

A LIBRARIAN'S PERSPECTIVE



LAY OF THE LAND

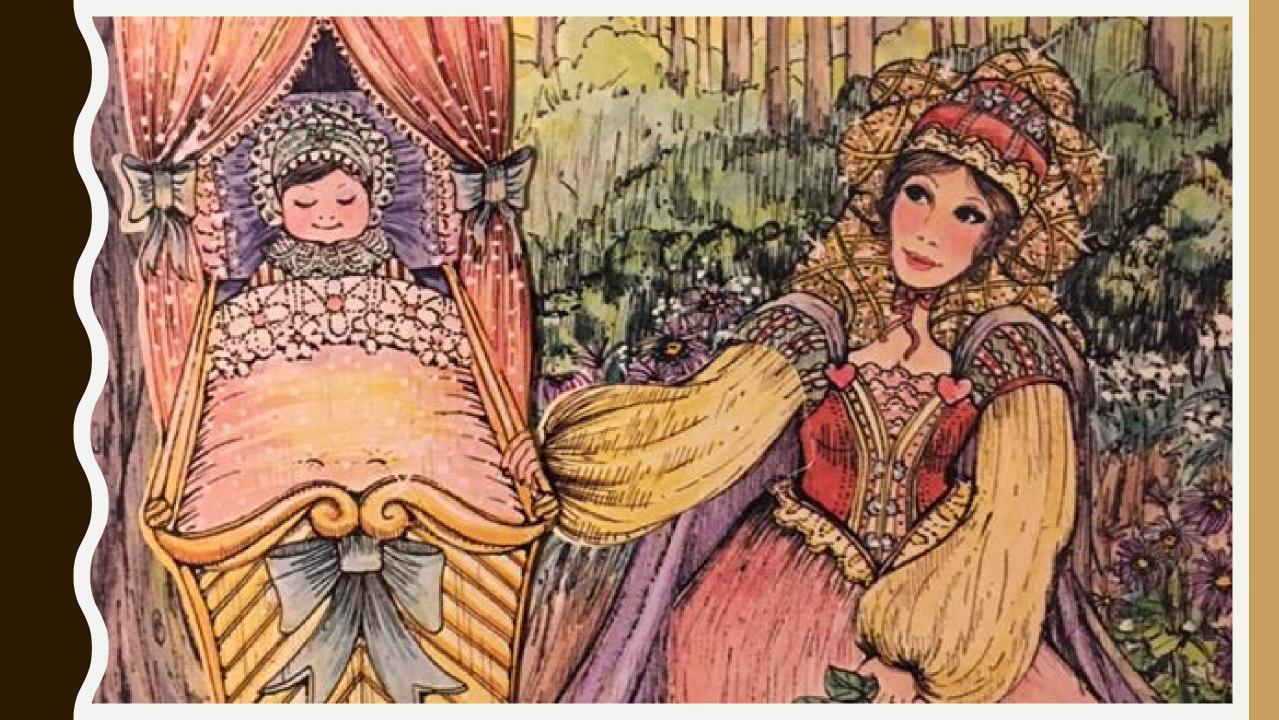
- About me
- About Libraries
 - Public Libraries and Children's Libraries
 - Librarians, Partnerships, Resources & Policy
- Examples from Swedish Libraries
 - Partnerships
 - Resources
 - Norm Critical Check list
 - Problems
- Book Tips
- What next?



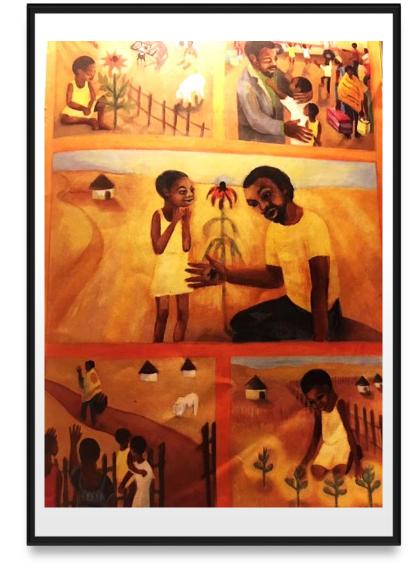
- Fine arts and film background
- Growing up in South Africa/
 America
- Moving to Europe
- Becoming a librarian
- Discovering MeR Barnkultur
- Work as a Children's librarian

