Teacher Activism: How to Get Involved

Resource Bundle

I. Teacher Activism: How to Get Involved Resource

II. References
**Teacher activism:**

A teacher becomes an activist when s/he believes that positive change is needed in the profession and/or society and takes action both inside and outside the classroom (NYCoRE, 2003; Picower, 2012). The teacher commits to speaking out and working to “make things better and more equitable” for their students and community (Picower, 2012, p. 569).

### Resources

#### Act in your classroom

- **Education for Liberation Network** - This network of teachers, families, and allies has created a set of resources to help teachers and students “understand and challenge the injustices their communities face” (Education for Liberation Network, 2012, Mission).

- **New York Collective of Radical Educators** (NYCoRE) - This organization of educators and allies has created a bank of resources for any teacher and student “committed to fighting for social justice” both inside and outside of the classroom (NYCoRE, n.d., Mission).

- **Teaching Tolerance** – This organization creates free educational materials for educators that focus on “reducing prejudice, improving intergroup relations, and supporting equitable school experiences” for children (Southern Poverty Law Center, 2016, About Teaching Tolerance).

#### Join a Movement

- **Teacher Activist Groups** (TAG) – This coalition of diverse, grassroots teacher organizations aims to organize, network, and provide mutual benefits for small groups from across the country who “work for educational justice” (Teacher Activist Groups, n.d., Our Mission).

- **American Federation of Teachers** - This organization is a union of American teachers who are committed to the ideals of “fairness, democracy, economic opportunity, and high-quality public education, healthcare and public services” for local communities (American Federation of Teachers, n.d., Our Mission).

- **Dignity in Schools** - This is a national coalition of teachers, families, and other allies who work to dismantle the school-to-prison pipeline. They encourage educators and community members to work locally to “support alternatives to a culture of zero-tolerance, punishment, and criminalization” and fight racism and oppression (Dignity in Schools Campaign, 2011, Mission).

#### Organize

- **National Coalition for Dialogue & Deliberation** - This national coalition is a place where educators can seek out support from a diverse group of individuals to discuss and take action on tough local, and national issues. Members include educators, students, public administrators, and community leaders.

- **National Education Association** (NEA) – This organization is focused on educators who are committed to preparing each student to be successful in a “diverse and interdependent world” through public education (National Education Association, 2015, NEA’s Vision, Mission, and Values).

---

1 Two other On-Demand Modules that focus on Cultural Responsive Pedagogy that can assist you taking action within your classroom are **Linking Identity & Achievement through Cultural Competence** and **Using Critical Consciousness to Challenge Inequity**.


