

# **Sandra Hughes-Hassell, Ph.D.**

**Professor, School of Information & Library Science at UNC-Chapel Hill**

Chapel Hill, NC, US

Professor Hughes-Hassell's research focuses on social justice issues in youth library services

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I am currently a Professor at the School of Information and Library Science at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where I coordinate the School Library Media specialization. My current research focuses on social justice issues in youth library services, diverse youth literature, and the role of school librarians in education reform. I have written and presented extensively on culturally relevant pedagogy, critical race theory, and the role of libraries in serving diverse youth. In the Spring of 2015, my 13-year-old son, who attends the Carolina Friends School, had the opportunity to take a Civil Rights Tour with 20 other middle school students. They began in Montgomery and made their way north, stopping in Selma, Birmingham, Alabama, and Greensboro. He came back fired up to fight for social justice and was particularly excited that he had added his name to the Wall of Tolerance found at the Civil Rights Memorial Center in Montgomery, Alabama. The wall digitally displays the names of more than half a million people who have pledged to take a stand against hate and work for justice and tolerance in their daily lives. According to the Southern Poverty Law Center's website, "the Wall demonstrates that individuals, not government or organizations, are responsible for continuing the march for social justice. It stands as a dynamic representation of the strength of the movement in America." Visitors to the Civil Rights Memorial Center have the opportunity to take the pledge and add their names to the Wall during their visit. I consider my research, teaching, and service, like the Wall of Tolerance, to be my public pledge that as an LIS professional I will work for social justice to ensure that youth who have been traditionally marginalized in the United States have access to the liberties, rights, opportunities, and successes that have been denied them through institutional inequities built on racism, sexism, homophobia, power, and privilege, to create library programs and services that build on the strengths found in these communities, and to empower youth whose voices have been historically silenced to trust their voice and the truth they seek.

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**Education/Learning, Research, Library and Information Management**

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**Library and Information Science, Social Justice, Youth Literature, Education Reforms, Academic Librarianship, Culturally Relevant Pedagogy, Critical Race Theory, The Role of Libraries in Serving Diverse Youth, School Library Media**

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**Diversity Goggles: Examining the Literacy Development of Black & Latino Youth from Critical Multicultural Perspectives**

YALSA Preconference, ALA Annual Conference

**The Inclusive Library: Building a Culturally Responsive Library Program for Youth**

New Jersey Library Association Preconference

**?I feel like an outsider in the library.? Creating an Inclusive and Welcoming Library Program for All Students**

Wake County Spring Convergence Conference

**Race, Power, and Privilege in the Youth Services LIS Classroom. Youth Sig: Transforming Youth Services in Library and Information Science: A Participatory Panel of Best Practices for Social Justice**  
ALISE Annual Conference

**Be the Change You Seek: Social Justice in the LIS Classroom**

ALISE Academy: Social Justice in the LIS Classroom: Making it Happen. ALISE Annual Conference

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**University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**

Ph.D. Library and Information Science

**James Madison University**

M.Ed. Library Science

**James Madison University**

B.S. Early Childhood Education

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