Intersectionality of Diverse Identities

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What Makes Up Identity?

“Personal identity is the concept you develop about yourself that evolves over the course of your life. This may include aspects of your life that you have no control over, such as where you grew up or the color of your skin, as well as choices you make in life, such as how you spend your time and what you believe. You demonstrate portions of your personal identity outwardly through what you wear and how you interact with other people. You may also keep some elements of your personal identity to yourself, even when these parts of yourself are very important..."

-Christine Serva
What Makes Up Your Personal Identity?

With a partner, answer the following questions. Each person talks for 3-4 minutes.

Each time you give an answer, braid the pieces of yarn once.
Questions

Who are you to your family members?

Who are you to your friends?

Who are you to your co-workers/students?

Who are you to the community?

Who are you to strangers?
Example of a person
Intersectionality

“The complex, cumulative manner in which the effects of different forms of discrimination combine, overlap, or intersect.”

-Merriam-Webster.com
This is where we want to meet students.
Some Impacts of Intersectionality on Education

1. Outlook on disability
   - Self-determination
   - Level of support

2. Views on education
   - Amount of value placed
   - Classroom setting

3. Families’ roles
   - IEP table
   - Homework help

4. Socioeconomic status
   - Home life
   - Access to technology

5. Use of language
   - Implication of labels
   - Using interpreters
Activity

Think about someone you serve.

Label the different identities that you believe that they have.

Discuss what you can do to tailor the services to meet the individual’s needs.
“Cultural broker is a go-between, one who advocates on behalf of another individual or group”
(Jezewski & Sotnik, 2005)
What Are Your Roles As a Cultural Broker?

Not a single role, but sophisticated roles varying with settings...
Language is the biggest barrier!
Is it necessary for cultural broker to share the identities with the community?
Organizeion VS Individual

- Expectation
- Training (cultural broker & other staff)
- Policy & Culture

Responsibility...

- Build trust
- Support families
- Train professionals
- Outreach
...
Jezewski’s Culture-Brokering Model
(Jezewski & Sotnik, 2005)
Questions

Thank you!