

INSPIRES



The Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Monthly Magazine
Created by students In Spires to Inspire others.

If you would like to submit articles or Ideas please come to EDI Meetings in D5 on a Thursday 3-4

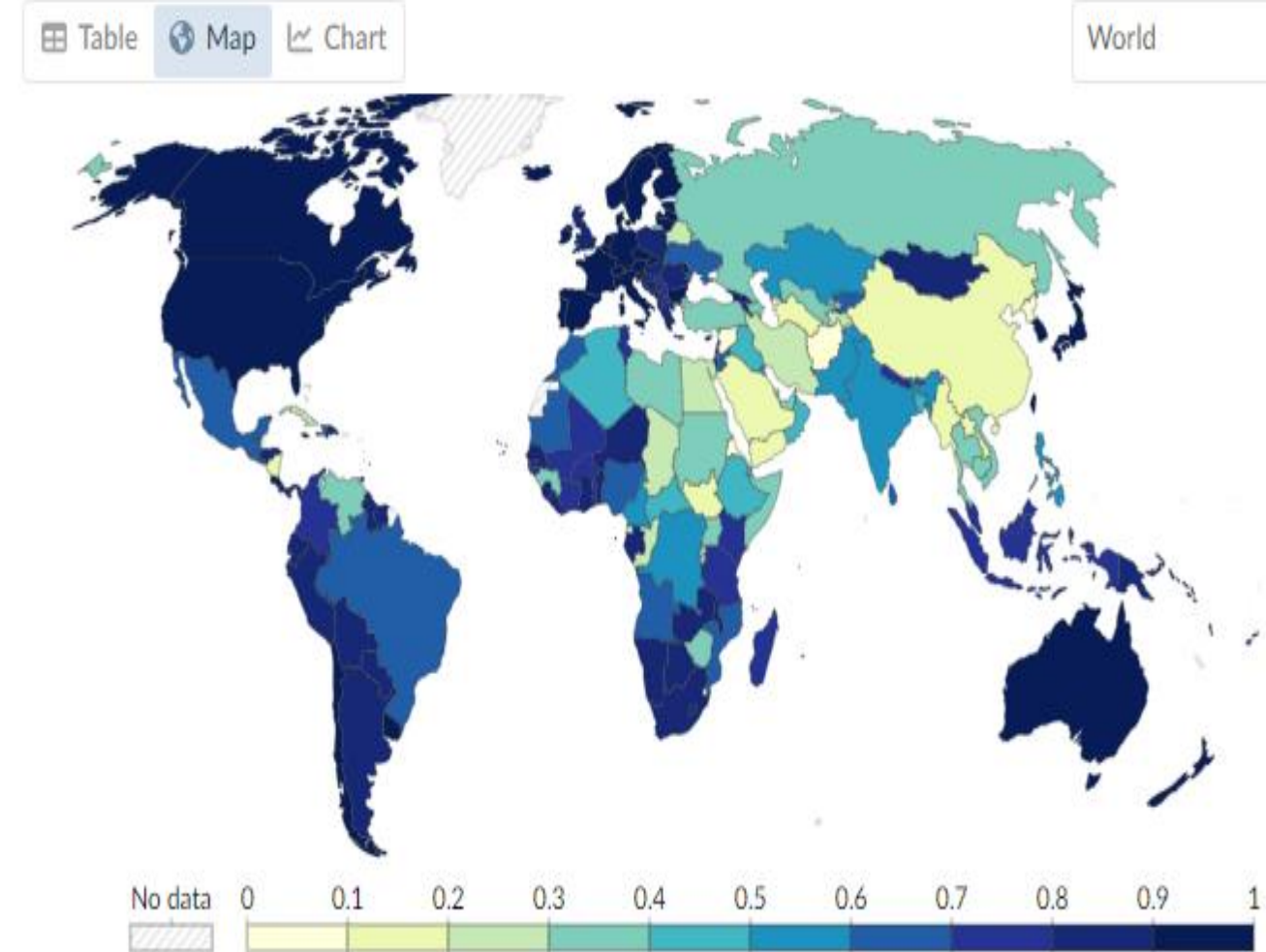
What do I need to know about Human Rights?



