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## Perspectives on Technology

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### I Don't Want to Live Without Them: Twenty-Five Web Sites for Educational Equity

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This morning I googled (new verb meaning “to search for using Google.com,” the most popular Web search engine) *multicultural education* and found nearly 3 million related sites. The first site listed was that of the National Association for Multicultural Education. The second and third were my sites, the *Multicultural Pavilion* and *Multicultural Supersite*. Others at the top of the list included the *Electronic Magazine of Multicultural Education*, the Center for Multicultural Education’s site (from the University of Washington, Seattle), and Geneva Gay’s landmark essay, “A Synthesis of Scholarship on Multicultural Education”—all content-rich and contributive resources for multicultural education. (The URLs for each of these sites are provided later in this article.)

But as I continued down the list I found many sites that were no longer functioning. I found others that were simply lists of links to other sites. Worse, I found sites that portrayed multicultural education as a heroes and holidays venture; these contained lesson plans related to mask making, food, and costumes, but nothing to challenge the educational status quo.

What I learned through this adventure was that I could live happily without most Web sites—even most Web sites that mention multicultural education. In fact, most Web sites seem to serve little purpose other than clogging up cyberspace, making it more difficult to identify and locate progressively transformative tools and resources.

Still, there are some sites, often buried in the muck of the Web, full of excellent content that can inform everything from curriculum reform within an individual classroom to policy reform on a national scale. I have identified 25 of them that, although I could live without them, I am happy I do not need to do so.

I have not included my own sites, but have referenced them below the list.

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#### **African American Holocaust (<http://www.maafa.org/>)**

Milford F. Plaines created this important but chilling Web production using photographs, narrative text, and other media to expose the atrocities African Americans have faced in the United States. The presentation is overtly blunt and will lead to deep processing and dialogue.

#### **Center for Multicultural Education (<http://depts.washington.edu/centerme/home.htm>)**

University of Washington faculty developed the Center to coordinate activities and programs related to multicultural education scholarship. The site includes information about model programs and downloadable publications.

#### **Center for Research on Education, Diversity, and Excellence (CREDE) (<http://www.crede.ucsc.edu/>)**

Through research, publication, and education, CREDE works to assist linguistic and cultural minority students to achieve academically to their highest potentials. The site includes a wonderful array of tools and resources for researchers, teachers, and students studying instruction and policy in education.

#### **The Civil Rights Project (<http://www.civilrightsproject.harvard.edu/>)**

This Harvard-based project aims to reinitiate the civil rights movement through the distribution of information and resources about contemporary civil rights issues.

Download a series of important studies and reports related to education and other social justice issues.

**Cybrary of the Holocaust**  
(<http://remember.org/>)

This online multimedia library of resources on the Holocaust includes photographs, a teacher's guide, poetry, and myriad other diverse learning experiences for both teachers and students.

**Disability Social History Project**  
(<http://www.disabilityhistory.org/>)

This site represents a movement by people with disabilities to reclaim their history and to highlight the contributions of people with disabilities in the history of the world. Resources include a timeline and an index of related sites.

**Electronic Magazine of Multicultural Education (EMME)**  
(<http://www.eastern.edu/publications/emme/>)

*EMME* is a purely electronic magazine that publishes curricular tools and ideas, reviews of multicultural media, and scholarly essays on multicultural education. Each issue focuses on a particular theme, the most recent being "Urban Education and Reform."

**Facing the Consequences: An Examination of Racial Discrimination in U.S. Public Schools**  
(<http://www.arc.org/erase/FTC1intro.html>)

Outlines how public schools consistently fail to provide quality education to students of color, contributing to the achievement gap.

**Feminist Majority Foundation Online**  
(<http://www.feminist.org/>)

The Feminist Majority Foundation hosts a collection of research materials, including data and analyses of sexism-related issues. The site also includes regularly updated news stories and information about student activism.

**Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network (GLSEN)**  
(<http://www.glsen.org/>)

*GLSEN* is a national organization consisting of educators, students, parents, and others working together to address heterosexism and homophobia in schools. Visitors can access a variety of important studies and reports including the annual National Climate Survey. There are also resources for classroom teachers and students.

**History Matters**  
(<http://historymatters.gmu.edu/>)

A collaborative project between the City University of New York and George Mason University, this site is composed of a large collection of progressive, active teaching and learning resources for high school and undergraduate college students. Read articles, download monthly quizzes, search for classroom activities, and dialogue with other educators on topics of historical importance.

**Inclusive Teaching**  
(<http://depts.washington.edu/cidrweb/inclusive/>)

The University of Washington hosts this site with strategies and hints for providing student-centered, inclusive teaching and learning. The focus is on higher education, but much of the content is transferable to other contexts.

