

YOUNG READERS MANIFESTO

*Education, solution and freedom are all the starting points
to get into the path of becoming a driver of change*

EDUCATION and SOLUTIONS

(20 minutes)

- Stop forcing people to read
- Show us how as u have the responsibility (be a good example)
- It is ok not to like reading but try it! (don't say no until u try it)
- Don't force yourself, maybe it's not the right book for you
- Double standards in reading
- Normalise reading, reading also as a collective act. Share what you like, share opinions and ideas
- Banning books should be banned
- Even light or seemingly “bad” books are necessary; they help us explore our tastes and define the type of books we are genuinely interested in.
- Every reader has their own pace. It's fine to normalize taking breaks and not feeling obliged to read just for the sake of it. Reading is, and must remain, a pleasure, not an imposition.

EDUCATING EDUCATORS

- Educators should have more open-minded approaches towards our reading tastes;
- Try to attend spaces where you can listen to young people's preferences;
- Stop forcing classics on us: they are not the only books that deserve to be read!
- Don't turn reading into homework!

ACCESSIBILITY

- Reading should be accessible for everyone (every town and every school should have a library)
- There should be more occasion to meet and talk about books;

- Books should be printed in high-readability fonts;
- Normalize borrowing books and doing book-crossings instead of feeling obligated to buy and collect them at home;
- Try thrifted books!;
- Fulfill the potential of each and every space for books and readers (libraries, clubs, bookshops...).

FREEDOM

(20 minutes)

- Don't judge (both, readers for what they read and books) and don't be ashamed of what you read, but don't be arrogant about what you read;
- Information is a right. Books are the keys to see and create change and if this right is taken away people take action (the more you read the more you understand the world around you and you discover different perspectives that make you want to create a better place)
- Schools are a reading space
- Reading scares people: people that are not used to it may find it difficult and get too anxious to even try to read, while people that does not want change to happen are scared of the power that books have
- The ability to declare, "This book is not for me." To read does not obligate one to complete every book they start.
- Age-based book categories do not exist: everyone is free to read what they want when they want.
- Being a reader is not something extraordinary, it's just a passion like every other one!

PATH

(10 minutes)

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