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To get Word versions of these documents you can contact the presenters directly.

Rachel Foyt (Rachel.Foyt@SMGOV.NET), Chelsie Harris (chelsie.harris@sdcounty.ca.gov), Julie Winkelstein (jwinkels@utk.edu)
Rachel Foyt Documents
Human Library Ad
Human Library Appointment Card
Human Library Exit Evaluation
Human Library Catalog
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Human Library Survey
Living books will share a significant personal experience or a particular perspective on life. A Muslim, a homeless advocate, a transvestite, and a Communist are just a few of the people who will be available for 30-minute personal conversations.
| Title of Book: | • Checkouts are for 30 minutes.  
| Time of reservation: | • One renewal if there are no holds and the Book agrees.  
| Table number: |  
| Title of Book: |  
| Time of reservation: |  
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| Title of Book: |  
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SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY

LIVING LIBRARY PROJECT
Sample Questions

- Why did you want to tell your story?
- What makes you typical and not typical?
- How do you think your life would be different if you didn’t live in Southern California?
- What is the most rewarding experience you have had?
- What has been your biggest obstacle?
- Do you have a defining moment? What is it?
Santa Monica Public Library’s Living Library Project
Exit Evaluation

Training

• Was the training helpful?
• How did you feel about the Skype format for the training?
• Was there anything you wish had been covered?

Conversations

• Was 30 minutes a good length for the checkouts?
• Did you need the 30 minute break?
• Was 12-4 a good time of day?
• How was your location? Was the courtyard too sunny, too shady, or too noisy?
• Was there anything you’d change about the set up?
• Did the Readers have their own questions?

Guidelines

• Did the guidelines make you feel protected?
• Is there anything you’d add to them?

Overall

• Is there anything you’d change about the event?

We had a number of comments on the surveys about how much the Readers enjoyed talking with you. Generally the Readers didn’t come for the program they just walked up to the table or staff approached them about checking out a living book. Readers said they would like the opportunity to experience the Living Library more frequently.
**Atheist** - This woman grew up a typical 1950s teenager who loved rhythm and blues. She went to church every Sunday until she started college, something not many girls from working class families did at that time. She woke up and came alive during the movements of the ‘60s and ‘70s, the era in which she became an atheist and communist.

**Bicycle Advocate** - This bicyclist grew up bicycling in the Netherlands. However, when she moved to the US, she became auto-dependent. Then, in her 50s, she became very involved with the Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition and when her car needed repairs she simply got rid of it. She has been meeting her transit needs by bicycle ever since. Now a steering committee member of Santa Monica Speak, she is finally seeing the fruits of bicycle advocacy labor in Santa Monica’s Bicycle Action Plan, and the plans to turn her street into a bicycle-priority Neighborhood Greenway.

**Communist** - A member of the Communist Party USA for over 30 years, this woman is married with four grown children. She currently works full-time for the Communist Party USA. She has been an activist since high school, a member of MECHA during her college years, and has participated in many social justice movements, local, state and national elections. She is a member of the National Board and National Committee of the Communist Party USA.

**Big Blue Bus Driver** - This Bus Driver, AKA Motor Coach Operator, has been with the City of Santa Monica for five years. The favorite part of her job is the opportunity to greet and meet new and familiar faces each day. In addition to driving full-time, she is a parent, a second year law student at Abraham Lincoln University Law School, and is currently training for the 2012 L.A. Marathon. In her opinion, Santa Monica is one of the best cities in America in which to live, work and play.

**Hypnotherapist** - This Master Certified, Clinical Hypnotherapist has practiced Medical Hypnotherapy for 14 years. She is a specialist in fertility, pregnancy, birth, and medical support hypnotherapy. Working closely with medical and alternative medicine specialists, she helps clients reduce or eliminate pain and nausea, and release fears and phobias of giving birth, needles, anesthesia, surgery, and medical and dental procedures.

