

# Genrefication

Please take a few minutes to fill out the survey found at the following url:

<http://tinyurl.com/genrefythelibrary>

Margaret Sullivan Brannon & Karen Meier



# Objectives



To enhance participants' knowledge of the genrefication process and its impact on a school community



To provide opportunity to talk through the pros and cons to make an informed decision regarding genrefication



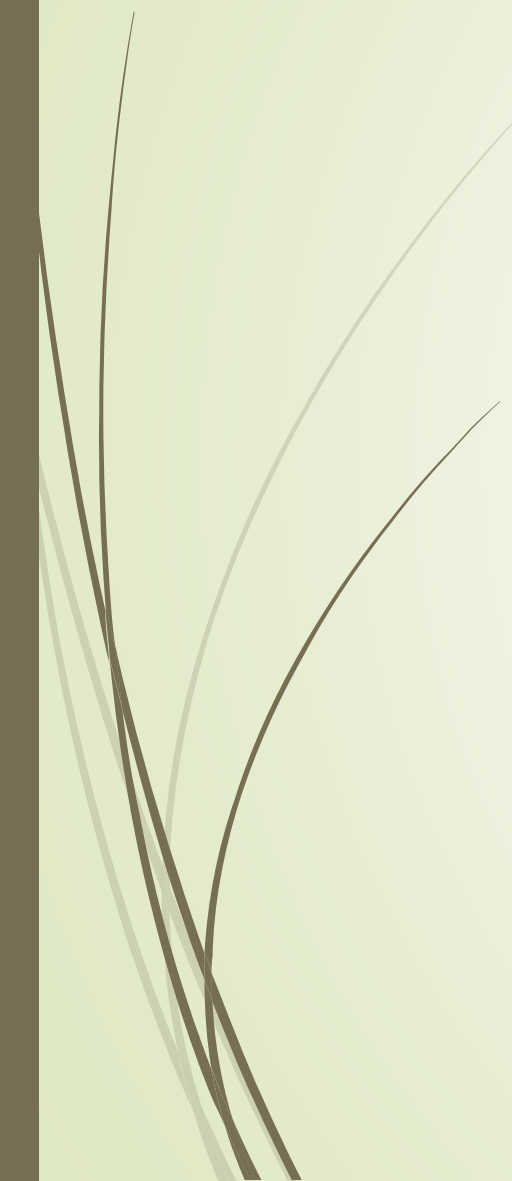
To provide those who want to pursue genrefication a supportive PLC to help through the process



WHO'S HERE?



# Margaret Sullivan Brannon Jesse Wharton Elementary

- At Jesse Wharton 14 years
  - Building opened in 1999
  - What I'm doing now:
    - Eliminating decimals in popular nonfiction sections
    - Weeding extensively
  - Why:
    - Empower students
    - Make shelving easier for myself and my volunteers
- 

# Karen Meier Southwest Guilford High School

- ▶ At Southwest for 6 ½ years
- ▶ Approximately 1600 students
- ▶ Very diverse population
- ▶ Good administrative support
- ▶ 2<sup>nd</sup> media specialist was cut two years ago by the superintendent

## Why did I genrefy?

- ▶ Wanted to provide easy access for students to books that they are interested in
- ▶ Positive feedback from students about the idea





