



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Faculty of Education

Master of
Educational
Technology
Program



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Tackling Social Justice Issues

Addressing Real-World Issues

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Overview of the challenge

Social justice is a concept that has gained significant attention and sparked widespread discussions in recent years. It encompasses the fair distribution of wealth, opportunities, and privileges within a society, aiming to address systemic inequalities and create a more equitable world.

In this challenge you will choose a real-world social, ethical, or sustainability issue that you are interested in and that your group would like to address.

Materials and Resources Required

Using one or more of the websites listed below explore social justice issues around the world.



<https://sdgs.un.org/goals>

[7 Real-World Issues That Students Can Tackle \(gettingsmart.com\)](https://www.gettingsmart.com/7-real-world-issues-that-students-can-tackle/)

<https://www.hrw.org/>

<https://www.unesco.org/en>

<https://www.unesco.org/en/climate-change/education>

<https://www.un.org/en/global-issues>

<https://www.amnesty.ca/>

https://youthcivilrights.org/portfolio_page/teaching_for_socialjustice/#

<https://www.learningforjustice.org/classroom-resources/texts>

<https://makersmakingchange.com/>

No Tech can include (but is not limited to)

- Pens/Pencils
- Markers/Pencil Crayons/Crayons
- Paper (of any sizes)
- Cardboard
- Fabric
- Modelling materials
- glue

- scissors
- string/yarn/twine
- construction paper
- popsicles
- pompoms
- pipe cleaners
- tape
- recyclable items
- BBQ skewers
- tooth pics
- straws
- playdough
- clothes pins

Low Tech can include (but is not limited to)

- Computers
- Cellphones
- Tablets
- DoInk
- Animation Creator
- Flip-a-Clip
- StopMotion Recording
- Garageband
- iMovie
- Twine
- Photoshop
- Plotagon
- Canva
- Chatterpix
- Pixton
- Zoom/Skype/Teams/Google Meet

High-Tech can include (but is not limited to)

- 3D-Printer
- Google Cardboard
- Oculus VR

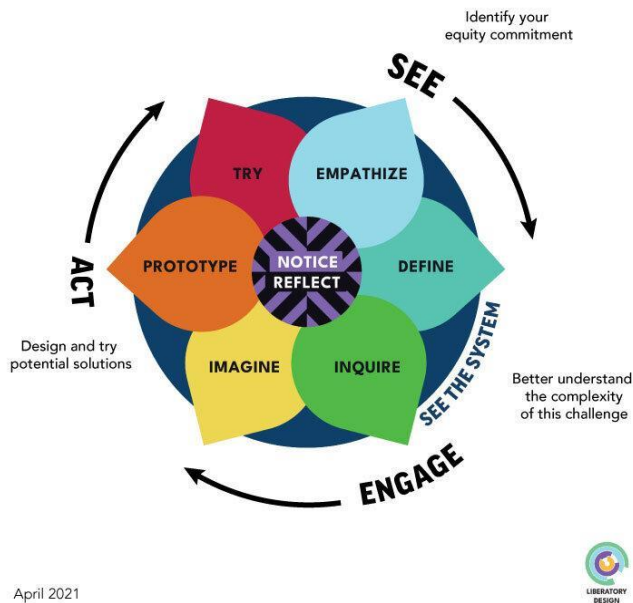
Inclusive Maker Challenge Instructions

1. Select a social justice issue from one of the resources above, or another issue that you may prefer.

2. Following the liberatory design framework techniques and concepts learned throughout the unit (refer to the class social justice [Padlet](#) and your design journal), design and produce a physical or digital product that tackles a social justice issue the issue you have selected.



Liberatory Design for Equity Process



Challenge Objectives

The objective of this challenge is to address your chosen social justice issue through the production of a physical or digital product.

Critical Questions for Consideration

1. What is the root cause of your chosen social justice issue? (It may not be obvious)
2. Are there any conflicting perspectives or controversies surrounding the social justice issue you have chosen? What are some common arguments against or critiques of the social justice issue you have chosen? How would you respond to these critiques?

3. In your view, what would a just and equitable society look like with regards to this issue? What steps can we individually or collectively take to move closer to that vision?
4. What other individuals or groups are also striving for social justice on this issue? Can they assist you in your efforts? How might you assist them in their efforts?

Background/ Additional Information

Key Principles of Social Justice:

1. Equality: Social justice demands equal rights, opportunities, and treatment for all individuals, regardless of their background. It challenges the structures that perpetuate discrimination and seeks to level the playing field for everyone to create equity.
2. Inclusion: Social justice emphasizes the importance of creating inclusive spaces where individuals from diverse backgrounds can participate, contribute, and have their voices heard. It recognizes the value of diversity and aims to dismantle exclusionary practices.
3. Equity: While equality ensures fairness, equity acknowledges that individuals may require different resources or support to achieve equality. Social justice promotes the redistribution of resources to address historical disadvantages and bridge existing gaps.
4. Human Rights: Social justice aligns with the principles of human rights, advocating for the protection and fulfillment of basic rights and freedoms for all individuals.
5. Intersectionality: Recognizing that individuals possess multiple social identities, such as race, gender, class, and more, social justice considers the interconnectedness of different forms of discrimination and oppression.

No-tech, Low-Tech, High-Tech Options

In this challenge you have the opportunity to approach this topic and utilize no-tech, low-tech, and high-tech options in a variety of capacities from ideation to prototype creation, to presentations and sharing and communicating findings.

Extensions

What are the limitations of your product addressing the chosen social justice issue?

What would the next steps be in furthering the fight for social justice with regards to this issue? Where might you find support in taking those next steps?

Are there other issues that intersect with your chosen social justice issue? Would this other issue provide an avenue for addressing your issue? Is there the possibility of coordinating with others fighting for social justice on the intersecting issue?