SOCIAL JUSTICE Spotlight

Stand Up Libraries!

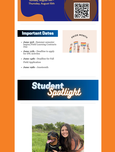
Did you know that the Stand Up Libraries Project was founded by the United States Student Association (USSA) in 2018? The project aims to empower students to take action in their libraries and communities to address issues of social justice and inequality. The idea behind the project is that libraries are not just places to store books, but they can also be spaces for activism, community building, and social change. The project provides resources and support to students who want to organize events, campaigns, and initiatives in their libraries and communities. Some of the issues that the Stand Up Libraries Project has addressed include:

- **Book bans and censorship**
- **Access to information and technology**
- **Diversity and representation in library collections and programming**
- **Homelessness and poverty**
- **Environmental sustainability**

The project has also provided grants to student groups to help them implement their ideas and has created a network of students and librarians who can share their experiences and learn from each other. Overall, the Stand Up Libraries Project is a unique and innovative initiative that recognizes the important role that libraries can play in promoting social justice and empowering students to make a difference in their communities.

Sources used:
Stand Up Libraries
Stand Up Libraries: Our Journey
Stand Up Libraries Toolkit

YOU MATTER!



Self-Care after grief...

Grief can be a very overwhelming and difficult experience, and it's important to take care of yourself during this time. Here are some self-care tips that may help:

Allow yourself to feel your emotions: It's okay to cry, be angry, or feel sad. Don't try to suppress your emotions or pretend that you're not grieving.

Take care of your physical health: Make sure you're eating well, getting enough sleep, and exercising regularly. These things can help you feel more energized and better able to cope with your emotions.

Connect with others: Reach out to friends and family members who can offer support and understanding. You may also want to consider joining a support group for people who are grieving.

Practice relaxation techniques: Deep breathing exercises, meditation, and yoga can help you relax and reduce stress.

Be patient: Grief takes time, and there's no right or wrong way to do it. Don't expect yourself to "get over" your loss quickly.

Seek professional help if needed: If you're struggling to cope with your grief on your own, don't hesitate to seek professional help. A therapist or counselor can provide you with support and guidance.

Remember that grief is a unique experience for everyone, and there's no one-size-fits-all approach to self-care. Be kind to yourself and allow yourself the time and space you need to heal.

Sources used:
Grief and Self-Care
Self-Care After Grief
Grief and Self-Care

Opportunities