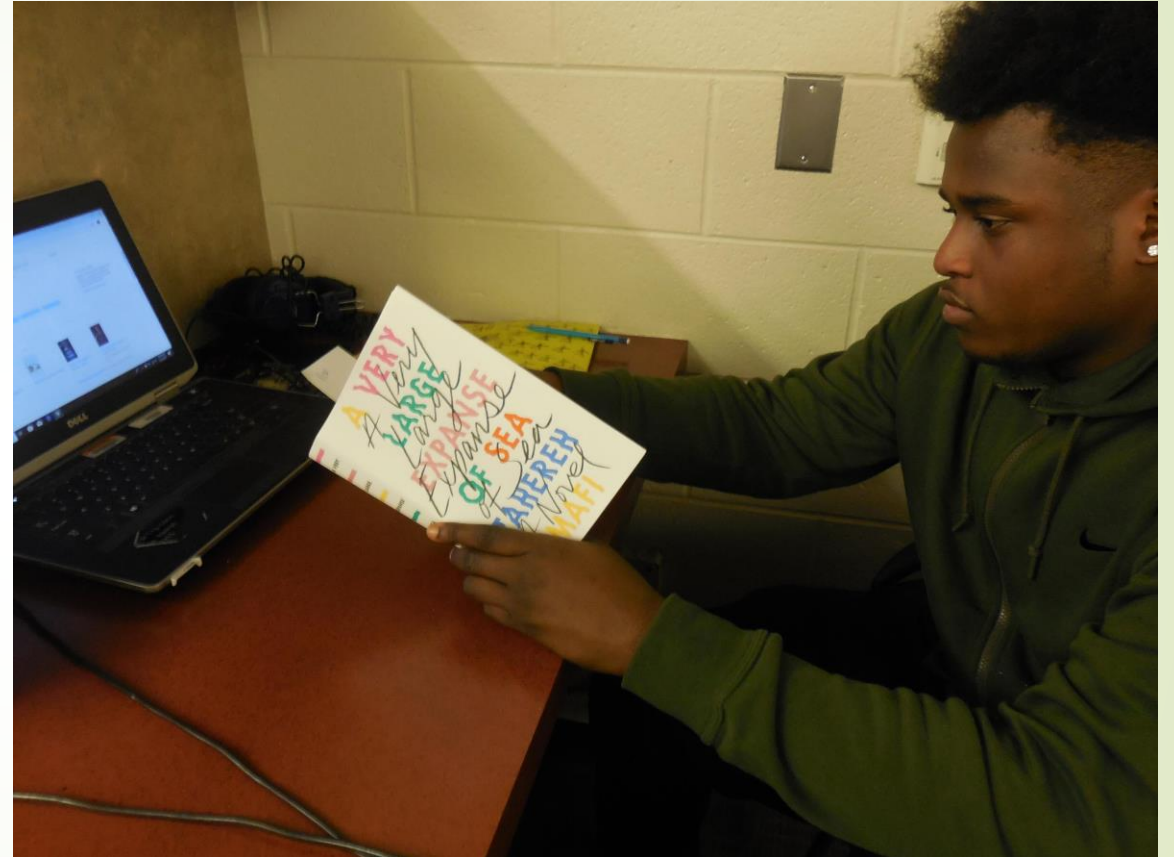
It's such an overwhelming task. How did I do it?

- Used my media services students (a.k.a. media assistants)
- Gave students independence with this
- Took us an entire semester

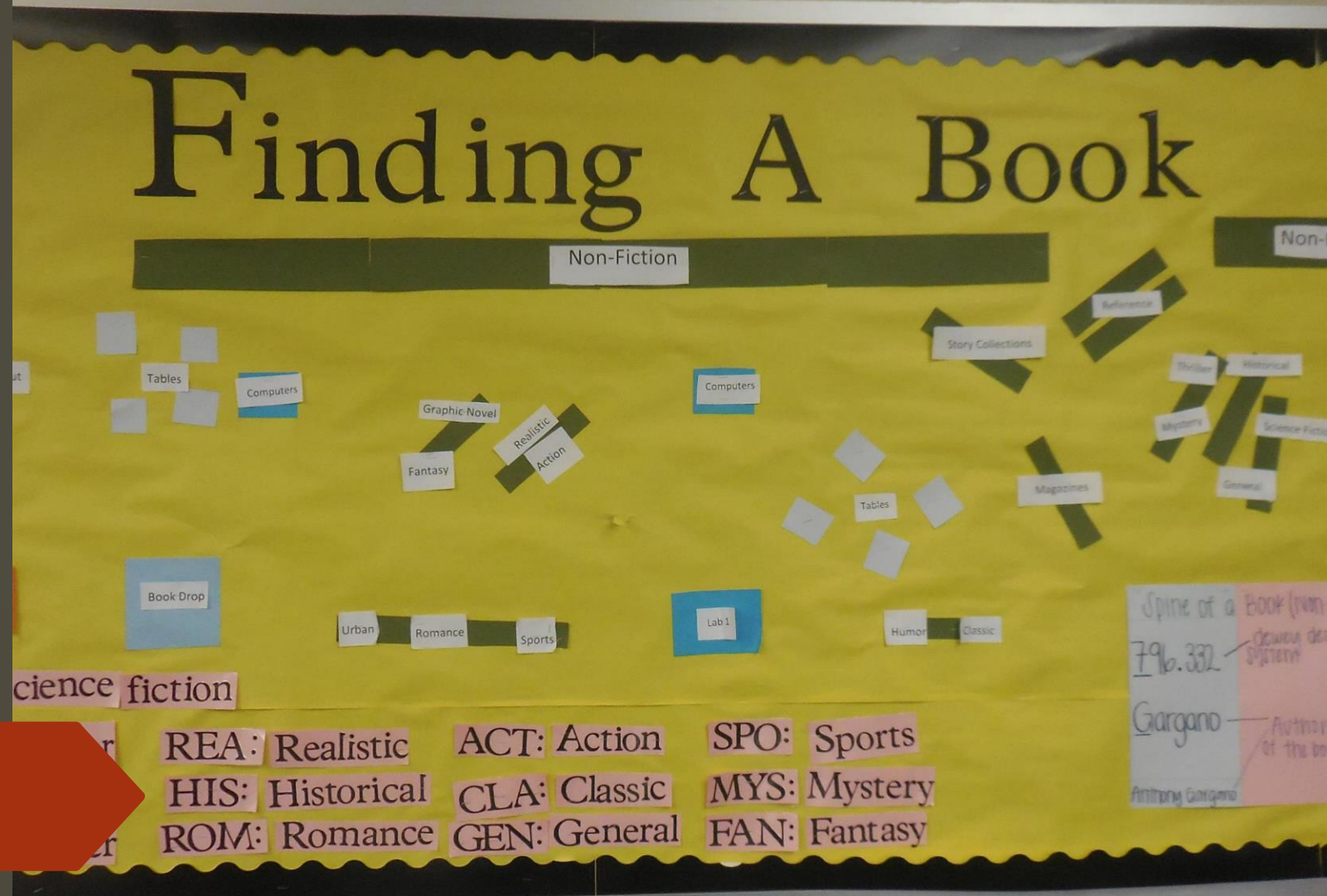
My students did (and still do) the work!