**Homeless Advocate** - After a psychiatric hospital discharged this woman to the streets in 2001, she found her way to the Ocean Park Community Center (OPCC), a Santa Monica based social service agency and received the support necessary to rebuild her life. Now employed by OPCC, she builds community bridges, recruits and supervises volunteers, and speaks on the agency’s behalf. She is honored to be able to represent the agency that helped her save her own life.

**Homeschooler** - This mom has been actively homeschooling in the Los Angeles area since 1999. She schooled her son from preschool through high school graduation, and this September began homeschooling him for his college-level studies. She leads free workshops for parents interested in teaching their children and loves getting others excited about taking control of their child’s education.

**Muslim** - Born in Morocco, of an Algerian mother and Moroccan father, this Muslim man is married to a Tennessean, and has an 8-month old daughter. He is a real estate agent who speaks four languages, and has a passion for travel and golf. He is a practicing Muslim who prays five times a day, fasts during the month of Ramadan, and hopes to go to Pilgrimage next year.

**Police detective** – Want to turn the tables and question a Police Detective who has spent over half of his life working in law enforcement? Interview a detective who has worked for the Santa Monica Police Department for 24 years. Find out what it is like to investigate Narcotics, Gangs, Computer and Cell Phone Crimes, Fraud, Robbery, and Homicide. If you can think of a crime, he has probably investigated it - but not the way you see it on TV.

**Teen** - An African-American college freshman who is majoring in Linguistics and Asian Languages/Cultures. She spent a summer in Japan and lived with a Japanese family. Before graduating high school, she was an active Teen Advisory Council member, and won the 2011 Volunteer-of-the-Year award for her hard work and dedication to the Santa Monica library community.

**Transvestite** - This man describes himself as a “pale, skinny, Irish transvestite with great hair and a terrific sense of style. Looks good in a shirt and tie, but feels better in a frock and tights.” He is a cross-dresser who can share photos and answer questions about what it’s like to be a straight man in a dress and heels.

**Union Representative** - This second generation City Employee was born and raised in Santa Monica. He is currently the Public Safety Systems Analyst responsible for all Fire Department Technology including the Electrocardiogram (ECG, EKG) machines which can transfer electrocardiogram wirelessly to the hospital, saving minutes in patient care and hence saving lives. This is his third year as ATA President and fifth year on the board. He has negotiated two ATA contracts with the City. ATA represents over 250 employees making ATA one of the largest bargaining units in the City.
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<td>Bicyclist</td>
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Santa Monica Public Library Program Survey

Living Library Project         September 10, 2011

Overall evaluation of the program
___ Excellent   ___ Very Good   ___ Ok   ___ Poor

How did you hear about this program?
___ Newspaper    ___ Library Poster     ___ Twitter    ___ Website
___ Seascape    ___ Calendar of Events     ___ Facebook    ___ City TV

Other (specify) _______________________________________________

What living book/s did you checkout today?

What living books would you suggest for future Living Library events?

Comments:

Santa Monica Public Library Program Survey

Living Library Project         September 10, 2011

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What living book/s did you checkout today?

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Comments:
Chelsie Harris Documents
  Book Survey
  Flyer
  Library Card
  Library Catalog
  Library Schedule
  Reader Survey
Human Library - Living Book Survey

Thank you for participating in our first Human Library! Please take a few moments to fill out this survey, which will help us with future Human Library events.

1. Do you think sharing personal stories can help lessen prejudice in diverse communities?
   □ Yes  □ No

2. What were some of the most interesting questions you were asked?
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________

3. What impact did this experience have on you?
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________

4. Suggestions and other feedback:
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________

People build libraries, libraries build communities. Thank you for helping us build the best library in the nation!
Challenge your preconceptions at our...

**HUMAN LIBRARY**

**Saturday, October 26 from 1 - 3 p.m.**

Check out a Living Book for a 15 minute conversation. Listen to their unique story, ask questions, and help put an end to stereotyping and prejudice!

