

by Melissa Morrone 3 years ago

public libraries and #critlib

Storify of the #critlib chat from May 19, 2015 on public libraries and #critlib, moderated by @hamtron5000. For more information about #critlib, including past & future chats, please see <http://tinyurl.com/critlibx>.

Introductions



Andy Hamilton

hamtron5000

Hi #critlib folks! I'm Andy, a branch manager from western Colorado. Nice to meet you! Say hi, if you'd like. First question shortly!



3 YEARS AGO



Kevin Seeber

kevinseeber

Hi #critlib! Kevin here. Academic librarian. Fellow Coloradan with @hamtron5000. #coloradical



3 YEARS AGO



Emily Drabinski

@edrabinski

Hi #critlib from Brooklyn!



3 YEARS AGO



Gina Schlesselman-Ta

ginaschless

Hi #critlib I'll be in and out 2nite. A workout calleth. Ac lib in SoCal



3 YEARS AGO



Maura Smale

mauraweb

Hi #critlib, I'm Maura from a college library in Brooklyn and very glad to finally be able to make it to chat tonight!



3 YEARS AGO



Ian Beilin

ibeilin @ibeilin

Hi [#critlib](#), Ian here, academic librarian in NYC



3 YEARS AGO



Annie Pho

catladylb catladylb

Hi [#critlib](#)! I'm Annie and I live in Chicago!



3 YEARS AGO



Barnard Library

barnlib @barnlib

This is Jenna, an academic librarian and enthusiastic public library user. [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



katie

@melbrarian

hiya [#critlib](#) :-D aussie reference librarian at a public library, looking forward to today's chat :-D



3 YEARS AGO



Melissa Morrone

@InfAgit

Hi, public librarian in Brooklyn NYC, just got home and skimming through tweets thus far...
[#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO

Q1: What does [#critlib](#) look like in the public library/how do publib employees use critical lenses to inform their work?



Andy Hamilton

hamtron5000 hamtron5000

Q1: What does [#critlib](#) look like in the public library/how do publib employees use critical lenses to inform their work?



3 YEARS AGO



Andy Hamilton

hamtron5000

Q1 for me at least, [#critlib](#) informs the way I interact with patrons. Can't let my experiences color things meet the patrons where they are.



3 YEARS AGO



katie

@melbrarian

A1 activities guided by deep understanding of borrower context & needs - consultation w them on design of programs & policy [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Maura Smale

mauraweb

A1 We could do more consultation w/patrons on programs/policy in my library I think, great suggestion [@melbrarian](#). [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



katie

@melbrarian

[@mauraweb](#) sorry to say there is way too much "library knows best" out there, esp wrt programs for ppl from marginalised communities



3 YEARS AGO



katie

@melbrarian

[@mauraweb](#) so hard to find the time! but def worth it - when i was in academic libs, i realised how many assumptions we make abt students



3 YEARS AGO



katie

@melbrarian

[@mauraweb](#) particularly wrt their expected levels of digital/technical literacy!



3 YEARS AGO



Maura Smale

mauraweb@mauraweb

@melbrarian YES this=huge research interest of mine, access to tech too, so imp't & not guaranteed w/students @ my public city uni #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Andy Hamilton

hamtron5000@hamtron5000

#critlib I use crit theory to inform reference transactions, to provide balanced views when making displays, etc. You?



3 YEARS AGO



Ian Beilin

ibeilin@ibeilin

@hamtron5000 can you give an ex of a display? #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Andy Hamilton

hamtron5000@hamtron5000

Q1 example: my area is largely white; made display of sci-fi works by authors of color to encourage thinking/debate/new perspectives #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ian Beilin

ibeilin@ibeilin

@hamtron5000 did you make it explicit that they were authors of color? #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Andy Hamilton

hamtron5000@hamtron5000

@ibeilin I did. Display title: "Infinite Diversity in Infinite Combinations: Sci-Fi and Fantasy by Authors of Color" on poster. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Maura Smale

mauraweb@mauraweb

@hamtron5000 @ibeilin Great title! #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Andy Hamilton

hamtron5000@hamtron5000

@ibeilin Sure! Service area vastly Christian; coworker made display re: religion to foster communication. Various holy/study books. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ian Beilin

ibeilin@ibeilin

@hamtron5000 was there any pushback from your community, esp. Islamophobic? #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Andy Hamilton

hamtron5000@hamtron5000

@ibeilin Not yet, but I anticipate some. IMHO, confrontation allows room for conversation. Hopefully!