Even though we have documents such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights the reality is completely different sometimes. There is information called the Human Rights Index. It compares how well countries protect human rights –the darker the colour the better human rights are protected.

<https://risk-indexes.com/human-rights-map>

Based on the expert assessments and index by V-Dem. It captures the extent to which people are free from government torture, political killings, and forced labor; they have property rights; and enjoy the freedoms of movement, religion, expression, and association. The variable ranges from 0 to 1 (most rights).



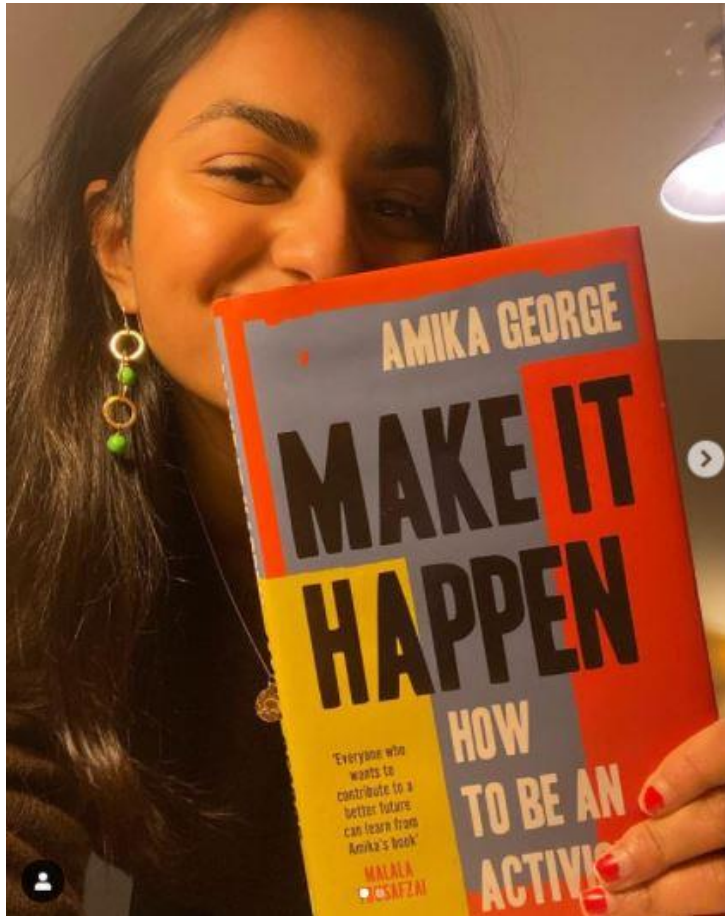
The EDI Team recommends you know ...

The EDI Teams inspirational Individuals



Kevin-Prince Boateng is a German-born Ghanaian professional footballer. A midfielder, Boateng is known for his strength, foot speed and ball-juggling tricks, but also for his activism against racism. In 2013, while playing at a friendly match for Milan, Boateng walked off the field followed by his team mates in protest at racist chanting from fans of the opponent club. He would later deliver a speech on racial discrimination in sports at the United Nations Office at Geneva. Boateng has played for top level teams in Germany, Italy, Spain and the UK and for the Ghana national football team

The EDI Teams inspirational Individuals



Amika George

Amika is a British activist who campaigns against period poverty in the UK. Founder of Free Periods, she authored the book *Make It Happen: How To Be An Activist*. Featured in Teen Vogue's 21 Under 21 after being nominated by Emma Watson, her 14.46% Instagram engagement rate is high.

The EDI Teams inspirational Individuals

Michelle Bachelet



Chile's first female president, Michelle Bachelet now serves as the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. She has a long history of activism. In 1975, she was detained and tortured for weeks after speaking out against Chile's military dictatorship. She went on to serve as Chile's president from 2006-2010 and 2014-2018. A physician by training, she spent her presidencies strengthening the rights of the country's most vulnerable, including women and the LGBTQ+ community. Her appointment as the UN's High Commissioner was well-received by the international community.

