

Social Justice Watch 0224

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[Happy Birthday, W. E. B. Du Bois!](#)

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Dara Tafakari @TrulyTafakari · 14h

People push back when they're called "privileged" because once you acknowledge your privilege, there is an implicit responsibility to use it to help those who don't enjoy equal or fair treatment.

8

291

770

↑



Dara Tafakari @TrulyTafakari · 14h

There's also resistance to being told how privilege positions you as a beneficiary of systems of oppression, whether or not you yourself think you personally "oppress" people.

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↑

TRUDY Retweeted



Dara Tafakari

@TrulyTafakari

So "I'm not privileged" is another way of saying "I'm not responsible or culpable for your lack of equal treatment." It's a head-in-the-sand reaction.

People push back when they're called "privileged" because once you acknowledge your privilege, there is an implicit responsibility to use it to help those who don't enjoy equal or fair treatment.

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[source](#)

Not all White people

uphold White supremacy;
but White supremacy upholds all White people.

Not all cis men

uphold patriarchy;
but patriarchy upholds all cis men.

Not all heterosexuals

uphold heteronormativity;
but heteronormativity upholds all heterosexuals.

Not all able-bodies

uphold ableism;
but ableism upholds all able-bodies.

Not all the rich

uphold classism;
but classism upholds all the rich.

Not all the privileged

@farida.d.author
uphold systems of oppression;
but systems of oppression are upheld
by the silence of those it privileges. -Farida D.

<https://www.facebook.com/ARENWashington/photos/a.2589980151276347/281711380151276347/>



hssanya

Did you know that after they switched to **blind auditions**, major symphony orchestras hired women between 30% to 55% more? Before bringing in "blind auditions" with a screen to conceal the candidate, women in the top 5 major orchestras made up less than 5% of the musicians performing.



shwetanarayan

so I believe it was actually more complicated than that, in interesting ways. Because at first, when they did blind auditions, they were **STILL** hiring more men.

...Then they put down a carpet, so that high heels didn't clack on the floor, and BOOM women were suddenly getting hired.

The testers didn't even know that's what they were picking up on, which just goes to show how tiny of a cue it takes for misogyny to kick in.



isaacsapphire

The case of blind auditions for orchestras and how it dramatically changed the gender makeup of orchestras is a very illuminating example of gender bias, and an interesting possible way of countering it.

<https://www.facebook.com/WOMENSRIGHTSNEWS/photos/a.2045420629215/>



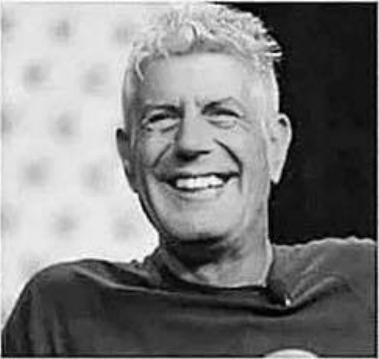
Charlotte Clymer  

@cmclymer

Every transphobic argument can basically be boiled down to: "I actually don't know the science at all or have a good argument here, but trans people challenge my long held view of the world and it's very uncomfortable and everyone should be expected to move around my discomfort."

<https://www.facebook.com/ProtectTransKids/photos/a.120867066055577/292069111111111/>

This is what depression looks like...