Book “titles” will include: Transgender & HIV+, Born Into Islam, Living with Mental Illness, and many more!

Refreshments will be provided.

Meet me at the Human Library!

Rancho San Diego Library • 11555 Via Rancho San Diego • El Cajon, CA 92019
(619) 660-5370 • www.sdcl.org
Guidelines and Sample Questions

It is expected that all Living Books will be returned in the same condition they were in at the time of checkout. Treat the borrowed book with respect! The Living Book can choose to be returned early if they feel that they are not treated properly.

Sample Questions

Why did you decide to participate in the Human Library?

What do people assume about you and others who share this identity?

How has this identity affected you in your personal and professional life?

What are some of the most rewarding experiences you have had because of this identity?

What are some of the everyday obstacles you have faced because of this identity?

If there was one thing you could change about how people related to this identity, what would it be?

What do you enjoy most about the community that exists around this identity?

Do you think people with this identity are realistically represented in movies, music, books and news stories?

What is your favorite book and why?
Human Library Catalog

The Human Library is designed to build bridges among diverse populations. Living Books (people with a particular life experience or story to tell) are available for you to check out for 15 minutes at a time.

**African American Civil Rights Activist:** My family was the first African-American family to move to the El Cajon area fifty years ago. As a substitute teacher for the Cajon Valley School District, I faced discrimination by students and faculty alike. I took action by serving as Co-Captain of the Affirmative Action Committee for local schools. I fought every day to sensitize people. Sometimes you have to buck what's going on and say, 'There's a way.'

**Bipolar Disorder:** I'm a Peer Support Specialist who has lived with bipolar disorder for over 20 years.

**Blind:** I am a current dialysis patient and have been legally blind for about two years. My fiancé has been a diabetic since she was 11 months old. She is a transplant recipient of a pancreas and a kidney along with other health issues and is legally blind. Both of us are ambassadors and advocates for the American Diabetes Association as well as for the Braille Institute. We also have other projects going on to advocate for the visually impaired and for the blind.

**Homeless:** I wore many hats in the past, making at one time $100,000 a year. Two life changing events brought down my world. I gave up on everything I had and became homeless for two and a half years. It wasn't all bad, as I felt I was there to help others. I now have a home, and help other homeless people through the Hope for the Homeless ministry.

**Iraqi Refugee:** I came to the East County area with my teenage son 4 years ago as a result of the turmoil in Iraq. After leaving Iraq and before coming here I spent two difficult years in Syria. My big challenge has been to start a new life in this country. I hope to become a citizen next year.

**Jewish American:** I am a Jewish woman who has lived in San Diego for the past 42 years. At times I have been involved in the Jewish community and at other times not so much. Either way, I feel a strong inner connection to the religion.

**Transgender, HIV+, Foster Youth:** Foster kids may sound like troubled youth, but we can succeed like anyone else! In terms of being transgender, although I transitioned to another name, I am still the same person. In life we must learn never to judge others for who they are but rather what they do. I hope to only make an impact and help others on that same path.

**Living with Mental Illness:** I am a Peer Support Specialist with Recovery Innovations. My diagnosis is Mixed Anxiety and Depression, a C.O.D. (Co-Occurring Disorder) which is the condition of suffering from a mental illness and a co-morbid substance abuse problem. I was fortunate enough to have the opportunity to combine my lifestyle of caring about people with a career that makes a significant positive impact on people’s lives.
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<th>Table</th>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Born Into Islam (Yad)</td>
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<td>Dyslexic (Joe)</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Gay, Married Teacher Librarian</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Homeless (Brianna Karp)</td>
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<td>Homeschooled Teen (Mariah)</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Lesbian (Suzi)</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Living with Mental Illness (Stephen)</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Pagan</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Queer Homeless Youth (Indie)</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Stand Up Comedian (Nick)</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Transgender &amp; HIV+ (Prizila)</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Undocumented Immigrant (Nancy)</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Vegan (Cairie)</td>
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</table>
Thank you for participating in our first Human Library! Please take a few moments to fill out this survey, which will help us with future Human Library events.

