



Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning

Should Gender Identity be Considered Ahead of Biological Sex for Inmate Security? Use of Metadata to understand a digital library collection

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Rationale:

The use of metadata to understand a digital library collection is a very useful tool to teach undergraduate students. GALE collection on LGBTQ papers is a new digital collection at the UCF Library. Students in my First and Second Wave of Feminism class read about the "Lavender Menace" and the riot on Stonewall, NYC. Part of the Module is dedicated to trans people and their understanding and standing in society.

Description:

The tool I created was for my students to work with primary materials provided by the GALE LGBTQ and Women's Studies digital collection. The first assignment was titled Should Gender Identity be Considered Ahead of Biological Sex for Inmate Security? In particular 8 pieces dealing with transgender surgery. Much is ignored and more misunderstood about trans people. My intention is for the students to read the primary materials and then compared it to contemporary issues, such as trans inmates in the US and their treatment while in jail. Students also read about Gender Nonconformity in the report prepared by World Professional Association for Transgender Health. The information is supplemented by reading two reports (one from New York Youth Detention Centers and the other from the US Bureau of Prisons) The ultimate purpose is for student to analyze and formulate a resolution on the treatment of trans people while imprisoned in the US.

The second GALE project was about Keeping Herstory Alive, Walking on Their Shoes About Contraception and the use of primary materials on how to display, sell or advertise contraceptives in 1936 in two states (Michigan and Maine) .Students analyze the information for terms, cultural norms and legal ramifications on the use of contraceptives. They are also encouraged to compared Census information from both states in 1937 and 2019 and in particular about women and their marital status. Both examples were presented in October 2020 on the meeting of the Association of Southeastern Libraries (ASEL).

Appraisal:

My students have worked in the past with metadata as part of the same class. The response was very positive. My students come from diverse majors and areas of discipline, thus First and Second Wave of Feminism might be the only class using "feminist pedagogy." Some of their comments reflected how productive they felt while learning a brand new way of describing a collection piece.

References:

<https://www.bls.gov/bls/cpswomendata.htm>. and <http://gsrdb.org/>

Link or explanation: I have word documents I can make available to those interested.