

Solidarity and Prejudice Reduction Curriculum Resources

Guiding Literature

Allport, Gordon. (1954). *The nature of prejudice*. Cambridge, MA: Addison-Wesley.

Pioneering research that identifies key connections between intergroup contact and prejudice. Intergroup contact tends to cultivate prejudice when the members of each group perceive themselves as having unequal status and in competition with the other group. Intergroup contact dynamics that promote prejudice reduction involve:

- Equal Status: The members of each group regard themselves and the members of the other group as competent and equal in status
- Common Goals: The members of each group recognize that they are striving for goals that are mutually beneficial
- Intergroup Cooperation: The members of each group recognize the necessity of working together to achieve these common goals.
- Support of authorities, law or customs: both groups acknowledge the honorable value of their intergroup contact

Bigler, Rebecca. (Winter 1999). *The use of multicultural curricula and materials in counter racism in children*. *Journal of Social Issues*.

http://www.findarticles.com/cf_0/m0341/4_55/62521563/print.jhtml

According to Bigler's research, the mere act of categorizing individuals into social groups may produce inter-group prejudice. She recommends attending to individuating characteristics which leads to more consistent prejudice reduction. Specific strategies include:

1. Exposing students to high quantity and quality of counter-stereotype models.
2. Placing a greater emphasis on categories that cross social group boundaries to help students view conceptual overlaps between different groups and see variability with groups.
3. Using cooperative learning strategies that teach students the value of interdependence as well as the principle of unity in diversity.

Levy, Sheri. (Winter 1999). *Reducing prejudice: Lessons from social-cognitive factors underlying perceiver differences in prejudices*. *Journal of Social Issues*.

http://www.findarticles.com/cf_0/m0341/4_55/62521566/print.jhtml

Levy focuses on prejudice reduction strategies that address worldview:

1. Raise student awareness that their views of human nature impact their social judgments.
2. Promote stereotype-reduction ideologies based on egalitarian and humanitarian worldviews.
3. Help students deconstruct stereotypes with critical analysis.

Massingale, Bryan. (2008). *The scandal of poverty: "cultured indifference" and the option for the poor post-Katrina*. *Journal of Religion and Society*.

<http://moses.creighton.edu/JRS/2008/2008-29.html>

Father Massingale provides evidence of institutionalized prejudice that disadvantages people of color, the poor, the elderly, and the disabled. He identifies three cultural forces which the church must challenge:

- The propensity toward seeing poverty as simply caused by individual irresponsibility which misses the multiple systemic societal causes of poverty
- The culture of consumerism which equates human dignity with productivity and possessions
- The persistence of unconscious institutionalized racial preference

Massey, Douglas, & Denton, Nancy. (1993). *American apartheid*. Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard University Press.

This is an essential systematic study of urban poverty in the United States created and maintained by residential racial and ethnic segregation.

McGreevy, John T. (1996). *Parish boundaries: The Catholic encounter with race in the twentieth-century urban north*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

This is an important study of the impact of twentieth-century Catholic parish life in the American North on urban race relations.

Myers, David. (2009). *Exploring Social Psychology*, fifth edition. Columbus, OH: McGraw-Hill Higher Education.

An overview of the social nature of the person and social psychology. Topics include: Self-Concept, Bias, The Challenge of Diversity and the Roots of Prejudice.

Oskamp, Stuart. (2000). *Reducing prejudice and discrimination: The Claremont Symposium on Applied Social Psychology*. Mahwah, New Jersey: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates.

This is a valuable pedagogical resource that describes prejudice reduction strategies for curriculum design. A key motivating strategy presented is spotlighting value conflicts. Help students develop a self concept for social change by highlighting inconsistencies between moral values for justice and the unjust social realities caused by institutionalized prejudice.

Plous, Scott. (2002). *Understanding Prejudice and discrimination*. Columbus, OH: McGraw-Hill Humanities/Social Sciences/Languages.

A valuable anthology on the topic of prejudice that combines classic and contemporary essays with research articles, opinion polls, legal decisions, news reports, and personal narratives.

Takaki, Ronald. (2008). *A different mirror: History of multicultural America*. Boston: Little, Brown and Company.

This is an essential multicultural history of the United States that tells of the viewpoints, struggles and contributions of marginalized peoples.

Tatum, Beverly Daniel. (2003). *“Why are all the Black kids sitting together in the cafeteria?” And other conversations about race*. New York: BasicBooks.

This is a life-changing book about promoting racial identity development for social change. At the center is an understanding of what it means to be a white person or a person of color in a race-conscious society.