1. Did your experience today make you think about certain people/issues in a different way?
   □ Yes □ No

2. Do you think sharing personal stories can help lessen prejudice in diverse communities?
   □ Yes □ No

3. What did this program make you think about?
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________

4. Suggestions and other feedback:
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________

People build libraries, libraries build communities. Thank you for helping us build the best library in the nation!
Julie Ann Winkelstein Documents
ALA Human Library Card
ALA Human Library Readers Guide 2011
ALA Human Library Sign-out Sheet
Book Human Library Evaluation Form
Reader Human Library Evaluation Form
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<th>Name: ______________________________</th>
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<td>Book Loans</td>
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Transgender:
Are they mentally ill, born in the wrong body, deceitful, courageous, sex workers, homosexuals who can't deal with being gay, need the surgery to become a real man or woman, want to be the opposite gender? Victims?

White Male Senior Citizen:

Zine Librarian (collector and purveyor of punk ephemera):
Isn't a zine just like a blog? Should libraries shelve self-published materials? What if they're wrong or have illegal content?

We’d love your input. Please take the time to fill out an evaluation form, available at the Human Library table, and help us improve this project for future users.

Agreements
By signing up for a library card you agree to respect these guidelines:
• Write your name on the card and on the sign-in sheet.
• Choose one of the Book titles in this Catalog.
• Treat your Book with care: do not damage, tear out or bend pages, spill food or beverage on it or hurt its dignity in any way. You are responsible for preserving the condition of the Book.
• When your time is up (15-20 minutes per session), return your Book to the circulation desk. Select a new Book or ask about renewals.
• Return the Book in the same mental and physical condition in which you received it.
• Ask any questions you like. Books do not have to answer ones they consider too personal or rude. This is a conversation, and a unique opportunity to examine and test your preconceived notions about other people.

Some sample questions to get the conversation flowing:
• What kind of discrimination have you faced?
• How do people treat you when they find out you're a (fill in the blank)?
• What do you do that contributes to your stereotype?
• How long have you been a (fill in the blank, as appropriate)?
• Ask them about their feelings regarding specific terms and associations used in their Book description.

Welcome
Welcome to the Human Library. The purpose of this project is to promote dialogue, reduce prejudices and encourage understanding. Characterized by simplicity and a positive approach, the Human Library is a mobile library set up as a space for dialogue and interaction.

Visitors to a Human Library are given the opportunity to speak informally with “people on loan” (Books), this group being extremely varied in age, sex and cultural background. The Human Library enables groups to break stereotypes by challenging the most common prejudices in a positive and humorous manner.

Here’s how it works: Peruse this pamphlet, which serves as a catalog for the Books in the library. To find out whether a Book you wish to check out is available, look for its corresponding Book Card on the table. If the Card is there, the Book is available. If not, let a librarian know you’re waiting; the Book should be available within 20 minutes.

When you are ready to check out your first Book, let a librarian know and they will issue you a library card, ask you to sign the sign-in sheet, and connect you with your Book for a 15-20 minute dialogue session. Once you’ve returned that Book, you may check out another Book if one is available. Each time you check out a Book, the title of the Book and the time will be written on your library card.

Our Book titles are listed below, followed by traits often associated
with them. These traits may or may not be true, but they persist nonetheless. Please note that this list may be subject to changes since printing, so check for available Book Cards and ask the librarians about updates.

**Anishinabe/Ojibwe Indian:**
Are they in tune with the earth, exempt from income taxes, benefiting from casinos, stoic, mystics, passive, humorless, living in tipis, riders of horses?

