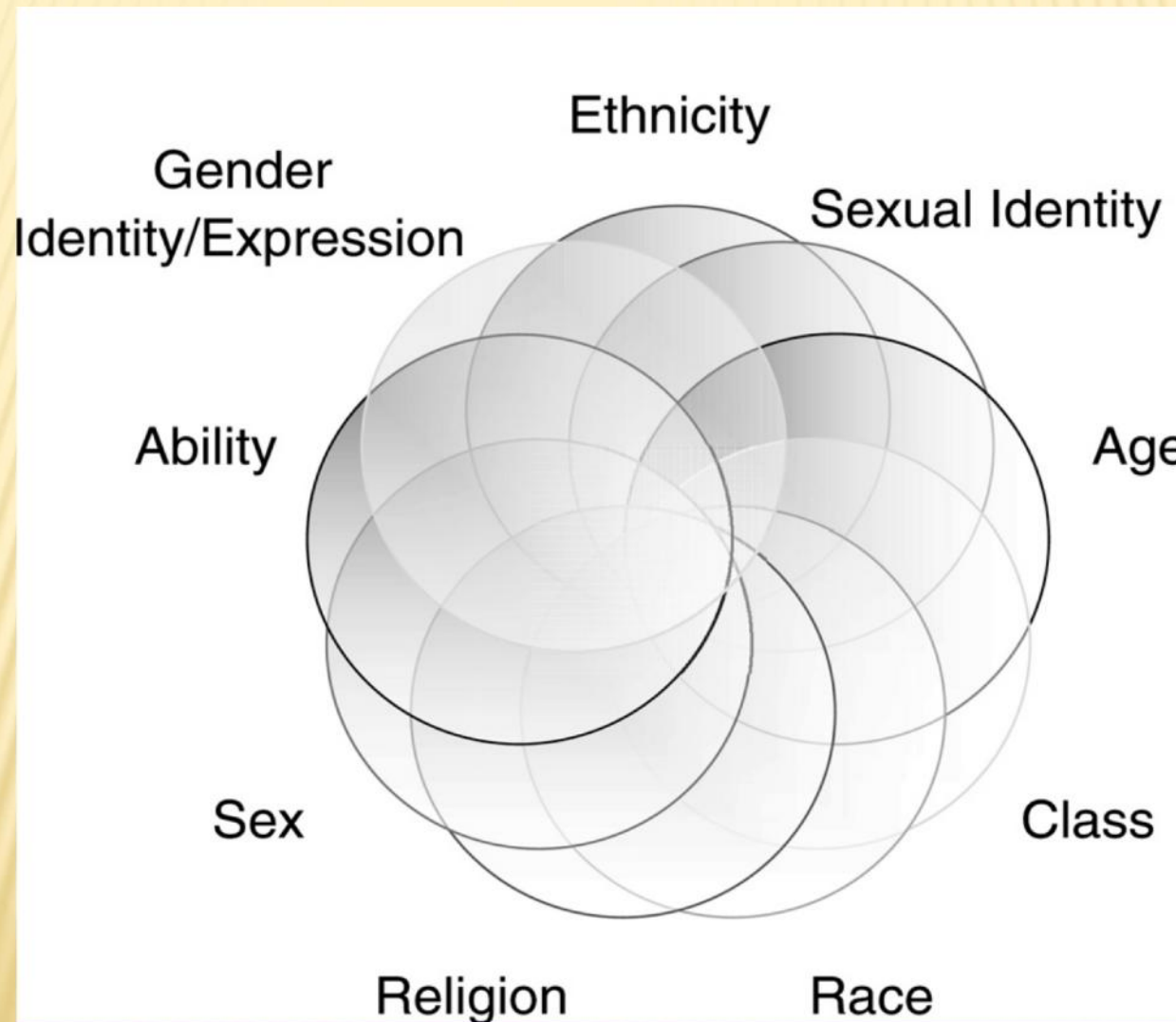
What is Tolerance?



What is Inclusion?