<https://www.facebook.com/WOMENSRIGHTSNEWS/posts/5160765650632456>

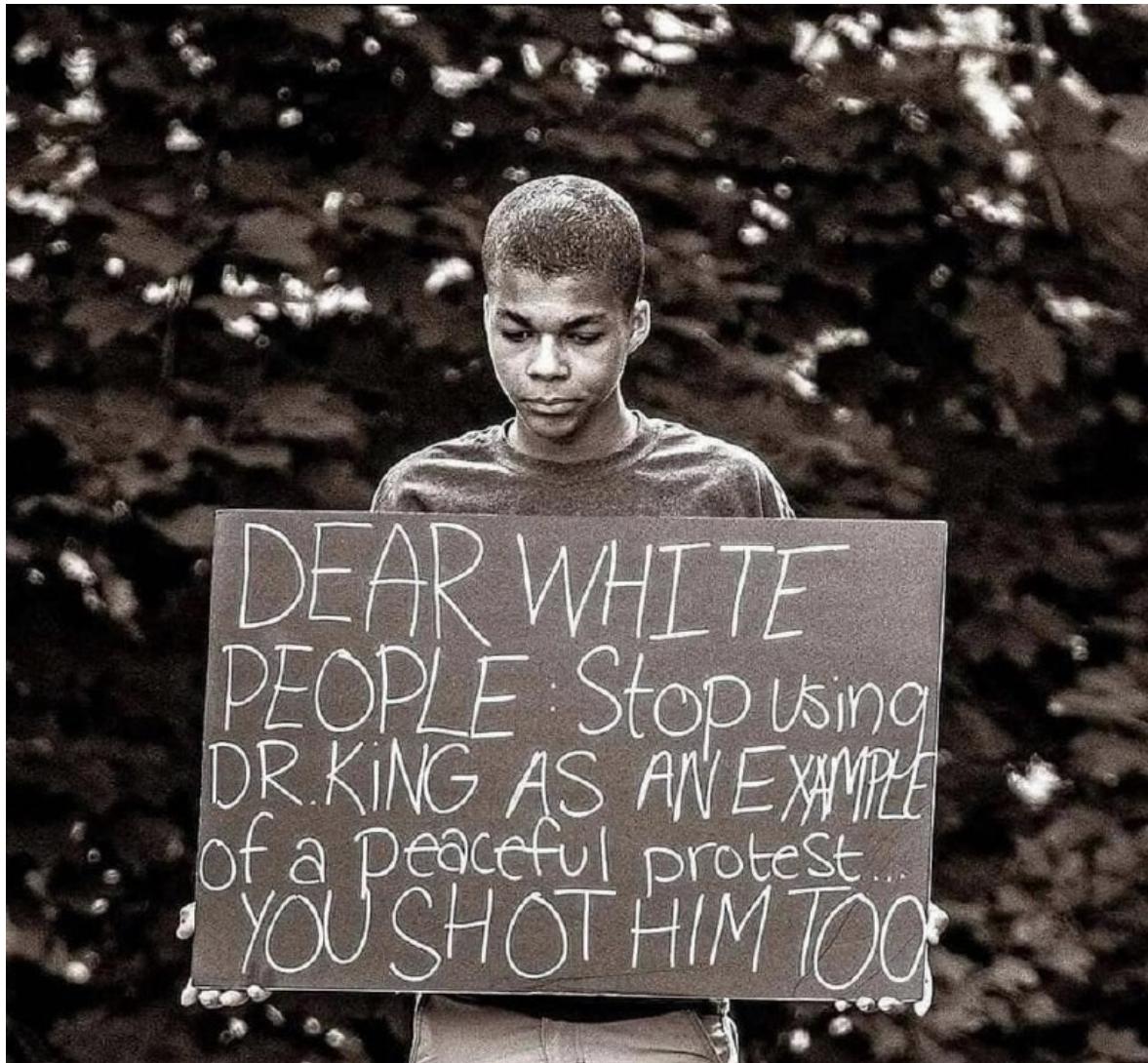
Tips for Intersex Inclusive Language

Everyone is different! Here are our tips for how to talk about diverse sex characteristics respectfully.

Instead of	Say	Because
"Biological sex" or "Biological gender"	Sex traits	People are born with sex traits, including chromosomes, genitals, and reproductive organs, but these may not line up neatly into what most people think of as one "biological sex." Gender is social and cultural. Someone's gender may not correspond to what others expect based on their bodily sex traits, although society commonly ties sex and gender together.
"Born with ambiguous gender"	"Born with genitalia outside of the typical male/female binary"	Genitals do not determine gender, and we can never tell for sure what someone's gender will be by how they look when they are born. It's all up to the individual to figure out as they grow!
"Born both a man and a woman"	"Born intersex" or "born with different sex traits"	With most people's binary understanding of sex, this could imply a person was born with two sets of genitalia, which is not possible. It also assumes being a man or a woman depends on sex traits at birth (and implies these are the only two options!).
"Female/Male Chromosomes"	XX/XY chromosomes	Call parts what they are without gendering them. Many people who are women have XX chromosomes, and many don't. Some people with XX chromosomes don't have a female gender identity. Intersex people can also have chromosome patterns that are not XX or XY.
"Female/Male Genitalia"	Vagina/Penis (... if you really need to be talking about someone's genitals in the first place)	Body parts don't have genders. You wouldn't say "male arm" or "female arm," so why name any other parts this way? Remember that intersex and transgender people can have sex traits often associated with a different gender.
"Born a Boy/Girl"	Assigned male or female at birth	Babies are assigned a gender based on what their genitals look like. Those assignments might not always be accurate once the child grows up.
"Both sexes/genders"	Multiple sexes/genders	There are more than two genders, and many combinations of sex traits.
"What it's like to be intersex"	"My intersex experience"	No two intersex experiences are alike! Avoid generalizing as much as possible.

