

# Journal Club Post 1

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## SUMMARY KEYWORDS

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Hello, welcome to journal club with Jamia, this is my first blog post that keeps saying blog. But it's blog post. And I look forward to discussing articles and book chapters that have stuck out to me. And that has made me think deeper and further about different concepts or different trends that's going on within our profession. So this first article was a recommendation from one of my mentors in Goodman, who's amazing Zan is a reader. You know, we both admire bell hooks and Bell Hooks is a person that prided herself on reading a lot. And she stated that, you know, in Zen told me this through watching, you know, video of bell hooks that she read so much, because she's a writer, and as a writer, oftentimes, we can't write if we don't read, and we have to read in order to have the depth and the knowledge to articulate that on paper. So, I will be discussing, not discussing but introducing you to an article that you probably already heard, because it did come out in fall 2012. So about almost 13 years ago now, why 13 years ago, and then it's almost 11 years ago, 30 years ago. Anywho. Okay, so the article is called the counter hegemonic academic librarian, a call to action written by build and Engel. And it starts off saying this essay argues that academic librarians should work consciously for the improvement of conditions for marginalized and underrepresented segments of the population. And do so in spite of the fact that the pinup political terrain of the academic library typically reflects the ideologies of the dominant culture. Wow. So the article kicks it off, or the essay here kicks it off with this sentence, and is inviting us to want to engage in a way that is counter to what the dominant culture wants us to engage as. And if that's not timely for today, I don't know what it is. Okay, this was written in 2012. And here we are in 2023, where what we are, is now being attacked in is called, you know, woke, like, it's a bad thing to be woke, you know, and it's the woke mob and all this stuff in, it's an attack on wanting to be inclusive, it's an attack on wanting to make sure that we do have our voices heard. And that is just not one particular type of way to be. Because we all have different experiences, we all have something to bring to the table, and we all should be invited to that table. But let it be told, that's not the way to think that is terrible way of thinking, according to the dominant culture is only one way, you should only be one way, you should only want to have that one history told. But there's many histories. There's many narratives out there. And that is why we have to be intentional. And we have to engage in a way that allow for others voices to be hard. So I love how this essay starts. And I just love the entire thing. One of the things that I love about it is that it has a great recommendation list. Because you know, as librarians, we love having other resources. And one of the things that often is asked when I present or Well, when I when I present, I guess Oh, do you have any recommendations or you know, any other, you know, books out there or articles out there that can continue on this journey of learning that what you said today? And so this is perfect for information professionals that asked that question. And I know I asked that question in my mind, like whom I wonder what other materials are out there that will help me

continue learning about this topic. So this essay does that it incorporates recommended readings. And I love that. And then it concludes with Audrey Lord, you know, for the Masters tools will never dismantle the Masters House. They may allow us to temporarily beat him at his own game, but they will never enable us to bring about genuine change. And that's real good. Like, why would I give you the tools to dismantle something that I think is great that I intentionally want to make sure that all voices are heard? So we got to do differently. So I love this reading, I hope that you will engage with it. And so I'll end with this. It, it tells you what this essay is all about. And I highlighted it here, the ultimate goal of this essay is to encourage informed practice among academic librarians, through one, critiquing existing ideological structures using extant. Theory and to offering theoretical content strategies for action based upon this critique. So it is truly a call to action is truly a way to question critique existing structures that are within the academic library. And then it's for us to do something about it. So once you know, then it's time for you to do something. And that's it. That's what I hope that other library and academic librarians all libraries as a whole learn to do. Once we know something, we have to do something. And as the saying goes, once you know better, you do better, right? You can't just like keep reading and reading and reading and digesting all this information that people took the time out to write, to research and do nothing about it. It's for us to do something about it. So this is definitely a great essay to read. And to refer back to like, I'll refer back to this all the time, like, what what are we doing? You know, why do we like, for instance, we're trying to do a statement, why? Why are we trying to do a statement or we're trying to do the statement to perform dei to say, we're not not we're not racist, we're not bad people, are we really doing this statement to say, this is what we have done, this is what we plan to do. And we would love for you to hold us accountable. That's why we should do a statement or do something that's tough, you know, a vision or a mission of an academic library should be that not something that just to showcase. I'm not a bad person, please. You know, is to say, No, we have done the work and we continue to do the work. And these we have these mechanisms in place to ensure that we'll continue to do the work. And we love your feedback, we will love your input on how we can do better, right? That's about that would be my hope on what we should do. So again, I love this essay, I want these blogs to be just give you a taste of what I read not to give you the whole synopsis because I don't want to spoil it for you and I want for you to actually engage or what I read, because I took the time to read. So you can do it too. And if you have read about read this, please let me know. Again, this came out 2012 I wasn't even a librarian so pretty. You know a lot of you might have read it already. So and and but it's definitely on time for what we're going through right now. So I would love to read your comments, and I look forward to doing this next month. Take care