3 YEARS AGO



Barnard Library

barnlib@barnlib

@hamtron5000 What was the feedback like? Any pushback? @ibeilin



3 YEARS AGO



Andy Hamilton

hamtron5000@hamtron5000

@barnlib @ibeilin Feedback generally positive, no pushback re: scifi display, but some on religion display. Confrontation--> communication



3 YEARS AGO



Kevin Seeber

kevinseeber

I'm not a publi~~b~~, but I absolutely respect their work and recognize how much of it is tied to welfare of the community at large. v. [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Mohamed Berray

MohamedBerray

A1: FYI, Please see Librarians Views on Critical Theories and Critical Practices:
pdxscholar.library.pdx.edu/cgi/viewcontent... [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Andy Hamilton

hamtron5000

Anyone else have an example of a display or a program that might have embraced [#critlib](#) techniques?



3 YEARS AGO



kyle shockey

@kshockey04

[@hamtron5000](#) sneaking in here to talk about black composers of jazz & classical music through 20-21st centuries at [@iumuslib](#) [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Andy Hamilton

hamtron5000

[@kshockey04](#) [@iumuslib](#) YES! Excellent addition.



3 YEARS AGO



Annie Pho

catladylib

A1 Not a public librarian, but I can see how SJ can play a large role in services/programs @ a public library. [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Andy Hamilton

hamtron5000

@catladylib Can you elaborate?



3 YEARS AGO



Annie Pho

catladylib

@hamtron5000 addressing socioeconomic gaps w/in the community w/services like letting ppl
chck out internet: [n.pr/1EineBP](#) #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Annie Pho

catladylib

@hamtron5000 More like what informs the work I guess? Like why libraries do what they do.
#critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Andy Hamilton

hamtron5000

@catladylib Exactly. How two sources that say different things can both be "right" depending on
context.



3 YEARS AGO



katie

@melbrarian

A1 workplace culture which values discussions on racism, sexism, ableism etc - not "too
controversial" for work, but entirely apt #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Barnard Library

barnlib @barnlib

Yes! Workplace culture is always an essential element of #critlib. [twitter.com/melbrarian/sta...](#)




3 YEARS AGO


 **katie**
@melbrarian


@barnlib from this too comes space to recognise & address ways in which the library replicates patterns of oppression #critlib

 3 YEARS AGO


 **Andy Hamilton**
hamtron5000

@melbrarian @barnlib Exactly! I have another question about that but feel free to elaborate and identify possible ways around that!


 3 YEARS AGO

 **Ian Beilin**
ibeilin @ibeilin


@hamtron5000 yes it usually is and it's definitely worth the risks, whatever those might be #critlib

 3 YEARS AGO

Q2: Pub libs as a "neutral" space; how does that stereotype inform our work (ref interviews, material requests, etc)?

 **Andy Hamilton**
hamtron5000

Q2: Pub libs as a "neutral" space; how does that stereotype inform our work (ref interviews, material requests, etc)?

 3 YEARS AGO

 **Andy Hamilton**
hamtron5000

A2 biggest thing I find: people assume I know the "right" answer. Often MUCH more complex than that! #critlib

 3 YEARS AGO



Andy Hamilton

hamtron5000

A2 also patrons don't expect me to "teach", they want an answer immediately. Overcoming that can be hard, esp. w/ time limits! [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Barnard Library

barnlib @barnlib

[@hamtron5000](#) I've often wondered abt giving the answer vs. showing how to find it oneself in a public library context. Is that complex, too?



[@hamtron5000](#) · 3 YEARS AGO



Andy Hamilton

hamtron5000

[@barnlib](#) Very much so. I try to show as much as possible; patrons not always interested. [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Barnard Library

barnlib @barnlib

Right, [@hamtron5000](#) & sometimes the appropriate [#critlib](#) thing to do is to give the patron what they want, yeah? How do you know when?



3 YEARS AGO



Andy Hamilton

hamtron5000

[@barnlib](#) Great question. I try to intermix, but it's definitely a "soul" question. [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Mohamed Berray

MohamedBerray

[@hamtron5000](#) For legal questions it is necessary to let the patron know that your services do not equate to legal advise. [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Andy Hamilton

hamtron5000

@MohamedBerray Yes, absolutely. And while we can print legal forms for them, we can't help them fill it out. Run in to this a lot! #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



katie

@melbrarian

A2 this is a tricky one for me, & truth is it's not possible to give every single person you serve a crash course in infolit #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Andy Hamilton

hamtron5000

@melbrarian So true! No matter how much we want to.