#4INTERSEX





<https://www.facebook.com/alliesacademy/photos/a.1830296213932952/2500414>



meloromantics

honest to god question why the fuck is Wonder Woman totally free of body hair?? no woman raised on an island without men is gonna shave her damn pits what the hell



atticusthegreat

I thought you did those things for yourself, not for the approval of men?



meloromantics

half the population of adults does not up an decide to spend hundreds of dollars and dozens of hours of time at risk of bleeding, scabbing, scarring and infection “just because,” “for yourself.”

women shave their legs and under the arms

women shave their legs and under the arms because of patriarchy and capitalism, which makes it a direct result of gendered socialization. body hair on women is perceived as unclean, barbaric, or disgusting as a direct result of gendered socialization. socialization is not an accident, it's not coincidence. the hair grows on our bodies the SAME as it does on men, it has the same biological function as it does for men.

a quick google search will tell you that women didn't start shaving under their arms in the modern western world until about World War I, when changes in fashion led to exposed underarms and razor manufacturers took that opportunity to double their profits by suggesting that cleanly shaven armpits were fashionable and high class. the trend trickled down from there, and a similar process repeated about 40 years later with leg shaving, which was adopted by pinup models,

shaving, which was adopted by pinup models, sexualizing the practice in addition to the coding of class status.

I used to claim that I shaved "for myself," using the fact that I BEGGED my mother to let me start shaving at age 11 as evidence of my "choice." all that that proves is that I was socialized to be repulsed by female body hair before I even had my own. I had never known an older woman who didn't shave, I had never seen a woman who didn't shave on TV or in movies, and the only unshaven women I heard about were the butts of jokes, "bad" women who were very, very explicitly expressed as women not to respect or model myself after.

claiming that you “freely choose” to conform to the only model for being a human woman that you have been presented with from birth is not a true choice.

www.facebook.com/WOMENSRIGHTSNEWS/photos/a.204542062921531/515113400000000/

***Calling
yourself out
on your own
bullshit in
order to grow
into a better
human being
is self-love.***

FEMALECOLLECTIVE

<https://www.facebook.com/feminist.revolution2020/photos/gm.29060792663431>

WHY WE NEED DIVERSITY IN CHILDREN'S LITERATURE



@EVERYDAYRACISM

@DIVERSEKIDLIT

**BOOKS SHAPE THE WAY
OUR CHILDREN VIEW THE
WORLD. WE (PARENTS,
CAREGIVERS, TEACHERS,
AUNTIES, FRIENDS) HAVE
THE POWER TO SHOW THE
KIDS IN OUR LIVES WHY
DIVERSITY IN THEIR
BOOKS MATTERS.
LET'S SHOW UP FOR THEM**



WHY SHOULD I CARE?

I OFTEN HEAR THAT IF ONE DOESN'T HAVE CHILDREN OR TEACH CHILDREN, THEN DIVERSE KIDS LIT IS NOT IMPORTANT FOR THEM. THIS COULDN'T BE FURTHER FROM THE TRUTH. WE ARE ALL RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CHILDREN IN OUR LIVES.

CHILDREN SEEING THEMSELVES IN THEIR BOOKS IS IMPORTANT, BUT JUST AS IMPORTANT IS THAT KIDS WHO ARE OVER-REPRESENTED IN BOOKS ALSO SEE BLACK AND BROWN CHILDREN IN THEIR STORIES.



THE NUMBERS US

**IN 2018, THE UNIVERSITY OF
WISCONSIN COOPERATIVE
CHILDREN'S BOOK CENTER
REPORTED THESE NUMBERS IN
REPRESENTATION IN KID'S LIT:**

50%	WHITE
27%	ANIMALS
10%	BLACK
7%	ASIAN/PACIFIC ISLANDER
5%	LATINX
1%	NATIVE AMERICAN

THE NUMBERS UK

A STUDY FROM THE CENTRE FOR LITERACY IN PRIMARY EDUCATION IN 2018 DISCOVERED THAT ONLY 7% OF CHILDREN'S BOOKS PUBLISHED IN THE UK FEATURED STORIES OF BLACK, ASIAN, OR OTHER ETHNIC MINORITY BACKGROUNDS.

FOR MAIN CHARACTERS IN KID'S BOOKS, THIS NUMBER WAS EVEN LOWER - ONLY 4%. WHILE THE MAIN WHITE CHARACTERS IN KID'S BOOKS WERE AT 54% AND ANIMALS WERE AT 42%.

