It is all too common to hear the refrain "teenagers don't care about privacy," as adults point to teens' use of social media & attitudes about online sharing. At the same time, much legitimacy is given to the idea of youth as digital natives, intrinsically tech-savvy, & unheeding of guidance or support. But as librarians who know the teens in our communities, we know that each of these is a myth, & the reality is rather more complex.

The Library Freedom Project's Teen Privacy program set out to address the particular ways in which privacy & surveillance impact youth, complicated by intersections of their sociopolitical identities. We committed to acknowledge the reality of systems of power in their lives – such as white supremacy, capitalism, & heteropatriarchy. By honestly & unequivocally engaging these within the context of their lived experiences, we worked with our Teen Advisory Board to create relevant, authentic, & impactful shareable material & to fill the need for a robust set of privacy resources made just for teens, on topics they care about, in the language and formats they use.

DEFINING THE PROBLEM

digital autonomy

harrassment and doxxing

police surveillance

facial recognition

IDENTIFYING THE NEED

BUILDING A COLLOBARATIVE APPROACH

NAMING SYSTEMS OF POWER

school surveillance

social media tracking

CONTENT CREATION & DISSEMINATION

Teen Privacy with the Library Freedom Project

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