The EDI Teams inspirational Individuals

Nelson Mandela (1918–2013)



The South African anti-apartheid revolutionary inspired an international campaign for his release from prison where he was serving a life sentence on charges of sabotage and conspiracy to overthrow the government. After 27 years in prison, he was released in 1990; three years later he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize with F.W. de Klerk for their work to undo South Africa's racist apartheid policies. In 1994, Mandela was inaugurated as South Africa's first Black president, a position he held until 1999.

The EDI Teams inspirational Individuals

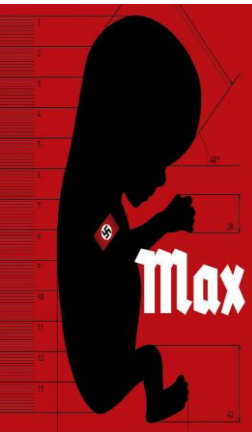


21-year-old gun control activist **Emma Gonzalez** survived the 2018 Parkland high school shooting and co-founded the anti-gun advocacy group Never Again MSD. They helped organise the March for Our Lives demonstration and were included in Time's 100 Most Influential People.

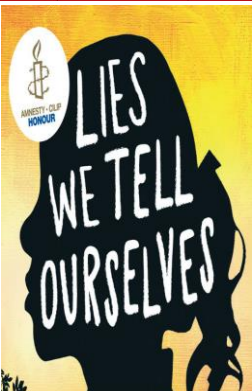
The EDI Teams inspirational Individuals

- **Gandhi** - Campaigned for non-violence and freedom using peaceful protest
- **Desmond Tutu** - Helped end apartheid and fought against racism
- **Marsha P. Johnson** - Advocate for gay and lgbt rights, one of the leaders of the stonewall riots
- **Gigi Chao** - Advocate for lgbt rights in Asia and Hong Kong
- **Luis Alfaro** - Advocated lgbt rights and helped the aids crisis in the Latino community

Fiction Texts



Max by Sarah Cohen-Scali
Born through the Nazi Lebensborn programme, designed to engineer 'perfect' Aryan children, baby Max is born unable to understand human emotions like compassion or love. Some of his experiences start to challenge his world-view.

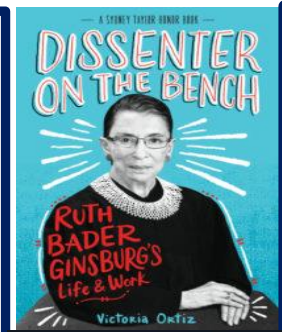


Lies We Tell Ourselves by Robin Talley
Set during 1959 it explores the experiences of two girls whose lives are divided along racial lines. They come to realise that their prickly relationship maybe attraction that they are determined to resist.

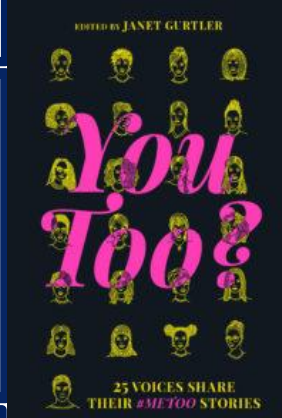


The Stars at Oktober Bend by Glenda Millard
Narrated by Fifteen-year-old Alice Nightingale, cursed by 'twelveness' following a terrible assault. Alice struggles to express herself, yet she crafts poems from her broken words, finding new ways of connecting with the world around her.

Non Fiction Texts



Dissenter on the Bench by Victoria Ortiz
The life and career of the fiercely principled Supreme Court Justice, now a popular icon, with dramatic accounts of her landmark cases that moved the needle on legal protection of human rights.