3 YEARS AGO



Maura Smale

mauraweb

@barnlib @hamtron5000 Ahhh, I struggle with that too at an acad lib ref desk! It's hard. A2 #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Lisa Hinchliffe

lisalibrarian

@hamtron5000 @edrabinski argh "neutral" drives me crazy. can we embrace "common space for multiplicity"! #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



katie

@melbrarian

A2 and also, i've never been asked to field a ref question for something i'd find offensive/triggering. how would i handle that? #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Andy Hamilton

hamtron5000

@melbrarian Awesome question. I have, and I had to bite my tongue and provide resources; what I felt was my duty. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



katie

@melbrarian

A2 & how would i expect my coworkers to handle that? and how do we address the perceived neutrality of pub libs in this situation? #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Andy Hamilton

hamtron5000

Great point from @melbrarian: how do we handle getting asked offensive/triggering questions? What's our responsibility? #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Melissa Morrone

@InfAgit

.@hamtron5000 @melbrarian Honestly, I pick my battles and deploy selective hearing. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Melissa Morrone

@InfAgit

.@hamtron5000 @melbrarian But I'd also suss out whether patron is harassing or asking a genuine question. If former, shut it down. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO





katie



@melbrarian

@InfAgit @hamtron5000 feel v lucky that i haven't been in former situation particularly, think i'd really have trouble trusting my judgement





3 YEARS AGO



 **Kevin Seeber**
kevinseeber@kevinseeber
Think this applies across all types of libraries. Wonder if our answers are different? [#critlib](#)
[twitter.com/hamtron5000/st...](#)
 3 YEARS AGO



 **Mohamed Berray**
MohamedBerray@MohamedBerray
[@hamtron5000](#) Believe it or not, dedication to public service will trigger public advocacy in your favor (or on your behalf) [#critlib](#)
 3 YEARS AGO

Q3: As agents of "authority" (county, city, district, etc), how can we "speak our truth" to those in positions of power who are often our employers?

 **Andy Hamilton**
hamtron5000@hamtron5000
Q3: As agents of "authority", how can we speak our truth to those in positions of power who are often our employers? [#critlib](#)
 3 YEARS AGO

 **Andy Hamilton**
hamtron5000@hamtron5000
Q3 Or put otherwise, how can we check our own privilege when working with the public? [#critlib](#)
 3 YEARS AGO

 **Ian Beilin**
ibeilin@ibeilin
[@hamtron5000](#) there are cases when the patron is the more privileged one in both pub and acad libs - can't assume any relationship [#critlib](#)
 3 YEARS AGO

 **Andy Hamilton**
hamtron5000@hamtron5000
[@ibeilin](#) Super valid.
 3 YEARS AGO



Barnard Library

barnlib @barnlib

A3: there's also [#privilege](#) within the library that needs to be navigated: admins, librarians, support staff, pages, volunteers... [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



katie

@melbrarian

Q3 something i think about heaps is what comes before the question. all the stuff that has to happen before someone can ask [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



katie

@melbrarian

so someone comes in to the library after mulling something over, formulating the question, & then they find me and ask me for help [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



katie

@melbrarian

i'm a white, abled, cis, uni educated librarian. how is it for someone without these privileges to ask me for help? [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



katie

@melbrarian

in what ways am i inherently incapable of meeting their needs owing to fact that my priv has given me a v diff exp of the world? [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



katie

@melbrarian

what assumptions am i making that i don't realise i'm making? what prejudices am i bringing? how does this impact service i offer? [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Kevin Seeber

kevinseeber

This. Everyday. [#critlib](#) [twitter.com/melbrarian/sta...](https://twitter.com/melbrarian/status/1000000000000000000)



3 YEARS AGO



Melissa Morrone

@InfAgit

I think being aware of that privilege/those differences is itself important - and also discussing that w/ colleagues. [@melbrarian](#) [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Andy Hamilton

hamtron5000

[@InfAgit](#) [@melbrarian](#) Another question I wonder is how do I bring up our privilege to other staff? [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



katie

@melbrarian

[@hamtron5000](#) [@InfAgit](#) that is such a great question. i guess the first thing i learnt was "expect to be labelled a troublemaker" lol



3 YEARS AGO



Sveta Stoytcheva

@oksveta

Just got home & am dead tired, but [#critlib](#) is looking great. Lots to learn from awesome colleagues in public libraries.



