

Resisting invisibility

Post-webinar

Peter J Fullagar (he/him)

Positive representation matters

You can't be what you can't see., Marian Wright Edelman (Quote from <u>Miss Representation</u> ("Miss Representation", 2011)

Positive representation builds confidence, the feeling of being seen, the feeling of belonging and helps to dismantle stereotypes.

Further identities that should be represented:

The Global South, disability, ethnicity, body size, beliefs, neurodiversity, socioeconomic status, gender identity, sexual orientation

How

Visibility	Usualisation	Disruption
In the immediate surroundings: • celebrate events • libraries with LGBTQIA+ books • invite LGBTQIA+ speakers • classroom displays	 In classroom materials: people's identities are usual not highlighting special or different no comment on character / identity increased exposure 	In classroom materials: confronts social issues highlights experiences focuses on truth critical thinking how marginalisation happens

Adapt resources

Expand the teaching of pronouns Invite students to research Ask students to discuss different family types

Challenge discrimination

Be safe. Acceptance not agreement. Difference between insult and opinion. Credit to Laïla El-Métoui for this information.

This is a great teaching opportunity – to express opinions in a non-offensive way. All views are valid unless they are harmful or hurtful to others.

Conclusion

LGBTQIA+ identities are not a taboo.

Better representation enables students to learn and accept different identities.

Better representation fosters better understanding and less discrimination.

Resources

Peter J Fullagar	LGBT+ History Month	The Proud Trust
www.peterjfullagar.co.uk	www.lgbtplushistorymonth.co.uk	www.theproudtrust.org

Reference

Newsom, J.S. (Director). (2011). Miss Representation. Girls' Club Entertainment