

Discussion Questions

1. How has the population your library serves changed within the last ten years?
2. How have the library and librarians evolved to manage the changing population?
3. Do you think cultural events are an important aspect of a public library?
4. Should a public library acknowledge and participate in programming for special events or holidays such as Women's History Month or Halloween?
5. How does the library determine which events to celebrate or honor?
6. Are there some holidays or events which are too racially or politically sensitive for libraries to acknowledge? If so, why? Should libraries work to change this perception?
7. Can libraries choose to acknowledge only certain events (such as Black History Month) and ignore other events (Women's History Month or Holocaust Remembrance Day)?
8. Do you believe it is important to build a diverse workforce in academic and public libraries?
9. Do you think a diverse workforce matters to library patrons?
10. Are academic or public libraries more sensitive to culturally diverse patrons and their needs?
11. Do you believe patrons feel that one type of library (public or academic) is more welcoming to their needs as an immigrant or non-native English speaking patron?