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Critical Media Literacy Workshop Handout

Media Literacy Activity

This activity can be used at the beginning of a discussion on media and critical media literacy as a way for participants to start to gauge their relationships with media.

1. Create signs stating **Agree**, **Neutral**, **Disagree**.
2. Place **Agree** on one side of the room, **Disagree** on the opposite side, and **Neutral/Unsure** in the middle.
3. Read the statements, asking participants to silently move to the location in the room that best describes how they respond to the statement. (Participants could choose to go directly to one of the signs or place themselves in-between.)
4. Once all participants have reached their location for a statement, having them look around and analyze what they see.
   a. Why did they choose their response?
   b. How many other participants have the same reaction to the statement?
   c. What conclusions can they draw from the reactions throughout the room?
5. Once you have completed all the statements, have participants discuss patterns they saw across the group, statements that were difficult to answer, and other issues that came up during the activity.

Media Literacy Statement
(The following list of statements can be modified or added to depending on your lesson goals or participant makeup.)

I watch live television.
I watch television on a platform such as Netflix, Hulu, Amazon, or Apple TV.
I watch YouTube.
I am affected by messages in the media.
I think it is important for people to question media messages.
I find myself wanting things I see advertised, even though I didn't know I wanted those things before I saw the ad.
I see people in the media who look like me.
I see people in the media who have a background similar to mine
I play video and/or computer games.
I know what a viral video is.
I know what a meme is.
I have watched a music video in the last 48 hours.
I like to read magazines.
I have used Snapchat or Instagram communicate with my friends.
I have made a health decision based on something I read online.
I communicate with people online that I don't spend time with in real life.
I text daily.
I own a Smartphone.
I use my phone daily.
I get more information from the people I know, rather than from the media.
I do not use my real name or images of myself when communicating on media.
I create my own media (YouTube channels, blogs, vlogs, etc).