3 YEARS AGO



Ian Beilin

ibeilin

[@melbrarian](#) I'd say it's really imp to learn what the person wants - yr privilege might actually help in some cases, no? [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



katie

@melbrarian

@ibeilin i think i'm uncomfortable w the idea of casting my privilege as helpful to marginalised groups particularly in context of #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ian Beilin

ibeilin @ibeilin

@melbrarian sometimes patrons ask us things because of our privilege - they're not asking for empathy but info, help, etc #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ian Beilin

ibeilin @ibeilin

@melbrarian which isn't to say anyone expects us to be 'patronizing'! #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



katie

@melbrarian

@ibeilin they absolutely do, & i am keenly aware that my various privileges often makes me seem a more credible source



3 YEARS AGO



katie

@melbrarian

@ibeilin example of using one's power as a white person to call out racism bc you'll be taken more seriously is the kind of 'help' u mean?



3 YEARS AGO



Ian Beilin

ibeilin @ibeilin

@melbrarian no I was thinking on a more mundane level as in knowledge we take for granted, ie social and cultural capital #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



katie

@melbrarian

@ibeilin and critical of the way in which certain kinds of knowledge are deemed valuable & important - so hard to see it as "helpful"!



3 YEARS AGO



Andy Hamilton

hamtron5000

@melbrarian @ibeilin I agree with that for sure. How do we combat that, I wonder?



3 YEARS AGO



disemvoweling

@dsmvwlng

@ibeilin @melbrarian we (society) hold mrgnlsd groups to diff stds, so knwldg based on soc cap/etc often won't translate usefully #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ian Beilin

ibeilin @ibeilin

@melbrarian in acad. context, students demand (and deserve) the same social & cultural capital I have, even though system is unjust #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



katie

@melbrarian

@ibeilin like i said - happy 2share my knowledge, but wary of casting this as "helpful" as this obscures nature of what i'm sharing #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ian Beilin

ibeilin @ibeilin

@melbrarian exactly - how to share that knowledge while keeping its true function exposed and communicating the critical awareness #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ian Beilin

ibeilin @ibeilin

@melbrarian yes, absolutely true! but as long as it functions that way, less privileged may demand it, and they will ask me for it #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Barnard Library

barnlib @barnlib

This #critlib convo about public service gets me to ponder treating everyone the "same" vs tailoring svc to yr perceptions of person's need.



3 YEARS AGO



Andy Hamilton

hamtron5000 hamtron5000

@barnlib SUPER good question. How much can we get away with just asking them? #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Kevin Seeber

kevinseeber kevinseeber

@barnlib Right! And recognizing our perceptions are unavoidably influenced by our own biases. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Lisa Hinchliffe

lisalibrarian lisalibrarian

@barnlib And what creates those perceptions? Are we using data about user perspectives in shaping our perceptions?



3 YEARS AGO





Barnard Library



barnlib @barnlib

Lots of things are data, @lisalibrarian, and none of them neutral! #critlib





3 YEARS AGO



 **Lisa Hinchliffe**
lisa@barnlib
@barnlib I absolutely agree that none are neutral! I have some faith in multiplicity of data sources to triangulate tho. #critlib
 3 YEARS AGO



 **Andy Hamilton**
hamtron5000
Coming up on Q4 (out of five). This is a great discussion, thank you guys so much! It's been like a fun version of a tornado! #critlib
 3 YEARS AGO

Q4: As one of the "last free spaces" in the public sphere, what unique critical responsibilities do we have to our patrons?