They...

- Pulled books from the shelves
- Determined the genre from Titlewave
- Changed the spine label in Destiny
- Put the labels on the books



Students even designed where the different genres were to be permanently housed and created a bulletin board!







## African American Interest Section?

- Contemplating this for about a year
- Had some positive feedback from students
- Thought students would enjoy having a place for books selected just for them
- Planning to have African American media services students select the books

# Aha Moment!

Read article entitled “What is White Privilege Really?” in Teaching Tolerance

“White Privilege as the “Power of Normal”

- ▶ “subtle versions of white privilege”
- ▶ Simple, everyday things that white people don’t even think about

<https://www.tolerance.org/magazine/fall-2018/what-is-white-privilege-really>

Collins, Cory. “What Is White Privilege, Really?” *Teaching Tolerance*, Southern Poverty Law Center, 2018, [www.tolerance.org/magazine/fall-2018/what-is-white-privilege-really](https://www.tolerance.org/magazine/fall-2018/what-is-white-privilege-really).





## Simple Things

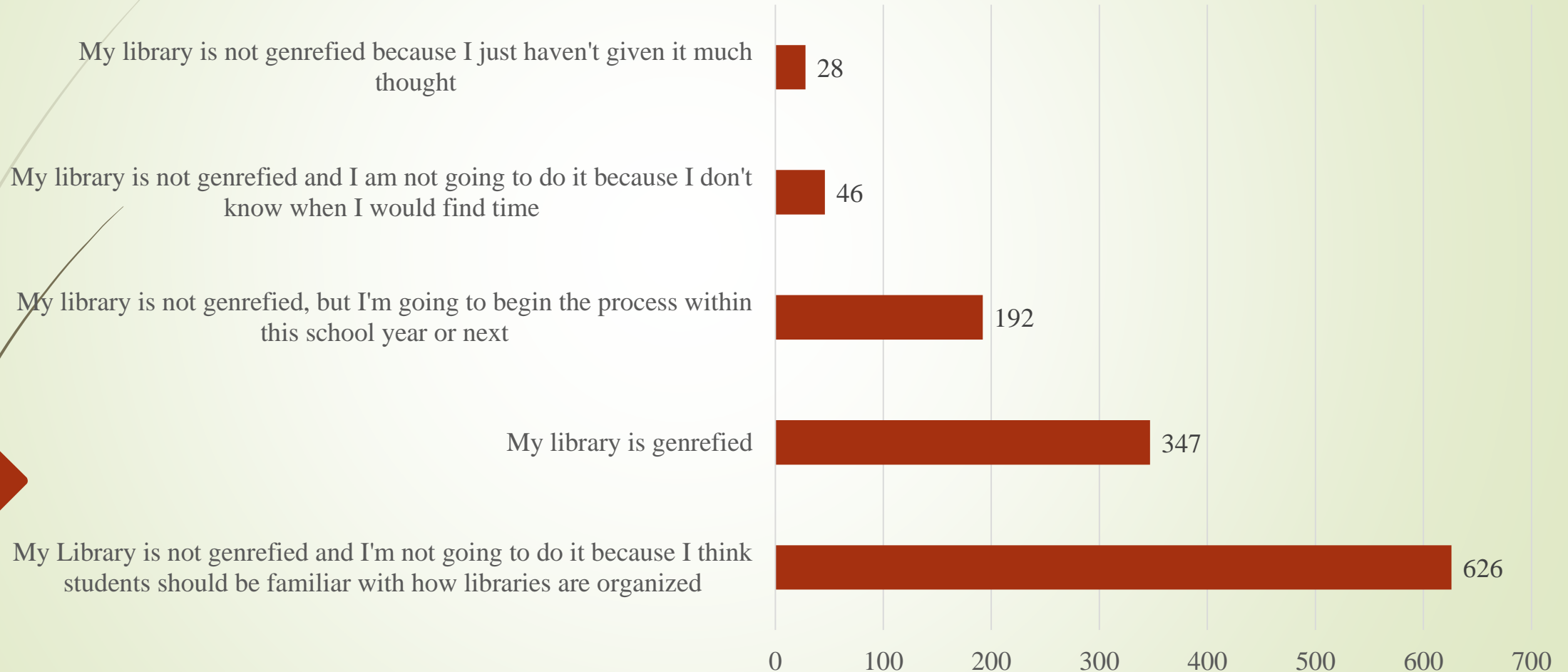
Examples include:

- “The first-aid kit having “flesh-colored” Band-Aids that only match the skin tone of white people.”
- “The products white people need for their hair being in the aisle labeled “hair care” rather than in a smaller, separate section of ‘ethnic hair products.’”
- “The grocery store stocking a variety of food options that reflect the cultural traditions of most white people.”

➤ <https://www.tolerance.org/magazine/fall-2018/what-is-white-privilege-really>

Collins, Cory. “What Is White Privilege, Really?” *Teaching Tolerance*, Southern Poverty Law Center, 2018, [www.tolerance.org/magazine/fall-2018/what-is-white-privilege-really](http://www.tolerance.org/magazine/fall-2018/what-is-white-privilege-really).

# Unscientific Poll Learning Librarians Facebook Group






## Articles



On the back of the cards you received there is a number 1, 2, or 3.



Please group yourselves by these numbers.



Read the following articles based on your number. You will discuss the pros and cons that the articles mention. Record on a sticky note.

1

A House Divided

<https://tinyurl.com/genrearticle1>

2

Genrefication of the Fiction Collection at an Elementary Library

<https://tinyurl.com/genrearticle2>

3

Dewey's Destiny: Actions in the Field

<https://tinyurl.com/genrearticle3>



## Reflection

Reflect on your personal vision for  
YOUR library and community.



How would genrefication support  
(or not) your mission?

# Ready to take the plunge?

- ▶ In a perfect world, where you have unlimited time and resources, what would your decision be? Why or why not?

<https://tinyurl.com/genreplunge>





Let's Talk (and Plan!)

Break into grade  
level groups of  
3-5 people.


Middle/High may wish to  
combine



# Discuss the following questions

## Be prepared to share out

- ▶ What stakeholders will you need to persuade?
  - ▶ What arguments could you use?
- ▶ What types of genre sections would be helpful for your library? Consider your community of learners.
  - ▶ Picture books?
  - ▶ Graphic Novels?
- ▶ Will you incorporate any non-fiction? If so, what would you include?
- ▶ How will you accomplish this in your Library?
  - ▶ What resources will you need?



Where do  
you go  
from here?



What are your next  
steps?



Any questions?



Join our PLC



Teams.Microsoft.com  
Team Code:  
3bzt8qf

Contact information:

Margaret Sullivan Brannon – [sullivm@gcsnc.com](mailto:sullivm@gcsnc.com)

KarenMeier – [meierk@gcsnc.com](mailto:meierk@gcsnc.com)



# References

Collins, Cory. "What Is White Privilege, Really?" *Teaching Tolerance*, Southern Poverty Law Center, 2018, [www.tolerance.org/magazine/fall-2018/what-is-white-privilege-really](http://www.tolerance.org/magazine/fall-2018/what-is-white-privilege-really).

Dunn, Katie. *Genrefication of the Fiction Collection in an Elementary School Library*. 2015.  
[https://centralspace.ucmo.edu/bitstream/handle/123456789/417/Dunne201530\\_RP\\_Genrefication.pdf?sequence=7&isAllowed=y](https://centralspace.ucmo.edu/bitstream/handle/123456789/417/Dunne201530_RP_Genrefication.pdf?sequence=7&isAllowed=y).

Snipes, Phyllis Robinson. "Dewey's Destiny: Actions in the Field." *School Library Monthly*, vol. 31, no. 5, Mar. 2015, pp. 18–20. EBSCOhost, [search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&AuthType=ip,custuid&custid=s8455861&db=a9h&AN=101723244&site=ehost-live&scope=site](http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&AuthType=ip,custuid&custid=s8455861&db=a9h&AN=101723244&site=ehost-live&scope=site).

Trott, Barry, and Vicki Novak. "A house divided? Two views on genre separation." *Reference & User Services Quarterly*, Winter 2006, p. 33+. Academic OneFile, <http://link.galegroup.com/apps/doc/A157745144/AONE?u=ncowl&sid=AONE&xid=36709279>. Accessed 22 Feb. 2019.