



NAFSA 2016



ANNUAL
CONFERENCE
& EXPO

MAY 29 - JUNE 3
DENVER, CO USA

**BUILDING CAPACITY
FOR GLOBAL LEARNING**

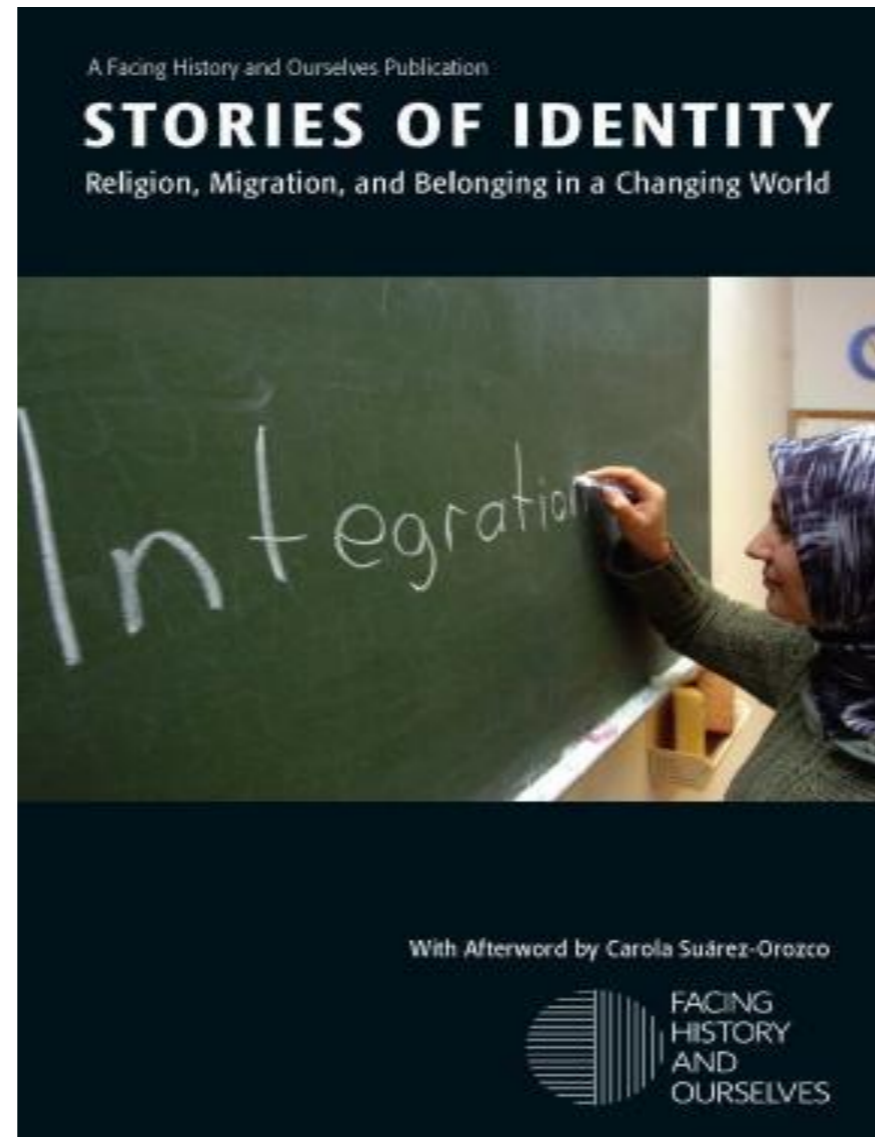
NAFSA

Association of
International Educators

Stories of Identity Religion, Migration & Belonging in a Changing World

Dimitry Anselme, Director of Program Staff Development
Facing History & Ourselves

Stories of Identity: Religion, Migration & Belonging in a Changing World.



What is the role of education in identity-based conflicts?

Stories of Identity: Religion, Migration, & Belonging in a Changing World.

- PREDICTION (and my entire point!)
The conflicts of the 21st Century are going to be identity-based conflicts
- Look at ISIS, Radicalization of Muslim youths Europe
- Terrorism
- The role of women in economically developing societies
- Police brutality in the US, Race Relations in the US
- *Of course this is not to deny that there are other factors at play

Stories of Identity: Religion, Migration, & Belonging in a Changing World.

