

Intellectual Freedom and Social Justice: Core Values of Librarianship

Emily Knox

Associate Professor

iSchool @ Illinois

knox@Illinois.edu

@ejmknox

ALA Code of Ethics

2. We uphold the principles of intellectual freedom and resist all efforts to censor library resources.
9. We affirm the inherent dignity and rights of every person. We work to recognize and dismantle systemic and individual biases; to confront inequity and oppression; to enhance diversity and inclusion; and to advance racial and social justice in our libraries, communities, profession, and associations through awareness, advocacy, education, collaboration, services, and allocation of resources and spaces.

“Intellectual freedom is a liberal value while social justice is a progressive value.”



Liberalism

Sheets of paper in order, from bottom to top:

1. Human Rights – Against Tyranny
2. Economic Freedom
3. Individual Progress
4. Social space
5. Group identity

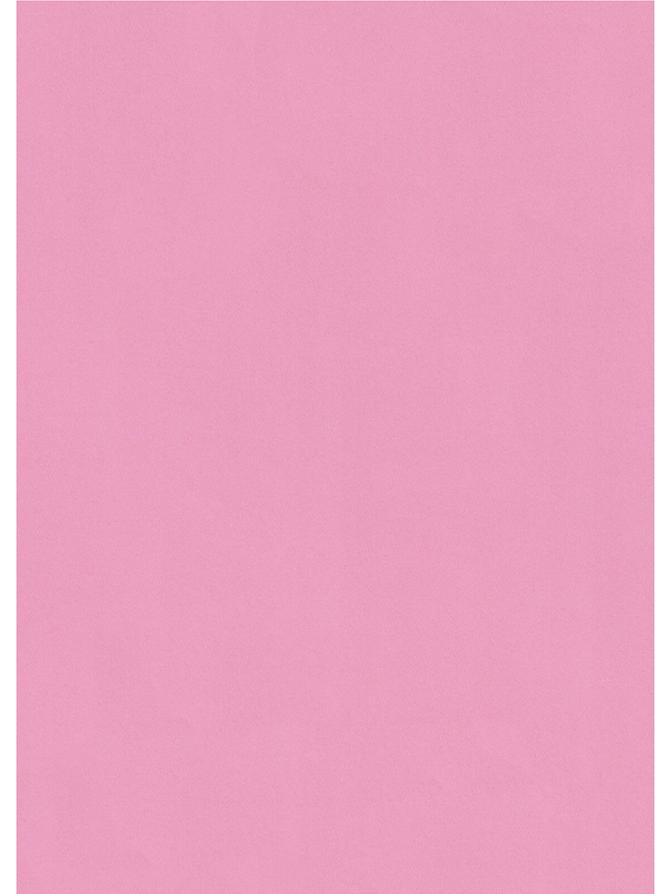
(Freedon, 2015, p. 13)

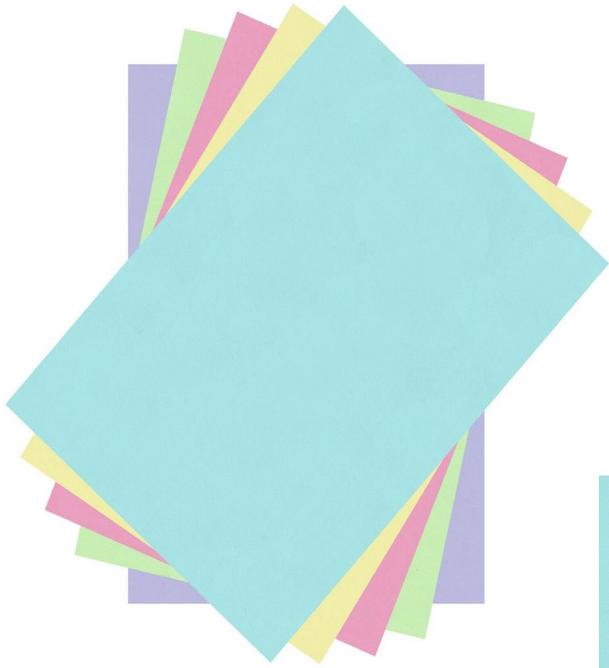
Liberal Standpoint

Sheets of paper in order, from bottom to top:

1. Human Rights – Against Tyranny
2. Economic Freedom
- 3. Individual Progress**
4. Social space
5. Group identity

(Freeden, 2015, p. 13)



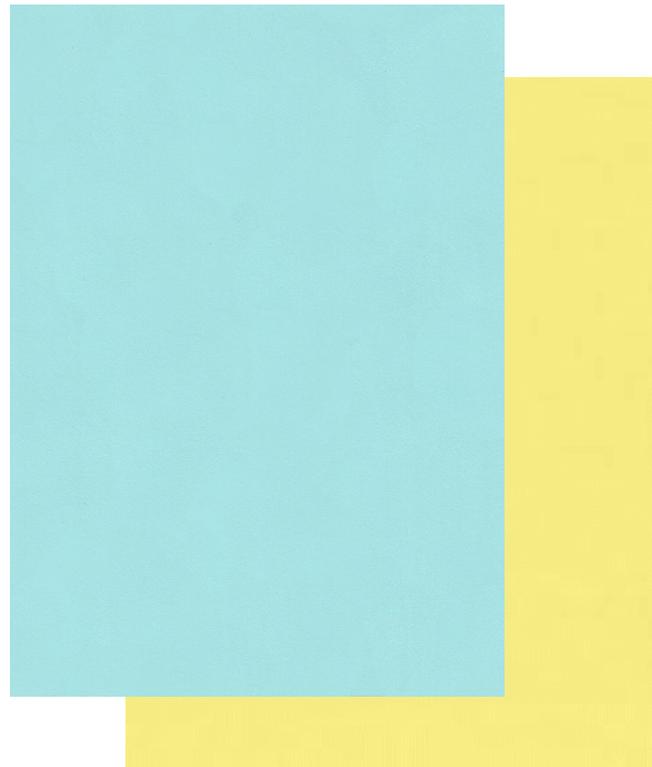


Progressive Standpoint

Sheets of paper in order, from bottom to top:

1. Human Rights – Against Tyranny
2. Economic Freedom
3. Individual Progress
4. **Social space**
5. **Group identity**

(Freedden, 2015, p. 13)





Back to the Full Spectrum of Liberal Values

1. Human Rights – Against Tyranny
2. Economic Freedom
3. Individual Progress
4. Social space
5. Group identity

(Freedon, 2015, p. 13)

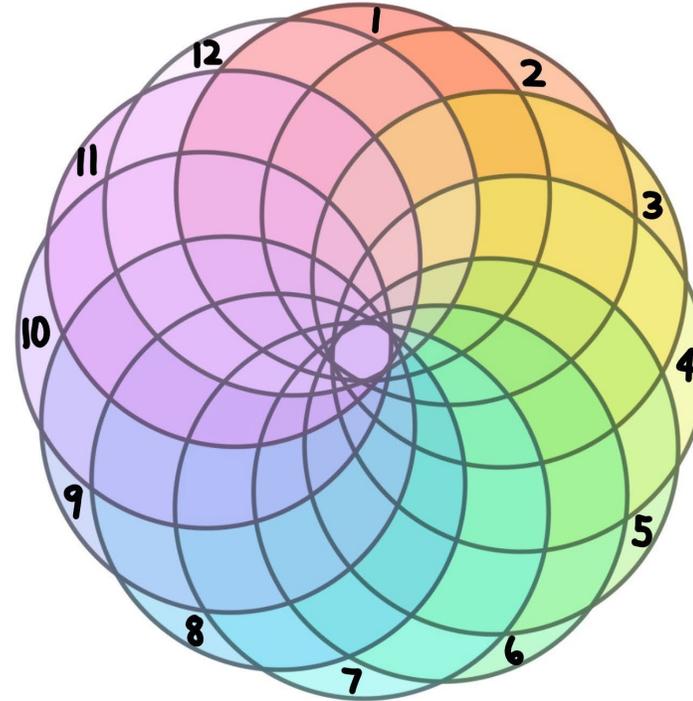
<https://www.thisiscolossal.com/2016/06/spiraling-rainbow-vortexes-by-jen-stark/>

KIMBERLÉ
CRENSHAW

ON
INTERSECTIONALITY

Intersectionality

INTERSECTIONALITY



- 1 Race
 - 2 Ethnicity
 - 3 Gender identity
 - 4 Class
 - 5 Language
 - 6 Religion
 - 7 Ability
 - 8 Sexuality
 - 9 Mental health
 - 10 Age
 - 11 Education
 - 12 Body size
- (...and many more...)

Intersectionality is a lens through which you can see where power comes and collides, where it locks and intersects. It is the acknowledgement that everyone has their own unique experiences of discrimination and privilege.

- Kimberlé Crenshaw -

@syriaduckworth



<https://dalberg.com/our-ideas/intersectionality-in-organizations-why-bringing-your-whole-self-to-work-is-not-sufficient/>

George by Alex Gino

Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You
by Ibram X. Kendi and Jason Reynolds

All American Boys by Jason Reynolds
and Brendan Kiely

Speak by Laurie Halse Anderson

*The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-
Time Indian* by Sherman Alexie

*Something Happened in Our Town: A
Child's Story About Racial Injustice* by
Marianne Celano, Marietta Collins,
and Ann Hazzard, illustrated by
Jennifer Zivoin

To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee

Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck

The Bluest Eye by Toni Morrison

The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas

TOP 10 MOST CHALLENGED BOOKS OF 2020
American Library Association

ala.org/bbooks

Challenging Diverse Books

Katy Independent School District
Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Resources

Type of Resource (book, video, DVD etc.) Book		
Title of Resource The Hate U Give		
Author, Editor, or Compiler Angie Brown Thomas		
Publisher Harper Collins		
Request Initiated By Tony and Tami Downs		
Telephone [REDACTED]	Address [REDACTED]	
City [REDACTED]	State [REDACTED]	Zip [REDACTED]
Complainant Represents: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Himself/Herself <input type="checkbox"/> Organization -- Name of Organization _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Other Group -- Identify other group _____		

1. To what in the material or resource do you object? (Please be specific: cite pages, specific part of a DVD or CD, etc.)
please see attached excerpts from the book with highlights.

2. What do you feel might be the result of a student using this resource?
our children are faced daily with bad language drugs + sex in schools - it is an epidemic, we do not need to push this by promoting books that continue in this theme.

3. For what age group would you recommend this resource?
>17 years of age. This book is currently being made into a movie and the film guild is projecting an R rating for the film due to language and violence.

4. Is there anything beneficial about this resource?
we see no literary value to this book.

Intellectual freedom
leads to
social justice

BOOK BANNING IN 21ST-CENTURY AMERICA



EMILY J. M. KNOX

Questions?

Emily J.M. Knox

knox@illinois.edu

@ejmknox

emilyknox.net

The Dynamic Flow Model of Discourse (Allen, 2015)

Volume
Velocity
Viscosity

