Libraries As Vehicles For Democratic Participation

Democratic Confidence

Democratic Self-confidence
A Democratic Society Needs

- Culture of participation
- Literacy
- Safe space for democratic participation
- Facilitation of dialogue and public debate
- Support for local communities
A community of people without homes are reimagining how libraries can cater for everyone in the city of Aarhus, Denmark.
Europe Challenge
What are our dreams in Gellerup?
Gellerup library branch, January 2023
DEMOCRACY FITNESS
Which democracy muscles have you trained today?

MOBILISATION
In a democracy, a sense of community is needed. Making room for other people’s ideas strengthens the collective.

COMPROMISE
In a democracy, there is room for diversity. You must know how to compromise so everyone feels they are feeling more than they are giving.

ACTIVE LISTENING
In a democracy, everyone has a voice. You must be able to listen without prejudice and learn from others.

EMPATHY
In a democracy, there is room for everyone. You need to accept individual diversity and be empathetic towards others.

VERBAL CONFIDENCE
In a democracy, we all have a voice. You need to get to know your own voice in order to use it meaningfully.

CURIOUSITY
In a democracy, we need to learn from each other. You must poke around and leave no stone unturned.

COURAGE
In a democracy, participation is important. You should find the courage to come as you are. You need to have the guts to do it.

ACTIVIST
In a democracy, you can actively engage with whatever you are passionate about. See it take off!

DISAGREEMENT
In a democracy, we often disagree. You must be able to accept disagreement as it makes us all the more wiser about one another.

OPINION
In a democracy, differing opinions are allowed. In order to shape your opinion, you need to be able to voice it and listen to the opinions of others.

Democracy Fitness is a training concept which challenges the traditional understanding of democracy. Democracy is something one needs to train - and it should be fun, challenging and meaningful all at the same time. Learn more at www.demokratifitness.dk/en