THE HUMAN LIBRARY

Don’t Judge A Book By Its Cover

GLENDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
A Maricopa Community College
THE HUMAN LIBRARY AT
GLENDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Team Members

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• Kirt Shineman (curriculum and assessment)
A GLOBAL MOVEMENT

http://humanlibrary.org

Go to web site on personal device
WHAT IS THE HUMAN LIBRARY?

The Human Library works much like a traditional library, except...

The Books are people confronted with prejudices and stereotypes and willing to lead a discussion about discrimination and social exclusion.
READERS......

Come and borrow a
Book for a limited period of time.
After reading a Book, they return
It to the library and — if they want
they can borrow another Book.
There is one major difference:
in the Human Library the Books are people,
and the Books and Readers enter into a personal dialogue.
TEACHING GOALS:

- Cultivate an active commitment to honest and appropriate disclosure for public commitment and advocacy.

- Learn concepts and theories of interpersonal communication and/or cultural diversity in reference to stereotyping/prejudices.

- Develop openness to new civic ideas for reducing prejudices.

- Develop ability the to distinguish between facts and opinions concerning prejudices, stereotypes and perceptions.
## COURSE PARTICIPATION

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<th>Course Code</th>
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<tr>
<td>COM 110</td>
<td>Interpersonal Comm</td>
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<td>COM 225</td>
<td>Public Speaking</td>
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<td>EDU/HUM 292</td>
<td>Art of Storytelling</td>
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SUGGESTED PRE-ACTIVITY

Implicit Association Test (IAT)
- Harvard implicit text association/ PROJECT IMPLICIT
- https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/

IN CLASS-DISCUSSION: With their results they discussed a set of questions both orally and written.
ONLINE BOOKING TOOL

• Schedule Books
  • Times of availability
  • Limit number of bookings
• Reservations by Readers
  • Book descriptions, photos as available
  • Session availability
• Rules, permissions, ADA requests
• Email reminders
SOME OF THE BOOK TITLES

Persian Gulf/Iraqi War Veteran
A Weight Loss Journey: Half My Former Self
From PTSD to Grace
Recovery One Day at a Time
I Didn’t Rob the Cradle; The Cradle Robbed Me
I Had No Idea I Was Oppressed! The Musings of an American Muslim Woman
Targeted Delivery – Destination: Scottsdale, AZ
Where There's A Wheel, There's a Way
“God Has a Plan for You”
The Interpreter (Surviving the Holocaust)

Gay Woman, Activist, Educator
A Grateful Life
Personal Metamorphosis
An Orphan Grows Up
Love Conquers Tragedy
Silent Living
Recovered Criminal
Accomplished - and Yes, Blind
A FEW BIOS....

The Price of an Education

I smell something. It's not a cigar so it must be a ni-gar. This is one of the comments Bruce heard on a daily basis as he went to class at a small east Texas high school. Being one of the first Black Americans to attend this school provided many challenges. One day as he entered the locker room after basketball practice he found his shoes in the shower filled with hot water and his shirt ripped up and tied around the shower nozzle. ..........

My Love Became My Nightmare

I am a survivor. Not of battle, war, or disease, but of a love gone wrong. A relationship twisted by violence and control. I am a survivor of domestic violence. I am one in three women and I am lucky, lucky to have made it out alive.
Jeanne

Her name is Red, and she didn’t wake up one day and tell herself, “I think I want to be a prostitute, drug addict, criminal, and homeless.” When she first was introduced to prostitution, her boyfriend told her, “If you love me, you will do this “date” so we can get continue to get high.” So, she did. She had no idea what she had just done. Life would take a turn that could never completely be reversed. Life then became very abusive for Red.

“Targeted Delivery – Destination: Scottsdale, AZ” by D. Logan

A high ranking city official who wished he hadn’t opened his mail one horrific day. Little did he know that he was “targeted” for death in a shocking event that paralyzed the government in one of the richest communities in America; Scottsdale, Arizona. It’s the story of hate, love and a life-altering experience that received extensive news coverage in Arizona but remained a mystery to areas outside state boundaries.
My name is Brenda and I have almost always been afflicted with obesity, America’s number one health issue. I didn’t start my life as obese, but I feel like I was doomed from the start.
ASSIGNMENT DURING THE HUMAN LIBRARY

During the event the Readers:

- Listened & asked questions
- Engaged the Books
- Some used a worksheet to guide their “reading” prior to completing the reflection
POST-ACTIVITY

EXIT ASSESSMENT form and questionnaire

CLASS FOLLOW-UP: In the class, Readers examined what they experienced at the Human Library using the following prompts:

- Recollect specific stories you heard at the event and what emotions did you experience while listening to the stories?
- Why is it important for teachers to expand and stretch their perceptions of others? Give specific examples.
- What types of ideas emerged during the event which we can use to better our community?
- How can what you learned be used to improve civic responsibility?
- Honors Class: Identify a specific issue that resonated with you (refugees, homelessness, sex trafficking, immigration) and locate 5 resources that support your issue in our community. Contact one of the resources and find out how you can volunteer.

*The class chose one agency to help (due to time) and organized a blanket and sweater drive as their class project.*
ASSESSMENT AND INTENDED OUTCOMES

Impacting intercultural learning—indicated by comments collected from exit surveys

Three specific learning priorities:
1. enriched public life and public discourse on our campus and in our learning communities

2. it promoted a safe educational exploration of prejudices, stereotypes, cultural diversity in union with our courses and course curriculum

3. advanced our students’ understanding of how they can think more critically about civic engagement in our county and state democratic processes
42 Human Books (of 45 in system: 1 Bestseller canceled in advance; 2 Books did not show up for event)

552 Readers (students) participated

1042 sessions booked
- 135 drop-ins (12.95% of all sessions)
- 101 no-shows (9.69% of sessions)
- 73 cancellations (most made by Readers in advance of event)
DATA

161 exit surveys completed (15.45 %)

- average age 24
- total female 96
- total male 65

How much did you like the idea of the Human Library?

- really like HL – 5: 129 (80%)
- like HL – 4: 27 (17%)
- neutral – 3: 4
- dislike HL – 2: 1
- really dislike HL – 1: 0

Have you learned anything new in "reading" a Book (or several Books) from the Human Library?

- yes, learned something 148 (92%)
- no - didn't learn 13 (8%)
SPECIAL THANKS

Eric Leshinskie- Dean of Instruction, Glendale Community College

Dr. Bernie Ronan - Associate Vice Chancellor for Public Affairs

Alberto Olivas - Director of Center for Civic Participation & Curriculum Infusion Project

To the following departments:

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