**Kids Philosophy Slam**  
(<http://www.philosophyslam.org/>)

Based in Minnesota, this online program gives students a voice by hosting and posting "slam" events. Students "sound off" on contemporary philosophical and social issues such as the war in Iraq.

**Mid-Atlantic Equity Consortium (MAEC)**  
(<http://www.maec.org/>)

MAEC houses a compendium of equity resources for principals, teachers, counselors, and parents. The site is very well organized and contains frameworks, links to statistical information, and many other tools.

**National Association for Multicultural Education (NAME)**  
(<http://www.nameorg.org/>)

NAME is the largest organization in the world specifically dedicated to the ideals and principles of multicultural education. The site contains information on NAME's national conference, quarterly journal, and national listserv on multicultural issues in education. A highlight of the site is a collection of position statements on topics including high-stakes testing, Title IX, teacher testing, and the digital divide.

**New Horizons for Learning: Multicultural Education**  
([http://www.newhorizons.org/strategies/multicultural/front\\_multicultural.htm](http://www.newhorizons.org/strategies/multicultural/front_multicultural.htm))

The multicultural education area represents just one of several sets of resources housed within the *New Horizons* Web site. It is primarily a collection of articles and short papers on multicultural education and related topics. Authors include James Banks, Mary Stone Hanley, and Gary Howard.

**No Child Left**  
(<http://nochildleft.com/>)

FNO Press publishes this site that takes a critical, equity-based stand against *No Child Left Behind* and high-stakes testing.

**Racism: No Way**  
(<http://www.racismnoway.com.au/together/international/index-The.html>)

This Australia-based site, also known as *International Approaches to Anti-racism Education*, includes classroom activities, a library of readings, and other resources on education equity. The activities range in intensity and age appropriateness and are very well explained.

**Radical Pedagogy**  
(<http://radicalpedagogy.icaap.org/>)

An interdisciplinary journal, *Radical Pedagogy* advocates and informs about innovative approaches for teaching and learning that center students and critical thinking.

**Resource Center of the Americas**  
(<http://www.americas.org/>)

Based in Minneapolis, MN, the Resource Center promotes human rights and social justice through organizing and educating. Although the Center's primary focus is Latin America, the resources to be found, including news releases on a variety of subjects, inform any well-rounded understanding of sociopolitics. The Center also runs an online bookstore with an incredible selection of progressive sources for adults and children.

**Rethinking Schools Online**  
(<http://www.rethinkingschools.org/>)

The online version of this journal, published by Rethinking Schools, a nonprofit publisher run by activist teachers, contains highlights from the print version and other progressive education reform resources.

**Students Against Testing**  
(<http://www.nomoretets.com/>)

This student-run Web site includes powerful downloadable flyers, mock standardized tests that illustrate the problems with the testing movement, and fact sheets. This is an excellent and important resource for teacher educators and classroom teachers who want examples of student-led social action.

**A Synthesis of Scholarship on Multicultural Education**  
(<http://www.ncrel.org/sdrs/areas/issues/educatrs/leadrshp/le0gay.htm>)

Geneva Gay summarizes much of the scholarship and research on multicultural education including various models and conceptions.

**University of Virginia Electronic Text Center**  
(<http://etext.lib.virginia.edu/>)

This site houses over 45,000 full electronic texts, along with over 50,000 related images from the University of Virginia library system. Collections are plentiful and diverse in language, topic, era, and medium. Browse by language, subject, or era. Current holdings categories include "African American," "Native American," "American Civil War," "Women Writers," and "The English Poetry Database."

**Vandergrift's Children's Literature Page**  
(<http://www.scils.rutgers.edu/~kvander/ChildrenLit/index.html>)

Kay Vandergrift of Rutgers University has compiled an extensive set of resources on children's literature with special attention to multicultural concerns. Sections include "Gender and Culture in Picture Books," "Powerful Multicultural Images," and "Thought Capsules," a collection of short writings about culture and children's literature from a variety of sources.

Two more sites, created by the author:

**Multicultural Pavilion**  
(<http://www.edchange.org/multicultural>)

*Multicultural Pavilion* provides resources for teachers, educators, and activists to explore and discuss multicultural education; facilitates opportunities for educators to work toward self-awareness and development; and

serves as a forum for educators to interact and collaborate toward a critical, transformative approach to multicultural education. The site offers a plethora of theoretical and practical resources including awareness activities, dialogue forums, collections of original essays and research, an intercultural poetry exchange, and a host of collaborative opportunities for teachers and students.

**Multicultural Education Supersite**  
(<http://www.mhhe.com/multicultural>)

Hosted by McGraw-Hill's Higher Education Division, the *Multicultural Education Supersite* bridges multicultural education theory and practice by offering a variety of resources including original articles, intercultural classroom activities, an exploration of multicultural curriculum transformation, and book reviews. The site is specifically designed for preservice teachers, inservice teachers, and teacher educators.