

LHS PTSA Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee

At this month's meeting, we're talking about language and some common words and phrases that may seem harmless, but could be outdated or hurtful to some in our Langley community. We invite you to read any or all of these five articles and/or listen to these short audio clips.

We'll use this material to guide our discussion at our virtual meeting on Thursday, November 18 at 7 pm.

First: Start with these articles from NPR and Self magazine on the words "crazy" and "insane".

- <https://www.npr.org/2019/07/08/739643765/why-people-are-arguing-to-stop-using-the-words-crazy-and-insane>
- <https://www.self.com/story/crazy-mental-health-stigma>

Next: Consider whether words can gain or shed their original meanings and undertones over time.

- <https://www.npr.org/sections/codeswitch/2013/09/19/224183763/is-it-racist-to-call-a-spade-a-spade>
- <https://www.npr.org/sections/publiceditor/2019/08/21/752330316/a-former-slur-is-reclaimed-and-listeners-have-mixed-feelings>

Finally: Check out this article on "Racist Language and Origins I Didn't Always Know" and see what surprises you.

- <https://www.jdsupra.com/legalnews/racist-language-and-origins-i-didn-t-35616/>

If you have extra time: Read this article about the People First movement in language:

- <https://www.chicagotribune.com/columns/eric-zorn/ct-column-slave-enslaved-language-people-first-debate-zorn-20190906-audknctayrarfijimpz6uk7hvy-story.html>

The LHS PTSA DEI Committee looks forward to a thoughtful, inclusive discussion.