- So a response to these conflicts HAS to acknowledge the importance of group and individual identity
- The educational response HAS to help students be critical thinkers and help them with necessary tools to analyze identity-based conflicts
- We need educational models AND content to address this challenge

Stories of Identity: Religion, Migration, & Belonging in a Changing World.

- Take a look at the Syrian refugee crisis:
- According to AIR Research 2.5 million Syrian refugees are under the age of 18
- 2/3 are accessing NO education at the moment
- So what would education for these young people look like?

Stories of Identity: Religion, Migration, & Belonging in a Changing World.

- We often focus on institutional structures necessary for imposing and preserving peace. Not enough attention to individual beliefs, ideas and VALUES necessary to preserve peace after conflicts
- Education about past conflicts (history, literature, civics) can be peacebuilding efforts which promote civil dialogue, outlets for groups previously marginalized, validation of experience
- Education can also be a PREVENTATIVE tool for peacebuilding. How do we educate young people to prevent the eruption (or recurrence) of conflicts

Stories of Identity: Religion, Migration, & Belonging in a Changing World.

- **3 Outcomes:**
- A recognition of education as a tool for peacebuilding activities
- A recognition of education as a tool for “reconstruction” or “rebuilding” after collective violence (so not just economic programs or justice and reconciliation programs)
- A recognition that “identity” is a powerful ideological construct for both individuals and groups

Stories of Identity: Religion, Migration, & Belonging in a Changing World.

Sociologist Manuel Castells has affirmed the modern need to investigate our very selves, explaining, **“In a world of global flows of wealth, power, and images, the search for identity—collective or individual, ascribed or constructed—becomes the fundamental source of social meaning.”**

Stories of Identity: Religion, Migration, & Belonging in a Changing World.

So here is an example of a curriculum that allows us to do that.

Combines theory, individual voices and narratives and classroom exercises intended to address these very issues

◇ ◇ ◇
Table of Contents

Preface

By Adam Strom, Director of Research and Development,
Facing History and Ourselves 1

Frameworks

Reading 1: Understanding Strangers 10
Reading 2: Three Parables for Integration 15
Reading 3: What Is a Nation? 20
Reading 4: National Pride 26

Dilemmas of Integration

Reading 5: Identity in Diaspora 32
Reading 6: Transcultural Identities 36
Reading 7: Jews in Europe 41
Reading 8: From Foreigners to Muslims 47
Reading 9: Searching for an Identity 53
Reading 10: Religion and National Identity 57
Reading 11: Believing in Britain 64
Reading 12: Changing Communities 71
Reading 13: Accommodating Diversity 75
Reading 14: Alienation 80

Identity and Belonging in a Globalized World

Reading 15: Talking About Religion 88
Reading 16: A New Concept of Identity 93
Reading 17: More Than a Headscarf 99
Reading 18: What Does Integration Look Like? 105

Afterword

By Carola Suárez-Orozco, Co-Director of Immigration Studies,
New York University 111

Glossary 121

Stories of Identity: Religion, Migration, & Belonging in a Changing World.



Table of Contents

Preface

By Adam Strom, Director of Research and Development,
Facing History and Ourselves 1

Frameworks

Reading 1: Understanding Strangers 10
Reading 2: Three Parables for Integration 15
Reading 3: What Is a Nation? 20
Reading 4: National Pride 26

Dilemmas of Integration

Reading 5: Identity in Diaspora 32
Reading 6: Transcultural Identities 36
Reading 7: Jews in Europe 41
Reading 8: From Foreigners to Muslims 47
Reading 9: Searching for an Identity 53
Reading 10: Religion and National Identity 57
Reading 11: Believing in Britain 64
Reading 12: Changing Communities 71
Reading 13: Accommodating Diversity 75
Reading 14: Alienation 80

Identity and Belonging in a Globalized World

Reading 15: Talking About Religion 88
Reading 16: A New Concept of Identity 93
Reading 17: More Than a Headscarf 99
Reading 18: What Does Integration Look Like? 105

Afterword

By Carola Suárez-Orozco, Co-Director of Immigration Studies,
New York University 111

Glossary 121



Stories of Identity: Religion, Migration, & Belonging in a Changing World.

4 questions to leave you with:

Is “identity” a concept or a human right?

What should education in the 21st century look like to help reduce identity-based conflicts?

How do we sustain democratic societies that are open, pluralistic and inclusive?

What would the education for these young Syrian refugee look like in the US, Canada, Europe?



Stories of Identity: Religion, Migration, & Belonging in a Changing World.