The Dimensions of Diversity

Developed by Camille O'Bryant - Teaching for Diversity and Social Justice, Second Edition, Routledge, 2007





Identity Mosaic

Teaching for Diversity and Social Justice, Second Edition, Routledge, 2007

Race

Sex

Gender

Religion

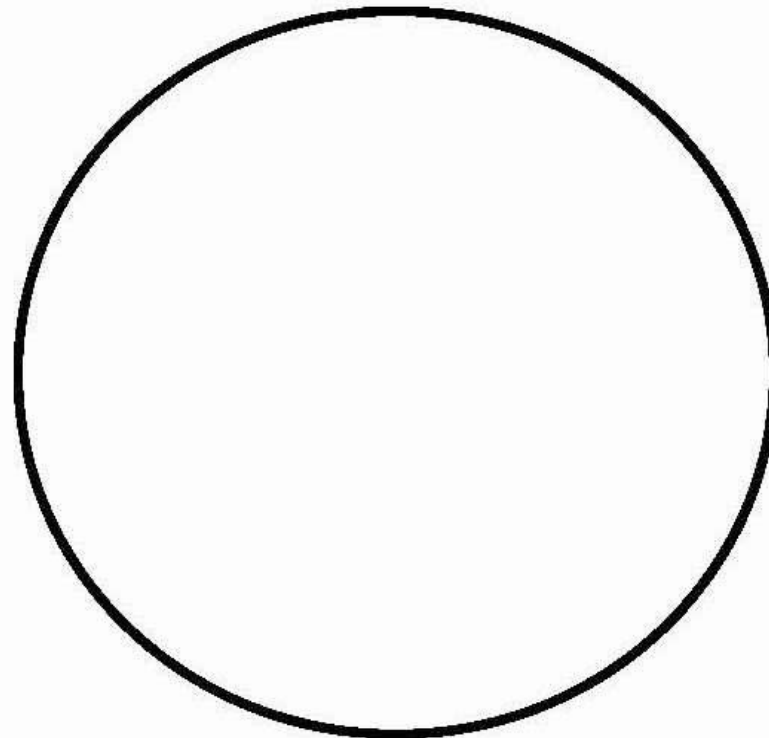
Class

Ability

Sexual Orientation

Age

Other



Advantaged = A

Targeted = T

Create your identity wheel by indicating your targeted and advantaged social group memberships. Make the identity "slice" a size that reflects your awareness of that social group membership. Memberships that you are more aware of will be a bigger slice than those you are less aware of.



Identity Mosaic

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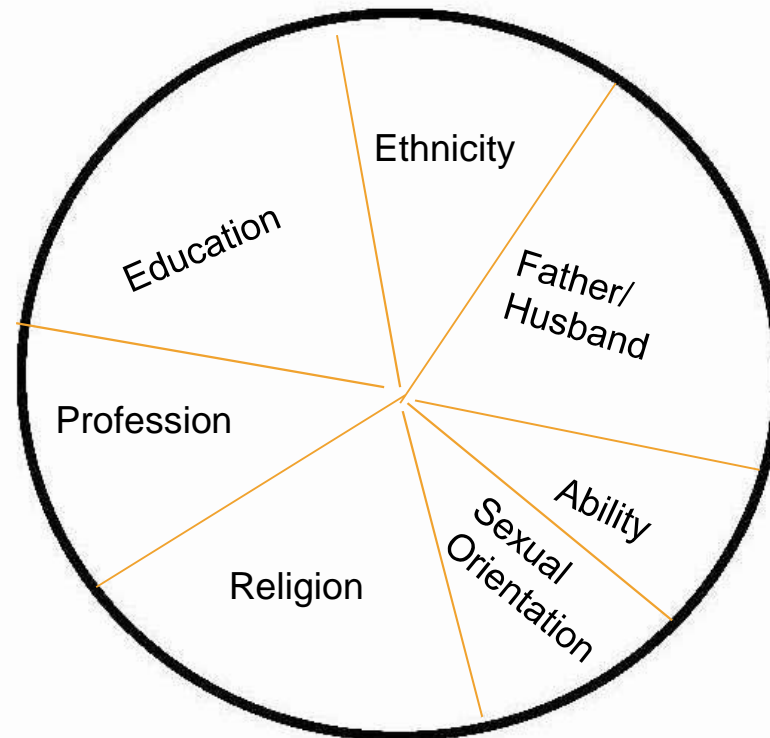
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Our Immigrant Students

- ✿ Consider your students in light of the identity mosaic:
 - ✿ What components of their identity make them targets of anti-immigrant sentiments?
 - ✿ In what ways are they targeted/discriminated?
 - ✿ In what ways are they Advantaged?

To note...

- ❁ Bullying of Ethnic, Religious, and linguistic minorities is in the increase.
- ❁ Sexism and genderism continued presence in society and in the classroom.
- ❁ Bullying can happen in the workplace, the street, the community.
- ❁ Bullying can happen when the media devalues and attacks your identity group.

What is Social Justice?



What is Diversity?



What is Social Justice?



Why should we teach with a Social Justice perspective?