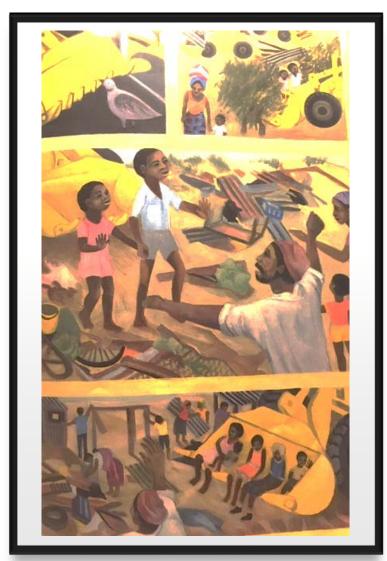
MY PERSONAL EXPERIENCE OF OVERREPRESENTATION OF A SINGLE CULTURE

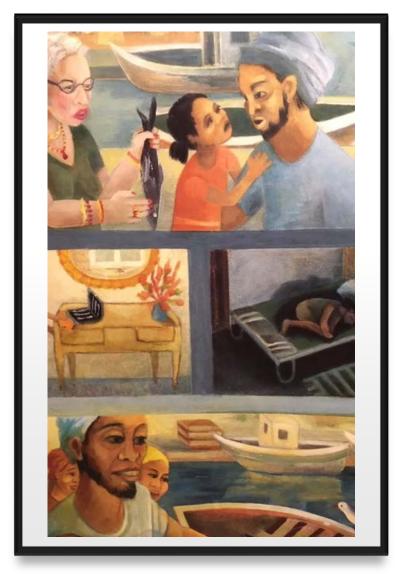
















WHAT DO PUBLIC LIBRARIES DO?

- Serve their local community
- Provide mostly free access to needed services and information





Child = 0-18 years old (IFLA, 2018)



Babies,, toddlers, childrenyoung adults



Support rights to literacy and learning



Facilitate meaningful access to resources and services to children and their adults

WHAT DO CHILDREN'S LIBRARIES DO?

CHILDRENS LIBRARY MISSION

"...to serve as an information, learning, and cultural centre, that acquires and provides meaningful access to age and ability appropriate information, programmes, and services, in languages relevant to the multicultural community of children, their families and caregivers. Supporting literacy, learning and reading are universally recognised as central to the achievement of this mission." (IFLA, 2018)



"LIBRARIANS

SUPPORT CHILDREN BY REMOVING BARRIERS PRESENTED BY SOCIOECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES, CULTURE, PRIVILEGE, LANGUAGE, GENDER IDENTITY, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, ABILITY, AND OTHER DIVERSITIES." (IFLA, 2018)





RESOURCES





















NORM CRITICAL CHECKLIST

How are people portrayed in the story

Who is the story aimed at?

- ☐ Do all who read the story feel included?
- ☐ Who is the narrator?
- ☐ What sort of relationships are portrayed?
- Does a heteronormative narrative feature as the main part of the story and its solution?
- ☐ Which values and givens establish the point/s of view?

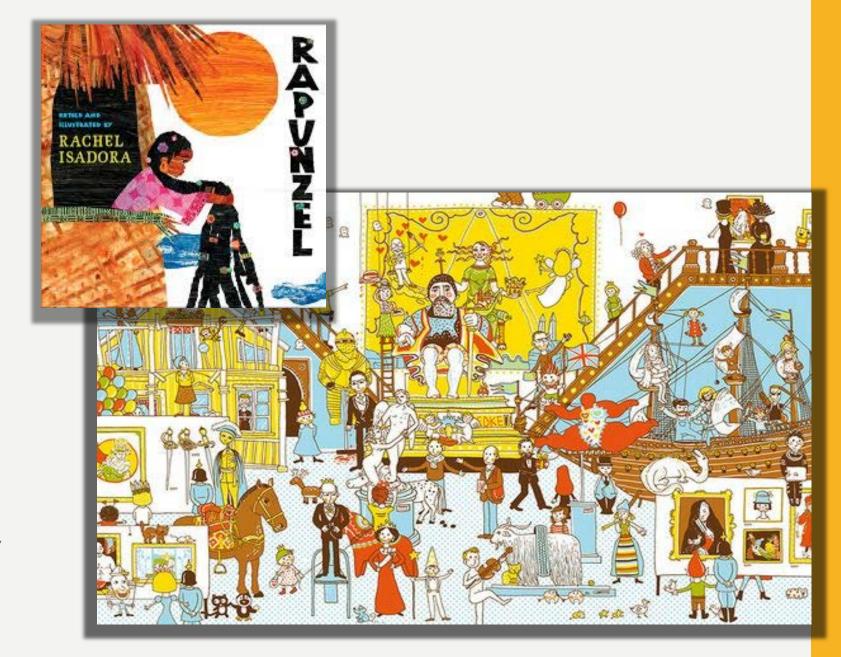
(Samuelsson, 2016, pp 70)





PROBLEMS?

