



NJ Anti-Bias Curriculum Project Seeking Student Contributions

**HAVE YOU EVER WANTED OTHER
PEOPLE TO HEAR YOUR STORY?
HAVE YOU EVER WANTED TO BE PUBLISHED?
DO YOU WANT TO MAKE A
DIFFERENCE FOR OTHERS?
Pseudonym Authors Welcome**

Spectrum Diversity, LLC, an educational consulting company, is developing a curriculum to teach elementary and middle school students about bias and difference, and about how to be an ally in promoting respect and appreciation for diversity. We need short anecdotes and photographs to use in the lesson plans.

**Have you had an experience related to bias or difference of any kind?
Write your story—one or two paragraphs—and it might be
used to teach other students about diversity.**

We need both positive and negative stories. For example:

Positive stories:

- Do you remember an incident when someone stood up for you?
- Did you stand up for someone else?
- Do you remember a moment when you had an experience that taught you something about a person who was different from you?
- Did a teacher ever talk about diversity in a class in a way that made a difference for you?
- Did you see a movie that made you feel good about who you are?
- Did you ever meet a new person, expect them to carry stereotypes or prejudices about you, and be pleasantly surprised that they understood more than you expected?

Negative stories:

- Has anyone ever said anything to you about your ethnicity, culture, religion, sexual orientation, or any other aspect of yourself that hurt you because of who you are?
- Did anyone ever stereotype you, or made an assumption about you that made you upset?
- Has anyone ever hurt you, because they didn't like who you are?
- Did everyone in class turn to look at you when the teacher mentioned "African American history" because you were the only African American student in the room? Or the only Latino/a? Or the only out gay person? Or the only Buddhist? Or the only.....????
- Did anyone ever do anything that insulted you, just because they did not understand your culture so they didn't know it would be insulting?
- Was there a time when you were bullied, and other people just stood by doing nothing?

WRITE YOUR STORY

What happened?

How did it make you feel?

What do you wish people had done differently, or why are you glad they did what they did?

What do you wish everyone understood about who you are?

SEE THE REVERSE FOR SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

*****If any stories pertain to incidents in schools, names of schools will NOT be used unless requested by school*****

CONTRIBUTIONS MUST be accompanied by a completed submission form.

Beginning April 1, 2010, the form will be downloadable at www.spectrumdiversity.org.

*****SUBMISSION FORM*****

By my signature below, I affirm that I understand that:

- Submitting a story does not guarantee that the story will be used in the curriculum.
• All information requested below must be supplied, or my submission cannot be considered.
• I may submit my story with or without a photo of myself to illustrate the story.
• If I submit a photograph containing an image of anyone other than myself, I must submit a signed Submission Form from each individual appearing in the photograph.
• If I am under 18, Spectrum Diversity LLC ("SD") might need to ask me to supply parental permission, particularly if I want my story to be published with my real name and/or photograph.
• If I do not supply a photograph or choose to publish under my real first or full name, I understand that a photograph might be chosen to illustrate my story, and a pseudonym will be used to credit my story.
• I may choose to have my story published anonymously (without my name), but I have to supply my full real name and contact information for Spectrum Diversity LLC records.
• If I choose to have my story published anonymously or under a pseudonym, I understand that I relinquish any right to receive credit by name in the published work.
• I agree that my story may be edited. For example, stories will be edited to remove the names of schools or other identifying information pertaining to institutions or individuals other than myself.
• Stories may be typed or handwritten, as long as the handwriting is legible.
• Stories that are handwritten legibly might be published in handwritten form, i.e., not typeset or printed, but photographed as is.
• I understand that although efforts will be made to notify me if and when my contribution is used, that the publisher's ability to notify me depends on my provision of accurate contact information, and is not a condition on the permission I am giving SD to use my submission.
• I understand that currently this project is being developed without funding, and that I am making my contribution without the expectation of compensation of any kind, at any time now or in the future.
• I understand that my submission is a contribution from me as an individual to Spectrum Diversity and that neither my school nor its personnel, nor any other institution or individual, bear(s) any responsibility or relationship to this project, regardless of whether that institution or individual has participated in publicizing this project.

Title of Submission: _____ (note: Same title must appear on submission)

Your full real name: _____

Your Birthdate: _____ I am 18 or older I am under 18 years old

Your own: E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Street Address, Town, State, and Zip: _____

If you are under 18, please provide a parent or guardian's contact information:

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Street Address, Town, State, and Zip: _____

By my signature, I affirm that I have read the above conditions, fully understand them, and agree to them. I am submitting the above-titled work to be used by (a) Spectrum Diversity LLC and/or Dr. Paula C. Rodriguez Rust in educational materials, and grant these entities, their heirs, legal representatives & assigns, & those acting with their authority & permission, unrestricted right and permission to copyright and use, re-use, publish, and republish these materials, which might include text and/or photographic images of myself, intact or in part, without restriction as to changes or transformations, in conjunction with my own or a fictitious name, or reproduction hereof in color or otherwise, made through any and all media now or hereafter known for illustration, art, promotion, advertising, trade, or any other purpose whatsoever. I hereby release, discharge and agree to hold harmless the legal entities and individuals specified in (a), from any liability by virtue of any blurring, distortion, alteration, optical illusion, or use in composite form whether intentional or otherwise, as well as any publication thereof, including without limitation any claims for libel or invasion of privacy. This agreement shall be binding upon me and my heirs, legal representatives and assigns.

PRINTED FULL REAL NAME

SIGNATURE

DATE

Preferences (optional) Notwithstanding the permissions granted above, my preference is that my submission be:

_____ Accompanied by my full real name _____ Accompanied by my real first name only.

_____ I prefer that the following pseudonym or nickname be used: _____

If we need parental permission to use your submission, is there any reason that you would not want us to contact your parents?

_____ Contacting my parents is OK _____ I have a reason to prefer that my parents not be contacted.

Send to: Spectrum Diversity LLC, 23 Rebel Run Drive, East Brunswick, NJ 08816 or spectrumdiversity@comcast.net