Websites

Anti-Defamation League Interfaith Calendar

http://www.adl.org/education/calendar_of_observances.asp

An interfaith calendar of observances to increase awareness of religious and ethnic festivals and obligations.

Anti-Defamation League Curriculum Connections

http://www.adl.org/education/curriculum_connections/

A collection of lesson plans for K-12 dealing with prejudice and social justice issues. Topics include Anti-Semitism and Judaism, Hate and Extremism, Immigration, Disabilities, Racism, Religious Diversity, and Sexism.

Poverty Awareness and Cost of Living Resources

These are resources that help students gain a realistic perspective about the plight of the working poor in the U.S. and the need for living wages.

A Place at the Table, A Catholic Recommitment to Overcome Poverty and to Respect the Dignity of All God's Children

<http://www.usccb.org/sdwp/placeatthetable/>

Provides educational materials for solidarity with persons struggling in poverty.

United States Department of Labor - Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) Wage Laws

<http://www.dol.gov/whd/flsa/index.htm>

Teaching Tolerance Calculating the Poverty Line

<http://www.tolerance.org/activity/calculating-poverty-line>

Teaching Tolerance Family Budget Worksheet

http://www.tolerance.org/sites/default/files/documents/TT_handout_familyoffourchart-1.pdf

Minnesota Family Wage & Budget Calculator

JOBS NOW Coalition

<http://www.jobsnowcoalition.org/index.asp?SEC={F690DE79-0D59-40E0-B3C6-275C7989B18A}&Type=COSTLIVING>

Poverty in America Living Wage Calculator

<http://www.livingwage.geog.psu.edu/>

Poverty USA

Catholic Campaign for Human Development

<http://www.usccb.org/cchd/povertyusa/>

Family Housing Fund, Twin Cities, MN

“Working Doesn’t Always Pay for a Home” factsheet that compares worker’s wages to housing costs

http://www.fhfund.org/educational_materials_fact_sheets.htm

AFL-CIO Executive PayWatch Database

<http://www.aflcio.org/corporatewatch/paywatch/ceou/database.cfm>

Catholic Campaign to End the Use of the Death Penalty

<http://www.usccb.org/deathpenalty/index.shtml>

Catholic Social Teaching Resources

Office of Social Justice, Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis

http://www.osjspm.org/catholic_social_teaching.aspx

Provides various resources for integrating Catholic Social Teaching with issues of social injustice.

Government Spending Details

<http://www.usgovernmentspending.com/classic.html#usgs30230>

A resource that compiles U.S. government spending statistics into tables and charts so students can see our nation’s spending priorities: pensions, healthcare, education, defense, welfare, transportation, administrative costs

Poverty and Racism: Overlapping Threats to the Common Good

Catholic Charities USA Poverty in America Issue Brief

<http://www.catholiccharitiesusa.org/NetCommunity/Document.Doc?id=614>

Project Implicit

<https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/demo/background/index.jsp>

Implicit Association Tests (IAT) help students gain greater awareness about their unconscious preferences and beliefs. Tests available measure biases associated with: skin-tone, religion, gender, age, ability, nationality, and body image.

The University of Southern California Shoah Foundation

Seven Voices from History

<http://college.usc.edu/vhi/education/livinghistories/>

Seven complete multimedia lessons for the 9-12 grade classrooms. Each lesson includes a downloadable 30-minute survivor testimonies and handouts with activities and discussion questions. Topics include: Eyewitness to History, Power of Resistance, Deprivation and Perseverance, Survival and Loss, Responsibility and Justice, Choices of Courage, and Standing Firm in Faith.

Starpower – Simulation Experience of Social Stratification and Inequality and Discussion Questions

<http://www.understandingrace.org/resources/pdf/racehighschoolteachersguide.pdf>

In **RACE: A Teachers Guide for High School**, American Anthropological Association, 2007

Available on pp 53-60

Torture is a Moral Issue: A Catholic Study Guide

<http://www.usccb.org/sdwp/TortureIsAMoralIssueCatholicStudyGuide.pdf>

Understanding Prejudice

<http://www.understandingprejudice.org/demos/>

A website with a variety of interactive exercise to help students learn about the nature of prejudice. Topics include advertisements and prejudice, ambivalent sexism, knowledge of Native American history and contemporary life, and how segregation takes hold.

