What Does Safety Look Like?

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INTRODUCTION

Who am I?
LET’S EXPLORE!

What does safety look like?
What happens when people feel safe?
Exploring our own definitions and approaches.
Exploring different perspectives.
ACTIVITY:
WHAT DOES SAFETY LOOK LIKE?

WRITE 1-2 WORDS ON YOUR STICKY NOTE
AND STICK TO THE WALL.
What are you likely to do when you feel safe?

What doors open up when patrons feel safe?
Exploring Our Own Definitions
“the condition of being protected from or unlikely to cause danger, risk, or injury” (Google)
What did we say?
“All individuals seek to be comfortable within their surroundings, being able to fully express their thoughts and feelings without fear of being ridiculed and with knowledge that they will be heard.”

- Jemima Homawoo
So what does this mean for libraries?
Safe and Welcoming?

We want our libraries to feel safe and welcoming to patrons and staff.

- Cleanliness
- Representation
- Accessibility
- Rules and norms
- Relationships & interactions
- Programming
What are some common downfalls for me?

- Tasking mindset
- Being overwhelmed
- Making assumptions (unconsciously)
- What are my buttons
How do I work around my shortcomings?

▸ Express curiosity over judgement.
▸ What happened to you?
▸ Be empathic.
▸ Recognize complexity.
▸ Offer programming that builds community.
▸ Ask for and incorporate ideas of the people we serve.
▸ Be familiar with resources.
Activity:
Exploring other Perspectives

Pick a group, depending on your interest/experience. Try to be in groups of about 8-10 so everyone has the chance to speak. You’ll have 10 minutes
Thank you!

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