

# At Lightning Speed?

## The Recent Surge of Long-Needed Changes to LCSH

Tina Gross

North Dakota State University

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# What's going on? What has changed?

(list from “Report of the SAC Working Group on External Review of Library of Congress Vocabularies” <https://cataloginglab.org/externalreview/>)

- New webpages and documentation
- New access to editorial meetings
- New expedited approval process
- New hires at LC
- New SACO funnels and reinvigoration of previously established funnels

# SACO funnels

- African American Funnel
- Latin American and Indigenous Peoples (LAIPA) Funnel
- Gender and Sexuality Funnel
- Medical Subject Funnel
- Comics and Fiction Funnel

(see complete list of funnels at

<https://www.loc.gov/aba/pcc/saco/funnelsaco.html>)

# Some recently created LCSH

- African American barbershops
- Anti-lynching movements
- Aromantic people
- Asexual people
- Black wall streets
- Blackface
- Children of egg donors
- Children of sperm donors
- Children of surrogate mothers

# Some recently created LCSH

- Climate justice
- Collective punishment
- Cosmovision
- Disability culture
- Ecocide
- Environmental racism
- Gender euphoria
- Gender-based violence
- Generational trauma

# Some recently created LCSH

- Great Migration, ca. 1914-ca. 1970
- Historically Black colleges and universities
- Idle No More movement
- Indigenous data sovereignty
- Manga (Comic books)
- Mass incarceration
- Middle Passage
- Misogynoir
- MOVE (Organization)--Bombardment, 1985

# Some recently created LCSH

- Neurodiversity
- Night riders
- Palestinian Nakba, 1947-1948
- Police abolition movement
- Right to bodily autonomy
- Say Her Name movement
- School-to-prison pipeline
- Scientific racism
- Settler colonialism

# Some recently created LCSH

- Sex work
- Solastalgia
- Sundown towns
- Top surgery (Gender reassignment surgery)
- Trans-exclusionary radical feminism
- Transatlantic slave trade
- White feminism
- White privilege (Social structure)





Recently changed Library of Congress Subject Headings

Illegal aliens ->  
**Illegal immigration  
and Noncitizens**



## Recently changed Library of Congress Subject Headings

Japanese Americans—Evacuation and relocation, 1942–1945 ->

Japanese Americans— Forced removal and internment, 1942–1945

Tulsa Race Riot, Tulsa, Okla., 1921 ->

Tulsa Race Massacre, Tulsa, Okla., 1921

Armenian massacres, 1915–1923 ->

Armenian Genocide, 1915–1923



## Recently changed Library of Congress Subject Headings

- Blacks -> Black people
- Whites -> White people
- Slaves -> Enslaved persons

Recently changed Library of Congress Subject Headings

- **Primitive societies -> Anthropology and Prehistoric peoples**
- **Art, Primitive -> Art, Prehistoric**
- **Arts, Primitive -> Art**

# Recently changed Library of Congress Subject Headings

- Problem youth -> At-risk youth
- Brothers and sisters -> Siblings
- Manic-depressive illness -> Bipolar disorder
- Inuvialuit Eskimos -> Inuvialuit
- Tarasco Indians -> Purépecha Indians
- Noble savage -> Noble savage stereotype

Some problematic LCSH not yet changed (as of 2023-03-18)

- Problem children
- Gays
- Future life
- Leprosy
- Defloration

LCSH soon to be changed...?

- Indians of North America
- East Indians
- Sexual minorities
- Miscegenation
- Racially mixed people

# LC Project Plan for LCSH Indigenous People Changes

From 6/3/2022 report from LC Policy, Training, and Cooperative Programs  
Division Liaison to Subject Analysis Committee

“LC is taking action on these changes, but it is going to take time. There needs to be a consolidated approach from all units in LC to approach these changes. A group has been formed of subject specialists, collection curators, reference librarians, and archivists. Any heading changes LC makes must be acceptable throughout the Library. With these factors in mind, LC is creating a comprehensive project plan. The broader general headings (Indians of North America, Eskimos, for example) will most likely be the first changes, followed by the specific tribal and tribal groupings headings.”



## LCSH not yet created (as of 2023-03-18)

- Land back movement
- Racial capitalism
- Christian nationalism
- White fragility
- White supremacy
- Corporate pay ratios
- Wage theft

# Resources

Approved Monthly Lists <https://classweb.org/approved-subjects/>

Tentative Monthly Lists <https://classweb.org/tentative-subjects/>

Summaries of Decisions from Subject Editorial Meetings

<https://www.loc.gov/aba/pcc/saco/cpsaed/cpsaeditorial.html>

LCSH Editorial meetings

<https://www.loc.gov/aba/cataloging/subject/LCSH-Editorial-Meetings-2023.pdf>

# Resources

Critcatenate posts on the Cataloging Lab

<https://cataloginglab.org/?s=critcatenate>

Problem LCSH at Cataloging Lab <https://cataloginglab.org/problem-lcsh/>

SACO List <https://listserv.loc.gov/cgi-bin/wa?A0=SACOLIST>

Search Terms Up For Debate: The Politics and Purpose of Library Subject Headings

<https://www.historians.org/research-and-publications/perspectives-on-history/march-2022/search-terms-up-for-debate-the-politics-and-purpose-of-library-subject-headings>

# Thank you!

Questions, comments? Please get in touch!

[aboutness@gmail.com](mailto:aboutness@gmail.com)

Twitter: [@aboutness](https://twitter.com/aboutness)