<http://www.teachingthelevees.org/index.php> HBO Documentary and curriculum packet on “When the Levees Broke” exposing the multi-layered aftermath of Hurricane Katrina

Video Resources available on DVD or Web-based

30 Days TV Series

<http://www.fxnetworks.com/shows/originals/30days/>

A reality TV series created by Morgan Spurlock, inspired by his film *Super Size Me* (2004) and his attempt to spend 30 days eating only McDonald’s food. In each *30 Days* episode someone spends 30 days immersed in a particular lifestyle that challenges their negative prejudices.

Most videos are available to view free at

http://video.tvguide.com/Results.aspx?primary=Shows&show=30%20Days&length=fullepisode&display_mode=details&pageno=6

Recommended episodes that promote solidarity and prejudice reduction

Season One

Episode 1 Minimum Wage (June 2005)

Episode 2 Anti-Aging (June 2005)

Episode 3 Muslims (June 2005)

Season Two

Episode 1 Immigration Life (July 2006)

Episode 2 Outsourcing Life (August 2006)

Episode 5 Pro-choice exposed to Pro-life Maternity Home (August 2006)

Episode 6 Prison Life (August 2006)

Season Three

Episode 1 Coal Mining (June 2008)

Episode 2 Living in a Wheelchair (June 2008)

Episode 6 Indian Reservation Life (July 2008)

30 Days: The Complete Series is available for purchase from Amazon.com for \$29.99 after May 18, 2010.

Race and Ethnicity

A Class Divided (1985)

PBS Frontline

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/divided/etc/view.html>

PBS Frontline examines Jane Elliott's famous blue-eyed/brown-eyed experience to teach people about institutionalized prejudice.

A Girl Like Me (2005)

http://www.mediathatmattersfest.org/watch/6/a_girl_like_me

Award-winning youth documentary by Kiri Davis about her findings re-conducting Dr. Kenneth and Mamie Phipps Clark's 1940s "doll test" to shed new light on how society affects children of color and how little has changed.

Ethnic Notions: Black people in white minds. (1986)

California Newsreel DVD \$49.95

<http://www.newsreel.org/nav/title.asp?tc=CN0026&s=ethnic%20notions>

An Emmy-winning documentary that takes viewers on a disturbing voyage through American history, tracing for the first time the deep-rooted stereotypes which have fueled anti-black prejudice. Through these images we can begin to understand the evolution of racial consciousness in America.

RACETALKS – Multiracial Learning Communities

<http://www.law.harvard.edu/faculty/guinier/racetalks/video.htm>

Web-based video, requires RealPlayer

A candid look at race discussion at Harvard Law School by Lani Guinier and Susan Sturm

Web-based video for RealPlayer

Web-based Supplemental Resource supporting healthy racial identity development

<http://www.racetalks.org/indexfla.html>

Race – The Power of An Illusion

<http://www.newsreel.org/nav/title.asp?tc=CN0149&s=race>

California Newsreel DVD \$90.00

Web-based Supplemental Resource http://www.pbs.org/race/000_General/000_00-Home.htm

Discussion Guide <http://www.newsreel.org/guides/race/race-guide-lores1.pdf>

Episode 1 -The Difference Between Us examines the contemporary science - including genetics - that challenges our common sense assumptions that human beings can be bundled into three or four fundamentally different groups according to their physical traits.

Episode 2- The Story We Tell uncovers the roots of the race concept in North America, the 19th century science that legitimated it, and how it came to be held so fiercely in the western imagination. The episode is an eye-opening tale of how race served to rationalize, even justify, American social inequalities as "natural."

Episode 3- The House We Live In asks, If race is not biology, what is it? This episode uncovers how race resides not in nature but in politics, economics and culture. It reveals how our social institutions "make" race by disproportionately channeling resources, power, status and wealth to white people.

Unjust Effects of Consumer Culture

The Corporation

http://www.thecorporation.com/index.cfm?page_id=46

Zeitgeist Films DVD \$139 or iTunes download \$9.99

Available for free on YouTube in 23 chapters

Award-winning insightful examination of the dominant institution of our time and advocating for corporate harm reduction.

The Corporation as Person Timeline

<http://www.ratical.com/corporations/ToPRaP.html>

The Story of Cap & Trade

<http://www.storyofstuff.org/capandtrade/>

A rapid-fire and entertaining examination of energy trading and the climate crisis.

The Story of Stuff Project

<http://www.storyofstuff.com/>

A rapid-fire and entertaining examination of the human and environmental costs of consumption.

The Merchants of Cool

<http://www.shoppbs.org/product/index.jsp?productId=1402970>

PBS Frontline DVD \$24.99

Web-based free access

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/cool/>

PBS Frontline examines how the culture of consumption exploits young people.