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# PROJECT LOOK SHARP



*June 2023 Newsletter*

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## This month's highlights:

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- NEW: Resources for Delivering Professional Development on Media Decoding
  - NEW: [Over 100 new mini-lessons on Social Justice](#)
  - [Tips to Overcome Technical Issues When Accessing PLS' Website](#)
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## [Delivering Professional Development on Constructive Media Decoding Resources](#)

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As part of our 2-year ML3 grant, [Librarians as Leaders of Media Literacy](#), we have created a new component to our website. The tab, [Resources for Delivering PD on Media Decoding](#), available under the Professional Development menu on the homepage, gives educators the tools they need to collaborate with and provide PD for other educators in their schools, districts, and regions. The slide sets and presenter guides include scripts, activities, and videos that can target specific educator groups (e.g. early elementary, secondary social studies, etc.). These PD resources will introduce educators to Project Look Sharp resources and approach for integrating constructivist media decoding into the curriculum. No special training is needed for using these resources.






These resources are intended to make it as easy as possible for you to share Project Look Sharp's approach and resources with other educators and administrators, including doing short PD presentations at faculty meetings and conference days.

- ▶ 1. PD Handouts
- ▶ 2. Tips for Collaboration and Advocating
- ▶ 3. Videos for PD
- ▶ 4. Slide sets for delivering PD
- ▶ 5. Other PD Resources

### Introducing Constructivist Media Decoding

#### 30 minute PD Presentation for K-12 all Subjects

We intend these slide decks and presenter guides to enable you (even without training from Project Look Sharp) to be able to introduce the *Constructivist Media Decoding* approach and resources to other educators. Please modify the slides and use your own words to address the needs of your audience. The presenter guides include links to resources for specific audiences such as early elementary and secondary subject areas.  
Prepare the **handout** and **videos** ahead of time.

Time	Slide	NOTES to presenter	Your Notes
start		Explain the focus of the PD. Depending on your audience, emphasize that this approach will help you to: 1) teach your core curriculum <u>and</u> critical thinking, 2) engage ALL students, 3) address challenging topics, 4) incorporate SEL, PBL, DEI, etc. Feel free to add your own framing about the importance of integrating media literacy.	
		<i>By diversifying the texts in our classrooms and by teaching our students to continually question the constructed nature of knowledge and their own interpretations, we give them the power to read their worlds.</i>	
		<i>But how do we do this given the overwhelming demands on our time and curriculum? Constructivist Media Decoding enables all educators to teach these habits AND our core subject area content and skills to all students.</i>	
1 min	<a href="#">VIDEO</a>	5.5 minutes: This short video will give an overview of the methodology and free resources for this work. For presenting to librarians show this <a href="#">9 minute video</a> .	
7 min	<a href="#">HANDOUT and/or for early elementary.</a>	Handout <a href="#">Categories &amp; Questions for Media Decoding</a> This methodology of Constructivist Media Decoding is based on the use of <b>key decoding questions</b> and categories that can be applied to the analysis of all media documents in the classroom, including our textbooks, video clips, charts and	


## Over 100 New Mini-Lessons on Social Justice

In response to your requests for short decoding activities we have broken large slides lessons from the kit, [Media Construction of Social Justice](#), into over 100 new mini-lessons that can be delivered in under 15 minutes. Each mini-lesson includes a 2-page teacher guide with background information, questions, and possible answers for use in decoding engaging media document(s).


We have posted more than a dozen mini-lessons on each of the following:

- Abolition of Slavery
- Women's Suffrage
- Early Labor Movement
- Black Freedom/Civil Rights
- Women's Liberation
- Immigrant Rights

Mini-lessons on Chemicals in the Environment, Resource Depletion, and Endangered Species are coming soon. You can find mini-lessons by filtering your search for **Resource Duration** and selecting **Under 15 minutes**:



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Filter Your Search Results

home > search

Keyword Search    Subject    Age/Grade Level    Search

Tip: Put Phrases in "Quotes"

Your Search Results (810)

- Lessons (738)
- Professional Development (72)

Sort Results    Results Per Page    **Filter Results**

**"It Takes Roots to Weather the Storm",  
Climate Justice Poster**

US History

Action

High School, College

Subject Areas ▶  
Age/Grade Level ▶  
Media Type ▶  
Student Activities ▶  
Resource Duration ▼  
 Under 15 Minutes  
 15-30 Minutes  
 30-60 Minutes  
 Over 60 Minutes  
Geographic Reference ▶

Students analyze a poster for messages about climate justice activism and about implicit values in media messages. This simple decoding activity has been taken from a larger lesson with many slides

**CHECK  
OUT**

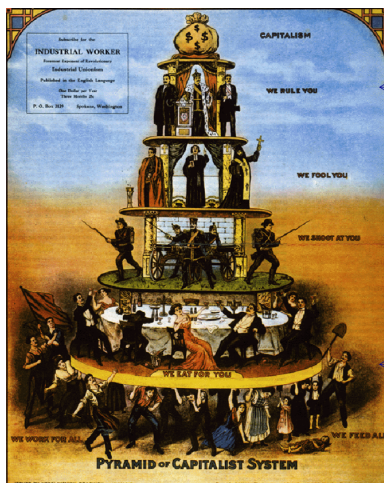
a few recently  
published  
mini lessons:

**George Washington: Farmer & Slave Owner**



What are the messages about slavery presented in this 1853 lithograph? What is your evidence from the document?