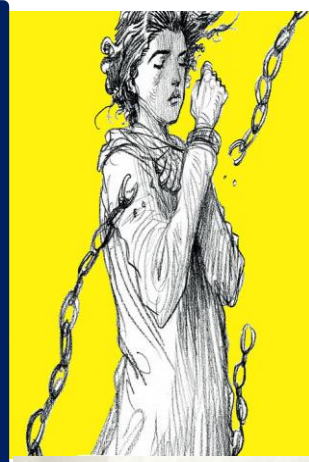


You Too? by Janet Gurtler
A collection of essays inspired by the #MeToo movement. When #MeToo went viral millions of people began to reflect on past experiences. Janet Gurtler needed teens to know what she had not: that no young person should be subject to sexual assault, or made to feel unsafe, less than or degraded.

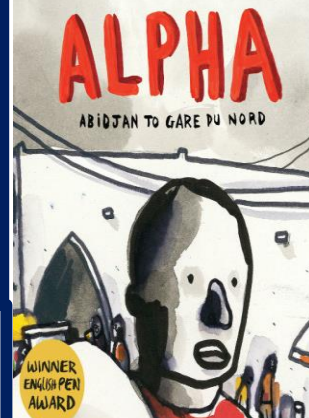


In How I Resist, readers will find hope and support through this collection of essays both personal, funny, irreverent, and instructive.

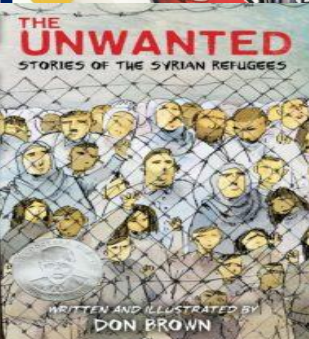
Poems/Graphic Novels



Here I Stand
Is a compelling collection of stories, poems and graphic narratives commissioned by Amnesty to explore different aspects of our human rights. Each contribution presents a human rights issue in a thought-provoking and original way



Alpha by Bessora and Barroux
Alpha follows the story of a father travelling to be reunited with his wife and child. This powerful graphic novel is an unflinching portrayal of the refugee crisis, exploring Alpha's journey alongside a host of characters seeking sanctuary from poverty and violence.



The Unwanted: Stories of the Syrian Refugees by Don Brown
A graphic novel tells the collective tale of Syrian refugees' attempt to escape their country's civil horror

The EDI Team recommends looking at the Art of ...

Banksy – Human rights activist & Artist



Known for his unapologetic criticism of today's political, military and financial establishments, Banksy expresses this through his iconic, but ever-pertinent imagery. A crucial pillar of Banksy's activism is his stance against all forms of war and violence.



The EDI Team recommends you Listen to...

Music to Promote Human Rights

As a universal language that transcends cultural barriers, music is a medium where people and artists alike can have their voices heard in a manner that words alone cannot. Music has often been used to foreground pressing political and societal issues, including the promotion and protection of human rights. These artists have used their musical talent and platform to share awareness of human rights issues across the world and bring a voice to marginalized members of society.



Hans Zimmer

Composer of award-winning films such as Dune, The Dark Night, The Lion King and The Rock, Hollywood composer Hans Zimmer has established himself as one of the most eminent film composers in history. Zimmer was invited to compose an anthem to celebrate Amnesty International's 50th anniversary, titled "One More Voice for Freedom" in commemoration for International Human Rights Day. Zimmer himself is quoted saying "it was a privilege to create this piece of music for a cause which is so close to our hearts" and that it is my "hope that the anthem will inspire people to support Amnesty's vision of a world where fundamental rights are protected for everyone. We should all join Amnesty in standing up for justice, freedom and human rights". <https://open.spotify.com/playlist/37i9dQZF1DWWF3yivn1m3D>



Alicia Keys

Dubbed as the "Queen of R&B", American singer-song writer Alicia Keys has intertwined her passion for music with human rights activism through her extensive philanthropic work in her musical career. Keys is the co-founder of the non-profit organization, Keep a Child Alive, that provides treatment and social support to children and families affected by HIV in Africa and India. As part of her work in Keep a Child Alive, Keys host an annual fundraising gala called the Black Ball, where she invites major musical artists to perform at the event to raise funds for HIV and AIDS activism.

