



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Faculty of Education

## Master of Educational Technology Program



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## Inclusive Makerspace Provocations

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Social Justice: What does it mean?

Created by: Mike Forsyth

## Overview of the provocation

Social Justice is a concept that is increasingly discussed in our society and around the world, however what does Social Justice mean? The goal of this provocation is to discuss what Social Justice means to us individually and collectively and then attempt to generate a definition of Social Justice from the context of those present. By engaging in this conversation, we can gain a deeper understanding of Social Justice and its role in promoting equality and fairness.

## Materials and Resources Required

- **An open and respectful attitude to listen and respect the perspectives and experiences of all members of the group. It is important to consider multiple viewpoints, which will help to foster a constructive conversation.**
  - **You do not need to agree with each other's views; however, you do need to be respectful of them.**
- Paper and a writing implement
- Cell Phone/tablet/computer

## Inclusive Maker Provocation Instructions

### Part 1:

Take a few moments to consider for yourself what the term/concept of Social Justice means to you. You can write down, sketch, construct with materials on your desk your thoughts or ideas to help you in your consideration.

### Part 2:

With a partner, or two, share and explain your thoughts about Social Justice. Are there areas where your ideas overlap? Are there areas where your ideas differ? Discuss your differing ideas of Social Justice, what about your different backgrounds has led to you have different ideas about Social Justice.

### Part 3:

From your group of two/three, join with a different group to form a group of four or five to again discuss the results of your discussion about Social Justice. Are there areas where your ideas overlap? Are there areas where your ideas differ? Discuss your differing ideas of Social Justice, what about your different backgrounds has led to you have different ideas about Social Justice.

#### Part 4:

After discussing your thoughts on Social Justice your group should attempt to create a definition or definitions of what social justice means. These definition(s) can be in a variety of formats (image, gif, meme, text). Share these definitions to the Social Justice [Padlet](#).



## Critical Questions for Consideration

1. How would you define social justice? What does it mean to you personally?
2. In your opinion, what are the key principles or values that underpin social justice?

## Background/ Additional Information

If your group is stuck in defining Social Justice, you may wish to look up definitions that others have created as inspiration. If you do look up definitions for Part 4, **be aware of the source of your definitions and what biases that source contains.**

## Inclusivity Focus

It is critically important to recognize that we have all lived different lives and have had different experiences that have contributed to our view and understanding of the world in which we live. Because of this, it is vitally important that everyone has an open and respectful attitude to listen and respect the perspectives and experiences of all members of the group. It is important to consider these multiple viewpoints, which will help to foster a constructive conversation.

**You do not need to agree with each other's views; however, you do need to be respectful of them.**

## No Tech, Low Tech, High Tech Options

If you would prefer not to share your thoughts on the [Padlet](#), your group may choose to write your definition(s) of Social Justice on a Post-it and stick it on the board.

## Extension

As you move forward begin to consider the questions below.

1. What are some potential barriers or challenges to achieving social justice? How can we overcome these obstacles?
2. How does social justice intersect with other concepts like human rights, equity, and inclusivity? How are they related and how do they differ?
3. Are there any conflicting perspectives or controversies surrounding social justice? What are some common arguments against or critiques of social justice? How would you respond to these critiques?
4. What individual or collective actions can we take to promote social justice in our communities and beyond?
5. In your view, what would a just and equitable society look like? What steps can we take to move closer to that vision?