**Pyramid of Capitalist System Poster**



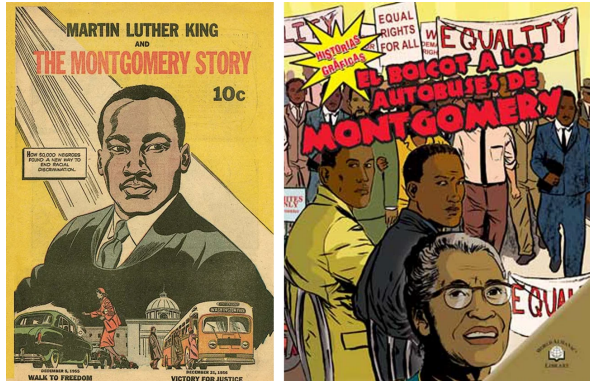
What are the messages about capitalism in this 1911 poster? Who might have made this and why? What workers are missing from this poster? Why might that be

**Beautiful Women Poster**



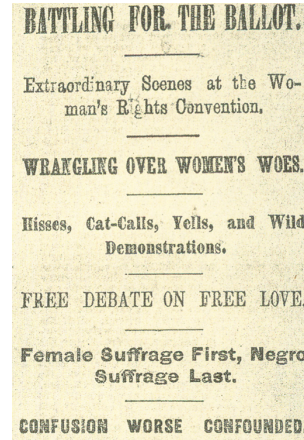
What are the messages about women's identity in this 2009 poster?

## The Montgomery Bus Boycott: Different Interpretations



How do these headlines characterize the 1869 American Equal Rights Convention?

## Women's Rights Convention Headlines



How do these headlines characterize the 1869 American Equal Rights Convention?

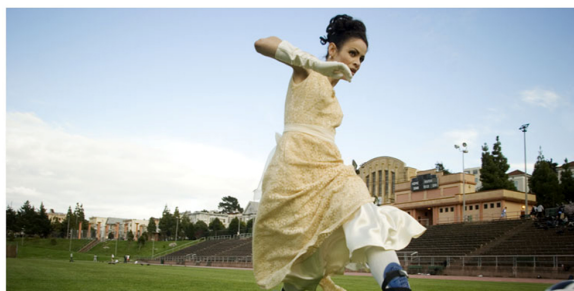
## "Louisiana Cancer Alley Residents Sue" Blog Post

What are the messages in this blog post about the tactics of environmental justice activists?

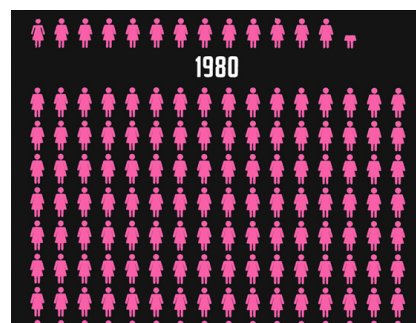
## Advertising Targeting LGBTQ Consumers

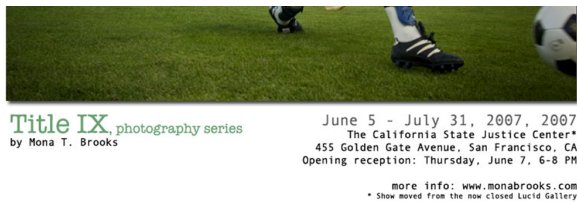
Who might Southwest Airlines be targeting in this 2009 ad? What is your evidence?

## Title IX: Impacts and Identities



## Women in Prison Poster





What are the messages in this blog post about the tactics of environmental justice activists?



According to this poster about how many times more women were in prison in 2005 than in 1980?

## Minuteman Project Webpage



What are the messages about undocumented immigrants? What symbols are used and why?



## Experiencing Technical Issues with Project Look Sharp Website?

Some people have reported issues accessing our website:

- **Problem resetting your password?** Check your spam/junk/clutter/important filter for the password reset email.
- **Not receiving emails or newsletter from Project Look Sharp?** We have learned that some districts are blocking our emails. In this case, ask your IT department to whitelist email communications from our domain, [projectlooksharp.org](http://projectlooksharp.org). Or use a personal email account to set up your account.
- **Experiencing delays in accessing resources on Project Look Sharp's website?** Recently, Project Look Sharp's outreach has grown exponentially. While this is good news, it does mean that we are experiencing growing pains. To address this, we will be transitioning our website to a dedicated server. We apologize for the inconvenience for any delays, but it should be resolved soon!



Project Look Sharp, 1119 Williams Hall, 953 Danby Rd., Ithaca College, Ithaca, NY 14850, United States