THESE NUMBERS SHOW THAT MORE WORK NEEDS TO BE DONE TO RECTIFY THIS, GIVEN THAT 33.1% OF STUDENTS IN ENGLAND IDENTIFY AS BLACK, ASIAN OR FROM ANOTHER ETHNIC BACKGROUND.

ONE OF THE MOST FREQUENT QUESTIONS WE RECEIVE FROM NON-BIPOC CARETAKERS IS THIS:

CAN I TALK TO MY CHILDREN ABOUT RACE?

AS PARENTS & CAREGIVERS, IT'S OUR JOB TO LISTEN & GUIDE OUR CHILDREN WHEN THEY ASK US QUESTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH RACE. IN THE CURRENT TIMES WE ARE LIVING IN, OUR CHILDREN ARE CURIOUS & WANT TO KNOW THE WHYS & HOWS.

RATHER THAN SILENCE THEM WITH RESPONSES SUCH AS "YOU'RE TOO YOUNG" OR "IT DOESN'T CONCERN US" WE CAN BE RESOURCES SO THAT THEY MAY ENGAGE IN CRITICAL THINKING EVEN AT A YOUNG AGE.



WHAT CAN YOU DO?

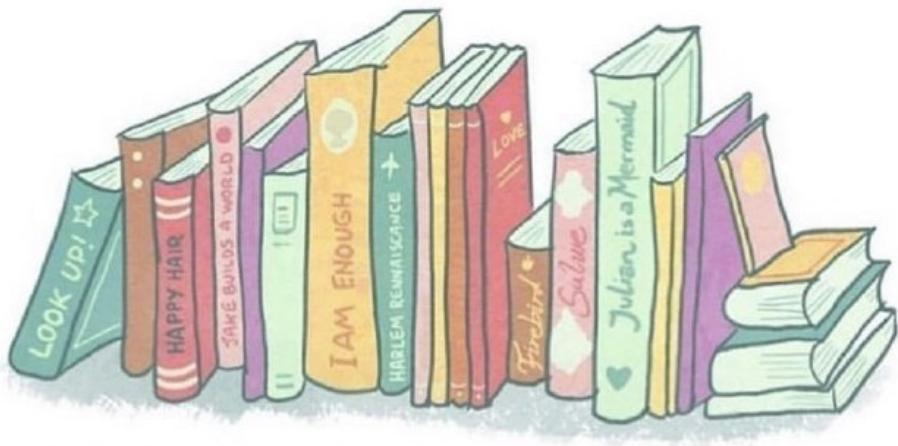
SUPPORT BIPOC CREATORS, WHICH INCLUDE AUTHORS, ILLUSTRATORS, BOOK REVIEWERS AND CONTENT CREATORS FOCUSING ON KIDS LIT.

TOO OFTEN, BIPOC CREATORS (UNLESS ONE IS ALREADY A CELEBRITY) HAVE TO WORK TWICE AS HARD JUST TO MAKE THEIR VOICE HEARD. FOLLOW #OWNVOICES AND USE A CRITICAL LENS WHEN PURCHASING BOOKS FOR THE CHILDREN IN YOUR LIVES.

#OWNVOICES

@EVERYDAYRACISM_

@DIVERSEKIDSLIT



ACCOUNTS TO FOLLOW

@DIVERSEKIDLIT

@FORMY_BOOKS

@DIVERSE_KIDS_BOOKS

@MIRRORMEWRITE

@THATSMYBOOKDIONNE

@STILL_I_RISE_STORYTELLING

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telegra.ph/Happy-Birthday-W-E-B-Du-Bois-02-23

Telegraph

Happy Birthday, W. E. B. Du Bois!

I had the good fortune to see Dr. Morris give a version of this talk a few years ago, and it is one of my favorites. If you haven't seen it before, take a few minutes today and check it out.

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“W. E. B. Du Bois and his Atlanta School of Sociology pioneered scientific sociology in the United States.” – Dr. Aldon Morris

I had the good fortune to see Dr. Morris give a version of this talk a few years ago, and it is one of my favorites. If you haven’t seen it before, take a few minutes today and check it out.



Also, go check out the #DuBoisChallenge on Twitter! Data visualization nerds are re-making Du Bois’ pioneering charts and graphs on race and inequality in the United States.

Evan Stewart is an assistant professor of sociology at University of Massachusetts Boston. You can follow him on Twitter.