<https://open.spotify.com/playlist/37i9dQZF1DZ06evO275qeI>

https://www.amnesty.org.uk/files/yhrs_additional_human_rights_songs_2014.pdf - More songs about Human Rights

The EDI Team recommends you Listen to...



Maxim Vengerov

Hailed as one of the most talented violinists in the 21st century, Maxim Vengerov was the first classical musician to be appointed as a UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador in 1997. Alongside his musical accomplishments, Vengerov has focused much of his advocacy on the promotion of children's education and rights and has visited countries such as Turkey, Uganda and Bosnia and Herzegovina representing UNICEF. Vengerov has also performed at #EndViolence events in Bucharest, Romania for UNICEF Romania. <https://open.spotify.com/playlist/37i9dQZF1DZ06evO1ufG0h>



Bruce Springsteen

Bruce Springsteen is an American singer-song writer, known as one of the original founders of the heartland rock genre, which combines elements of mainstream rock music with narratives of the American working class. Throughout his musical career, Springsteen has been a long advocate for LGBT rights, the empowerment of women and democracy, using his international platform to raise awareness of social issues. Springsteen was first invited to perform for Amnesty International in 1988 and has since continued his advocacy of human rights through his music.

<https://open.spotify.com/playlist/5HjbxqANpLRCsedVfu5vBo>



Nadya Tolokonnikova

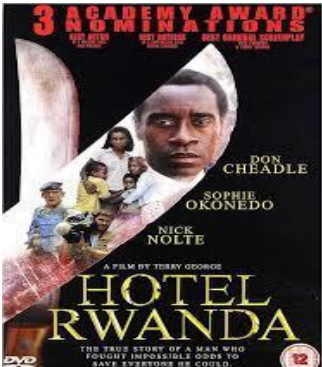
As the leader of the Russian feminist punk band Pussy Riot, Nadya Tolokonnikova uses her musical platform to spread awareness of human rights issues through her music. As a passionate feminist, Tolokonnikova delved into themes of sexism and rape culture in her newest EP, Panic Attack, and has agreed to donate a portion of the proceeds from her EP to a shelter for domestic violence in Russia. Tolokonnikova herself was recognized by a political prisoner by the Union of Solidarity with Political Prisoners and Amnesty International described her as a “prisoner of conscience” due to the “severity of the response of Russian authorities.” https://www.ted.com/speakers/nadya_tolokonnikova



Piera Van de Wiel

Piera Van de Wiel is a British singer and composer who uses her music as a platform for her human rights advocacy. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Van de Wiel released a single, “Used”, to raise awareness of the increase in domestic violence and abuse against women during the pandemic with the support of the United Nations Spotlight Initiative. Alongside her musical pursuits, Van de Wiel is the founder of the non-profit organization, Stronger With Music, a movement that works towards achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals. <https://open.spotify.com/playlist/37i9dQZF1E4viWCFYK598Q>

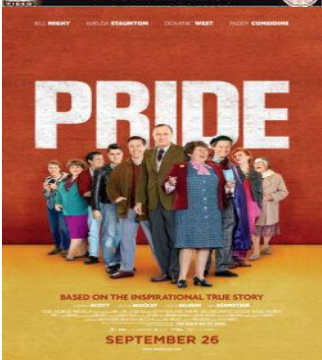
The EDI Team recommends you watch...



Hotel Rwanda (2004) PG

Paul Rusesabagina, a hotel manager, houses over a thousand Tutsi refugees during their struggle against the Hutu militia in Rwanda, Africa.

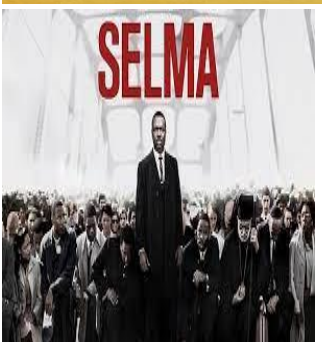
Trailer - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2x8UzELvKIY>



Pride (2014) 12

British stars Imelda Staunton and Bill Nighy team up to tell a true story about LGBTQ activists in London who rally behind striking miners and their families. The comedy-drama demonstrates the importance of activist solidarity and collaboration.