 **Andy Hamilton**
hamtron5000
Q4: As one of the "last free spaces" in the public sphere, what unique critical responsibilities do we have to our patrons? #critlib
 3 YEARS AGO

 **Andy Hamilton**
hamtron5000
Q4 "Neutral" hangup: I want to provide accurate and worthy information, but "accurate" and "worthy" are thorny. #critlib
 3 YEARS AGO

 **Kevin Seeber**
kevinseeber
A4- Recognizing and valuing their humanity. #critlib
 3 YEARS AGO

 **Barnard Library**
barnlib @barnlib
A4: Y'all have SO MANY responsibilities as a "free" space--selection, staffing, design, hours, etc. down to what's free as in beer! #critlib
 3 YEARS AGO



Melissa Morrone

@InfAgit

A4: Make your space reflective of the community..but also actively promote lit and expression (art, etc) from non-dominant culture. [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Melissa Morrone

@InfAgit

A4: I.e. even if your community is heavily white, it's your resp for collections and programs to reflect non-white culture as well. [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Andy Hamilton

~~hamtron5000~~ hamtron5000

[@InfAgit](#) Thought while weeding: book about non-dom cultur. met weeding criteria, but one of only a few such. Kept it, just in case. [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



disemvoweling

@dsmvwlng

[@hamtron5000](#) [@InfAgit](#) consider revising weeding criteria to factor this in? otherwise next weeder makes diff judgement call and it's gone



3 YEARS AGO



Barnard Library

barnlib @barnlib

[@hamtron5000](#) [@InfAgit](#) Sounds like the weeding criteria need to be adapted, too!



3 YEARS AGO



Andy Hamilton

~~hamtron5000~~ hamtron5000

[@barnlib](#) [@InfAgit](#) Agreed. I'm usually only looking at age/circs/condition. There's more there! [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Melissa Morrone

@InfAgit

.@hamtron5000 @barnlib Yes, good points! And try displays, related events to inspire interest in significant but low-circ books. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Melissa Morrone

@InfAgit

A4: In a commercialized world, staff in "free" libraries must be intentional in not going along w/ status quo cultural expression. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Andy Hamilton

hamtron5000

@InfAgit Can you elaborate?



3 YEARS AGO



Melissa Morrone

@InfAgit

Buying materials beyond bestsellers/blockbusters and/or by POC, hosting performances/concerts from other cultures... @hamtron5000 #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Melissa Morrone

@InfAgit

And, lower cost, scheduling public discussions on current events (#BlackLivesMatter, resisting online surveillance...) @hamtron5000 #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ian Beilin

ibeilin @ibeilin

@InfAgit what about in conservative communities where patrons demand mainstream materials and programming? #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Melissa Morrone

@InfAgit

.@ibeilin Patrons should have those books, but...That authority thing. The librarian shd also think globally, push the community. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Melissa Morrone

@InfAgit

.@ibeilin This is also me in my multicultural Brooklyn bubble. No idea what I'd do in such a uniform conservative community. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Sveta Stoytcheva

@oksveta

@ibeilin @InfAgit often even those communities are less homogenous then they seem, & diverse materials could be esp crucial? #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Melissa Morrone

@InfAgit

.@oksveta @ibeilin Very good point, even in this era of the Web. Neighborhood libraries are still loci of exploration. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Ian Beilin

ibeilin @ibeilin

@oksveta yes very true - I was thinking of my home town which tried to seal itself off from the world, even though it's 'liberal' @InfAgit



3 YEARS AGO



Andy Hamilton

hamtron5000

From reading Habermas, I feel like publubs might be unique in that they are still free, still public, still (generally) wide open. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Andy Hamilton

hamtron5000

[@hamtron5000](#) And I feel like a big part of my responsibility to patrons is to keep it that way. [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Kevin Seeber

kevinseeber

[@hamtron5000](#) I wonder if public libraries are the only ones doing that anymore? [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Andy Hamilton

hamtron5000

[@kevinseeber](#) In my community, publibs are the only place that patrons can go for free tech help or classes. The ONLY place. [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Kevin Seeber

kevinseeber

[@hamtron5000](#) Or even a place with a roof/air conditioning/running water w/out expectation of purchasing something?



3 YEARS AGO



Andy Hamilton

hamtron5000

[@kevinseeber](#) [#Vital](#). Large homeless population use our library for those purposes. Complaints sometimes, but libraries are for all. [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Melissa Morrone

@InfAgit

[.@hamtron5000](#) [@kevinseeber](#) Other examples of free mutual aid teaching but 1) likely in cities and 2) often homogenous scenes. [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Andy Hamilton

hamtron5000

A4: Again personally, I feel like providing tools/teaching digital literacy is one of my paramount responsibilities too. [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Andy Hamilton

hamtron5000

A4: Not a collection management person, but I think there are definitely unique responsibilities there. Anyone in that position? [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO

Q5: What resources (print, online, etc) would you recommend for a public library staff to increase their [#critlib](#) knowledge?



