

SURVIVING VIOLENCE AND DISCRIMINATION

A Collection Development Project for The Washington Talking Book & Braille Library

Completed by Jacqui Howell

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ABOUT THE SPONSOR

The Washington Talking Book & Braille Library (WTBBL)

is a program of the Washington State Library. Located in Seattle's Belltown neighborhood, WTBBL provides library services state-wide, at the library and by mail, to any Washington resident unable to read standard print material due to:

- blindness
- visual impairment
- deaf-blindness
- physical disability (cannot hold a book or turn pages), or
- reading disability



PROBLEM

A need for additional resources on bullying, discrimination and abuse. WTBBL's Adult and Youth Nonfiction collections were in need of updating. Librarians had identified just 40 titles within its nonfiction collection relating to surviving violence and discrimination in response to a patron request. WTBBL sought recommendations for the purchase of high-quality, diverse, and recently published resources on how to educate oneself on physical and emotional safety.

An assessment of WTBBL's nonfiction collection revealed:

- **68%** of titles published prior to **2009**
- **40%** of titles published prior to **2000**
- **13%** of titles for **young children**

SOLUTION

A total of 39 nonfiction titles were purchased. This nearly doubled the number of books relating to physical and emotional safety held in the WTBBL collection. Titles cover topics ranging from gun violence to sexual assault to special education rights. An annotated bibliography was created to orient the readers' advisory team to the new collection as was a list of additional government resources.

New titles were selected for a variety of ages and identities:

- Preschool
- Elementary
- Teens
- Adults
- Parents
- LGBTQ
- Racial & Religious Minorities

IMPACT

More up-to-date resources for visually-impaired readers. Each new title will be produced by WTBBL as a Braille and/or audiobook version for use by library patrons. Books purchased for this project will become part of the National Library Service for the Blind InterLibrary Loan collection and made available to visually-impaired individuals throughout the United States.