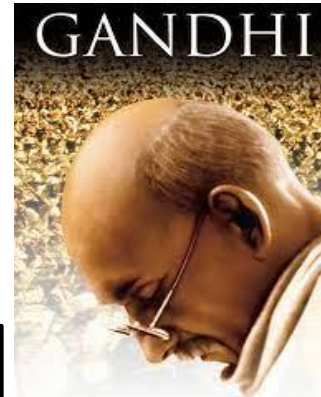
Trailer - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kZfFvsKDuUU>



Selma, (2015) 12

Selma tells the story of Martin Luther King's battle for equal voting rights in America, spanning a three-month period in 1965. The film explores the important issues of race relations, discrimination and human rights, and reminds us how far we remain from King's dream of equality.

Trailer - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x6t7vVTxaic>



Gandhi (1982) PG

The life of the lawyer who became the famed leader of the Indian revolts against the British rule through his philosophy of nonviolent protest.

Trailer <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B7I6D3mSYTE>



The Kite Runner (2007) PG

After spending years in California, Amir returns to his homeland in Afghanistan to help his old friend Hassan, whose son is in trouble.

Trailer - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sLtavGjAOJY>



Rabbit-Proof Fence (2002) PG

In 1931, three half-white, half-Aboriginal girls escape after being plucked from their houses to be trained as domestic staff and set off on a journey across the Outback.

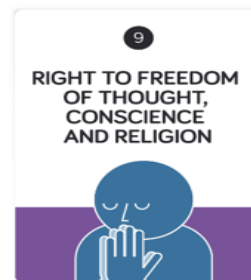
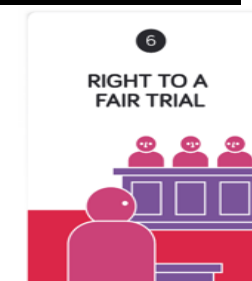
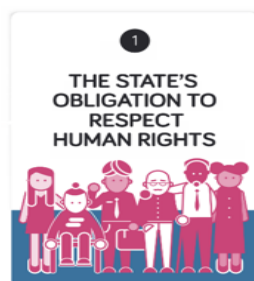
Trailer - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lbnk8wSVMaM>

The EDI Spotlight Artist...

- **“Imagine” by John Lennon/Yoko Ono**
- Killed in 1980, John Lennon is one of the world’s most popular artists. “Imagine” is the best-selling single of his solo career. Released during the Vietnam War, Lennon asks the listener to imagine a utopia without borders, religions, or even possessions. He acknowledges that people will see him as a “dreamer,” but that “he’s not the only one.” Like many of Lennon’s songs, the music and lyrics are simple and impactful. When Lennon died, “Imagine” shot to #1. Dozens of artists have covered the song, including Elton John, Joan Baez, and Lady Gaga. Though world peace seems impossible, there’s something about this song that gives people hope.



The EDI suggest you join ...



Please submit articles/poems/recipes, recommendations for books/podcasts/films or music for the next issue to

Miss May CLMay@spires.anthemtrust.uk

March theme – Gender Equality

OUR EDI MISSION –

- Oxford Spires Academy is to become a place that embraces, enables, and champions Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion. We want our young people, our staff, in fact, anyone who encounters us to feel they belong and can bring their whole selves to OSA. We value difference and strive to live by this value every day, it is heard, seen and felt by all. Through our advocacy and allyship we seek to have a positive impact on society.



Equality is everyone getting a pair of shoes.



Diversity is everyone getting a different type of shoe.



Equity is everyone getting a pair of shoes that fits.



Acceptance is understanding we all wear different kinds of shoes.



Belonging is wearing the shoes you want without fear of judgment.