Andy Hamilton

hamtron5000

Q5: What resources (print, online, etc) would you recommend for a public library staff to increase their [#critlib](#) knowledge? [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Andy Hamilton

hamtron5000

Q5: (I will admit this is specifically so I can share with my coworkers some cool resources and maybe open a discussion!) [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Maura Smale

mauraweb

Looking forward to answers to Q5, thinking they could also be useful for acad libs staff [#critlib](#) readings/discussions. :) [@hamtron5000](#)



3 YEARS AGO



katie

@melbrarian

Q5 [#critlib](#) of course! and associated zotero, which i hope is ok for me (as a reader but non-contributor) to share zotero.org/groups/critlib



3 YEARS AGO



katie

@melbrarian

A5 there's a lot of important stuff like equity of access to information, addressing the digital divide, social inclusion, etc [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



katie

@melbrarian

A5 but the thing i love about [#critlib](#) is dimension of accountability it kind of demands, of our institutions & us as individual librarians



3 YEARS AGO



katie

@melbrarian

A5 so i think this is a huge responsibility we have towards our communities bc its a safeguard against idea that we're "neutral" [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Barnard Library

barnlib @barnlib

[@hamtron5000](#) There's this great book called Informed Agitation, edited by [@InfAgit](#). Not just public librarianship, but some. :)



3 YEARS AGO



Sveta Stoytcheva

@oksveta

Reading through the [#critlib](#) convo & reflecting on working in a (state) uni lib tht is open to the public & how that can be hard to navigate



3 YEARS AGO



Andy Hamilton

hamtron5000

[@oksveta](#) I imagine you face a number of unique challenges from many directions...



3 YEARS AGO



Sveta Stoytcheva

[@oksveta](#)

[@hamtron5000](#) Yes, uni affiliates are primary constituency/1st priority, & how that manifests can be problematic [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



kyle shockey

[@kshockey04](#)

[#critlib](#) hot take: entire discussion on weeding criteria re: justification vs. content of weeding?



3 YEARS AGO



Andy Hamilton

hamtron5000

[@kshockey04](#) Ooh, that would be awesome. Yes, please!



3 YEARS AGO



Andy Hamilton

hamtron5000

Q5 My critical journey included "Teaching To Transgress" and "Feminism is For Everybody" by bell hooks, lots of Freire, some Foucault



3 YEARS AGO



Andy Hamilton

hamtron5000

Q5: Habermas, Freire, Foucault, hooks... these all helped me. [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Ian Beilin

[ibeilin](#) [@ibeilin](#)

I'm thinking about class-segregated suburbs where pub libs serve artificial 'communities' of privilege - is [#critlib](#) pub librarian role diff



3 YEARS AGO



Gina Schlesselman-Ta

ginaschless ginaschless

@ibeilin what makes a community artificial?



3 YEARS AGO



Ian Beilin

ibeilin @ibeilin

@ginaschless all are of course, but some extremely so - no poor people for ex #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Andy Hamilton

hamtron5000 hamtron5000

@ibeilin I think of a #critlib person in that role as a Socratic gadfly.



3 YEARS AGO



Ian Beilin

ibeilin @ibeilin

@hamtron5000 it may end with hemlock #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Kevin Seeber

kevinseeber kevinseeber

@hamtron5000 @ibeilin Yes! Only, you know, he ended up dead. #critlib #hemlock



3 YEARS AGO



Kevin Seeber

kevinseeber kevinseeber

@ibeilin @hamtron5000 aaaand we made simultaneous hemlock jokes. #critlib



3 YEARS AGO



Barnard Library



barnlib @barnlib


This has been a great convo on #critlib in public libraries! (and still going)



twitter.com/hamtron5000/st...