**Blind, Long-haired, Radical Music Snob:**
Are they on welfare? Are they nonjudgmental? Are they hard to get along with? Do they have close friends? Do they need help with everything? Are they trusting? Are they too radical to be a librarian?

**Catholic:**
Are they guilt-ridden idolaters who know nothing about the Bible? Worship saints and the Virgin Mary? Conservative? Are they pro-life, anti-gay marriage, celibate? Do they believe the Pope and the Church are infallible?

**Choctaw/Okie/Handicapped Administrator:**

**Civil Rights Activist:**
Are they out of touch with current events? Flaky? Courageous? Well-connected? Are they idealists? Fighting battle that's already been won?

**Corporate Manager:**

**Environmentalist:**
Are they anti-progress, extremists, friendly, hippies, informed, outdoor freaks, recyclers, tree huggers, nature-lovers who wear old clothes? Do they read a lot?

**Feminist:**
Are they militant, stuck in identity politics, man-haters, stuck in the past, by definition 'women'? Intimidating? Strong? Aggressive?

**Graduate student:**
Are they arrogant, over-educated, obsessed, esoteric, love the sound of their own voice? Out of touch with the real world? Hiding from the job market?

**Herbivore:**
Are they tree-huggers, hippies, health-conscious, pale, pushy, deficient in vitamins, preachy, aggressive, judgmental? Morally superior?

**Library and Information Science (LIS) PhD student:**
Are they boring squares? Do they take themselves too seriously? Are they trying to get special distinction for something anyone could do? What do they do, anyway? Are they crazy? Masochistic?

**Married to a Transwoman:**
Are they anti-divorce? Closet lesbians? Are they confused about their sexuality? Are they looking for a talk show date? Are they just people in love?

**Minority (not a member of the dominant group):**
Are they people of color? Are they angry at the way society treats them? Are they poor? Do they have a lot of children? Do they encounter racist discrimination frequently? Do they always fit in?

**Pima (Native American):**
Do they wear feathers, live in tipis, and have long black hair? Do they live off casino money and free health care without paying taxes? Noble? Wise? Quiet? Do they have legal rights to land?

**Obese (Severely Overweight):**

**Queer:** (an umbrella term for sexual minorities that are not heterosexual, heteronormative or gender-binary)
Are they gender non-conforming, radical, engaging in exclusively homosexual sex and relationships, separatists from the LGBT movement?

**Radical Reference Librarian** (member of a collective that provides research & instruction services for political activists & independent journalists):
Are they irresponsible, disregarding the necessity of professional neutrality? Are they pushing their impractical liberal ideas in the workplace? Quirky? Hipsters? Loners? Are they out of touch with their public?
Check Out a Book:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Patron’s Name</th>
<th>Name of Book</th>
<th>Time Out</th>
<th>Time In</th>
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Name: 

Date: 

Your title(s) as a Human Book:

How many readers did you have?

Tell us about your experience as a Book:

How useful was your catalog description?

How do you think Readers benefitted from reading you?

How did you benefit from being read?

What were the most frequently asked questions?

What was the most challenging part of being a Human Book?

For the next Human Library, what advice would you give:

To future organizers:

To future Books:

To future Readers:

To librarians:

For the presentation of the catalog:

Would you agree to be a Human Book again?

Other comments?

Thank you for being a Book today!
The LIVING library

Take out your prejudice

Evaluation Form for

Human Library Readers

ALA 2011 New Orleans

Sponsored by the Social Responsibilities Round Table (SRRT)

Name (optional):  Date:

How did you hear about the Human Library?

Is this your first Human Library experience?

Which Books did you take out today (titles)?

What was your impression of the Human Library?

How did you like the selection of titles and stereotypes that were available?

What was the most important experience for you while reading a Book?

Have you learned anything new today while reading a Book/Books?

Would you recommend the Human Library to others?

Are there other titles you would like to see available?

Any other comments?

Thank you for visiting the Human Library today!