In the classroom

- ❁ Should we bring these issues up in the classroom?
- ❁ How do we deal with these issues in the ESL classroom?
- ❁ How do these issues affect our professional development as practitioners?

Social justice teachers

- ✿ Are aware of our own social identities
- ✿ Confront our own prejudices
- ✿ Respond to biased comments in the classroom
- ✿ Are open to some degree of personal disclosure (our experience as an example)
- ✿ Must deal with emotional intensity and fear of losing control

Teacher Allies

✿ “...an ally takes responsibility for learning about his/her own target group heritage, culture and experience, and how oppression works in every day life. Allies listen to and respect the perspectives and experiences of targeted group members.”

(Teaching for Diversity and
Social Justice, p. 529)

Teacher Allies

Acknowledge unearned privileges and work to eliminate or change privileges into rights that targeted group members also enjoy. They are willing to take risks, try new behaviors, and act in spite of their own fear and resistance from other advantaged group members.”

(Teaching for Diversity and
Social Justice, p. 529)

Teacher Allies

Characteristics of Allies

Action Continuum

Action Plan

Night

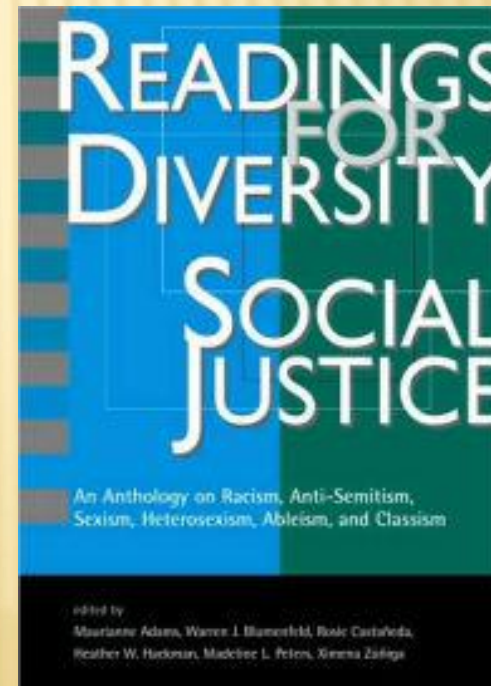
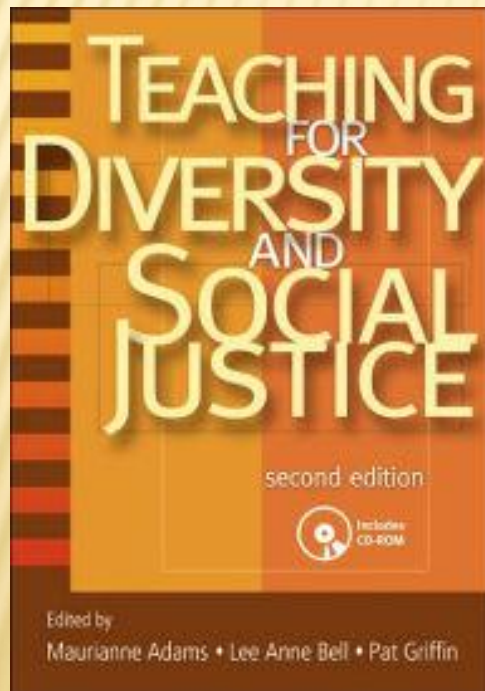
"We must take sides. Neutrality helps the oppressor, never the victim. Silence encourages the tormentor, never the tormented. Sometimes we must interfere. When human lives are endangered, when human dignity is in jeopardy, national borders and sensitivities become irrelevant. Wherever men and women are persecuted because of their race, religion, or political views, that place must - at that moment - become the center of the universe."

Elie Wiesel

References

Adams, M., Bell, L. & Griffin, P. (2007). Teaching for Diversity and Social Justice, Second Edition. New York: Routledge.

Adams, M., Blumenfeld, W., Cataneda, C., Hackman, H., Peters, M., Zuniga, X. (Eds.) (2010). Readings for Diversity and Social Justice, Second Edition. New York: Routledge.



Some resources

- ❁ Anti-Defamation League - <http://www.adl.org/?s=topmenu>
- ❁ Charter for Compassion – <http://charterforcompassion.org>
- ❁ GLSEN – www.glsen.org
- ❁ Human Rights Campaign - <http://www.hrc.org/>
- ❁ National Organization for Women - <http://www.now.org/>
- ❁ Southern Poverty Law Center – Teaching Tolerance – www.splcenter.org
- ❁ The Leadership Conference – www.civilrights.org