3 YEARS AGO

 **Kevin Seeber**
kevinseeber
@barnlib Agreed! @hamtron5000 is pulling out all the stops. #critlib #coloradical #thanksandy
 3 YEARS AGO



 **Barnard Library**
barnlib @barnlib
A5 Since there don't seem to be a ton of #critlib bibliography suggs right now, maybe add them/check the Zotero org? zotero.org/groups/critlib
 3 YEARS AGO

 **katie**
@melbrarian
Q5 & places where ppl talk about their own lives, experiences - social media can b good place to hear from ppl ignored by mainstream #critlib
 3 YEARS AGO

 **katie**
@melbrarian
great comic abt this just fyi: robothugscomic.tumblr.com/post/118780127... #critlib
 3 YEARS AGO

 **Melissa Morrone**
@InfAgit
One reading I'd recommend re: tonight's #critlib is @taneyagethers's Informed Agitation chapter on culturally responsive library service.
 3 YEARS AGO

Pitches and future [#critlib](#)

 **Andy Hamilton**
hamtron5000
Okay #critlib friends! Been one helluvan hour! Any #critpitches?
 3 YEARS AGO



Andy Hamilton

hamtron5000

Also, next [#critlib](#) chat is [@Heath_Bears](#): kinesthetic/hands-on librarianship/learning or bodily librarianship/learning!



3 YEARS AGO



Andy Hamilton

hamtron5000

Next chat coming up June 2nd. [#critlib](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Barnard Library

barnlib @barnlib

[#critlib](#) pitch: I don't think anyone's moderated a critical [#UX](#) chat yet. Are you interested?
Volunteer here: tinyurl.com/critlibmod



3 YEARS AGO



Gina Schlesselman-Ta

ginaschless

[#critlib](#) pitch -- CFP libraryjuicepress.com/whiteness.php



3 YEARS AGO



Kevin Seeber

kevinseeber

[@hamtron5000](#) [@Heath_Bears](#) I hope [@alisonhickso](#) can be a part of this chat- topic relates to her excellent LOEX talk. [#critlib](#) [#coloradical](#)



3 YEARS AGO




Heath_Bear

@Heath_Bears


[@kevinseeber](#) [@hamtron5000](#) [@alisonhickso](#) I found a reading on drawing and information literacy that I'm super excited about! [#critlib](#)




3 YEARS AGO


 **Heath_Bear**
@Heath_Bears


@hamtron5000 @kevinseeber @alisonhickso I'll be adding it to the [#critlib](#) gdoc, but here is the link: scholarspace.manoa.hawaii.edu/bitstream/hand...

 3 YEARS AGO


 **Heath_Bear**
@Heath_Bears


@hamtron5000 @kevinseeber @alisonhickso I've also been looking at info on human/living libraries. All will be in gdoc! [#critlib](#)

 3 YEARS AGO


 **Heath_Bear**
@Heath_Bears


@kevinseeber @alisonhickso @hamtron5000 i just wet myself these slides look so good! [#critlib](#)

 3 YEARS AGO


 **Heath_Bear**
@Heath_Bears

@alisonhickso @kevinseeber @hamtron5000 i work at a tech college so this is right up my alley! [#critlib](#)


 3 YEARS AGO

 **Kevin Seeber**
kevinseeber @kevinseeber


Here are the slides from @alisonhickso: docs.google.com/presentation/d... Thinking abt Lloyd cite & corporeal information. @hamtron5000 @Heath_Bears

 @hamtron5000 · 3 YEARS AGO

Good nights and gratitude

 **Barnard Library**
barnlib @barnlib

Now that I've revealed my ignorance of philosophy theory and gadfly-nicity, signing off. Great [#critlib](#) chat @hamtron5000! Goodnight all. <3

 3 YEARS AGO



Maura Smale

mauraweb@mauraweb

Terrific [#critlib](#) tonight, many thanks to [@hamtron5000](#) for rad moderating, great to chat with everyone!



3 YEARS AGO



Ian Beilin

ibeilin @ibeilin

Thanks [@hamtron5000](#) for such an exciting [#critlib](#) - we need a lot more public lib convos here!!



3 YEARS AGO



Sveta Stoytcheva

@oksveta

Agreed! [#critlib](#) twitter.com/ibeilin/status...



3 YEARS AGO



Annie Pho

catladylib@catladylib

Thanks [@hamtron5000](#) for moderating a great [#critlib](#) convo about public libraries.



3 YEARS AGO



katie

@melbrarian

hey [@hamtron5000](#) ty for moderating [#critlib](#)! & ty to everyone sharing their ideas & experiences. my first one for a while! have missed it:-)



3 YEARS AGO



Melissa Morrone

@InfAgit

Thank you, [@hamtron5000](#), for great public library [#critlib](#)! Hopefully future ones will have more PL participants (and our acad colleagues).



3 YEARS AGO