

This unit has been super beneficial for me in regards to learning new information and learning how to effectively gather the information that tells a story of multiple perspectives and ideas. My topic has revolved around exploring the connection between pre-conceived bias and intersectionality, how they co-exist, and how to dismantle the negative connotations each concept has with one another and the structures that have created them. Ultimately, in simpler terms, I wanted to see how multiple biases have formed multiple intersections regarding discrimination and oppression. Biased thinking develops unfair treatment against minorities, and I have always been curious to see how, as a society, we could reverse bias to improve the treatment of *all*.

When first finding my sources, I wanted to gather the basics that would form a foundation that would eventually branch into new perspectives and findings. I found two sources through Summons Library; one tackles intersectionality with a feminist viewpoint, and the other tackles reforming bias into something productive. The similarities between the points offered by the two sources were astonishing. I was able to realize after reading both articles that one has to destabilize a concept, take away outside factors, and acknowledge the issue at hand for *what it is*. Once done, you can see the correlations between bias and marginalizations through the emotions that come with both. This leaves lots of room now for critical analysis. By appreciating and exploring bias, one can analyze how these emotions create crossroads of marginalization.

However, I wanted to dig deeper and figure out what the next step would be. The flowchart exercise helped me gather more sources and helped me map how they all relate to one another. I remembered an article we read for class, being Cori Wongs. Wong pointed out that society needs to address those that are the most marginalized first because these people have experienced *multiple* forms of bias against them. When all of these acts of oppression are understood, one can break down the prejudices more clearly. I then wanted to find counterarguments and found Rupert Brown's book. I found this book by looking at the sources for Luke Zaphir's piece on prejudice. Looking through citations from one of my sources was a great tool. Brown said that stating biases as faulty are only counterproductive, which brought my research altogether. The statement sounds wrong at first since one would assume that prejudice is damaging and false. However, one needs to look inward to why this prejudice was created, and then it can be rearranged. I then found interviews of women of color that addressed the discrimination and biases against them, as well as a TED Talk from Kimberlé Crenshaw regarding the urgency of understanding intersectionality. This was a perfect source to end my research since it signals action after citing sources of acknowledgment.

My research plan guided my work very well. However, it evolved once I started to gather more sources. I saw new correlations between different pieces of work that I ended up contributing. For example, some of my sources offer information regarding unfair workplaces, which connected my thoughts very well. If I were to look for more information, I would try to find documentaries that conquer bias and intersectionality. I am a very visual learner, and a documentary I am sure would introduce stories of people that could connect to the points I have found. The only gap I am aware of in my work would be real-life attempts to reverse the damage

regarding prejudice that causes intersectionality. However, these issues remain because not many people are informed of these topics. So, I believe it is a waiting game when it comes to change, but I am hopeful, especially after sharing what I have found with everyone. I have learned through my work that there are no such things as small steps regarding equality; any step is one step forward.