- Limited resources on the market
 - Norms
 - Stereotypes
 - Tokenism
 - Cultural appropriation
- Unequal application of policy across libraries
- Library staff dominated by a single demographic





BOOK TIPS

Other cultures /Windows

Inclusion/Mirrors

Integration/Windows & Mirrors



Other cultures











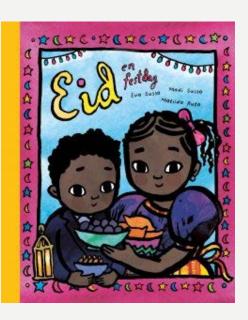
Inclusion







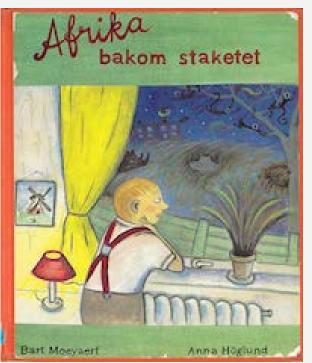


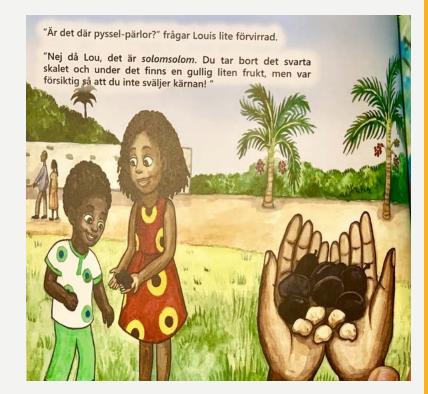




Integration









WHAT NEXT!

- More work needed for all ages especially the youngest and 6-18 years gap
- Increase meaningful inclusion of people with function variations, minority languages and cultural representation in mainstream publications.
- Uniform application of norm-critical thinking across all libraries
- Active discussion concerning qualitative inclusion of diversity in books. Avoid tokenism, stereotypes etc.
- Increase in library staff that reflect the community

SOME OTHER USEFUL RESOURCES

Bloggs/ instgram

@hereweread

@M'BifeBooks

Distributers/ translators/ Publishers

Afrikultur

Olikaförlag

Book Lists:

IFLA's The world through picture books

Resurssida.se

The International Children's Digital Library

We Need Diverse Books

THANK YOU!



SOME BOOK TIPS

OTHER CULTURES

- Bené snabbare än den snabbaste bollen-Eymard Toledo
- Åta Gräs- Sami Said and Sven Nordqvist,
- Mamy Wata och Monstret by Veronique Tadjo ill: bYemane Teshaye

INCLUSION

- Melvin Vitigast i världen Anna Munyua
- Kom nu Sickan- Sofia Rådström,
- Måste till jobbet Pia Lindebaum
- Ligg Stil av <u>Ruejas Jonson</u>, <u>Nathalie</u>
- Ninna Stormskolan av Matilda Ruta

- Eid en festdag: Eva Suss0, Jad Madi Susso, Matilda Ruta
- När Prinsessor går på Äventyr, Per Gustavsson
- Jag älskar dig redan imorgon av Moni Nilsson och Katarina Strömgård
- På Rymmen, jagad av mamma polis av Jonna Kilstam ill:: Johanna Arpiainen

INTEGRATION

- Smaka på frukterna : Emily Joof, ill: Mathilda Rosen
- Afrika Bakom Staket Bart Moeyaert och Anna Höglund
- Dansbus kaktrubbel, Marin Salto ill.
 Markus Gunnar Petterson
- Dubbeltrubbel f
 ör Anna Hibuscus,
 Antinuke ill: Lauren Tobia

IMAGES & REFRENCES

Slide 3: Snow White and the Seven Dwarves- A magic Popup book, n.d. Platt and Munk Publishers, N.Y p. I-2

Slide 4: Children of Africa- Stories - Author Karen Sacka,, Illustrator Shelly Sacks, A Vumani Project Publication, Buchu Books, Cape Town 1987. Left to right: Father Who Are You?; The Little Yellow Bulldozer; Karmi, The Fisherman's Daughter.

Slide 9: Photo James Leynse. Access from https://www.nypl.org/blog/2018/02/28/living-library-librarian-podcast-ep-80

Slide 16: Stockholm Vimelboken. Judith Drews. Lila Pirat Förlaget 2013. Rupnzel, en saga. Rachel Isadora. Epix 2017

Slide 18-20: See notes under respective slides

- IFLA. 2018. Children's Library Guidelines. Accessed from:
 https://www.ifla.org/files/assets/libraries-for-children_aged-0-18.pdf
- Samuelsson, S. 2016. Normkritik, hbtq och folkbibliotek: Ett försök. Accessed from: http://regionbiblioteket.se/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/sofie_webb.pdf
- Kultwatch. 2018. Biblioteken, representationen och vithetsnormen. Accessed from: https://kultwatch.se/2018/11/08/bibliotek/