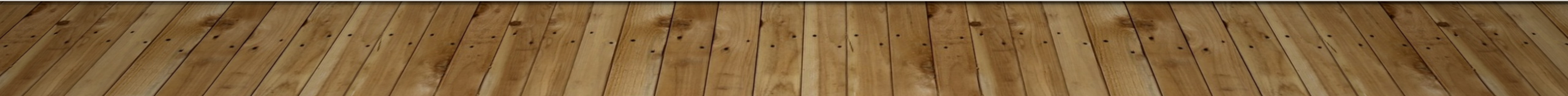


THE CHANGE IN LIMITS OF EDUCATION SHOWN THROUGH ART AND TEXT

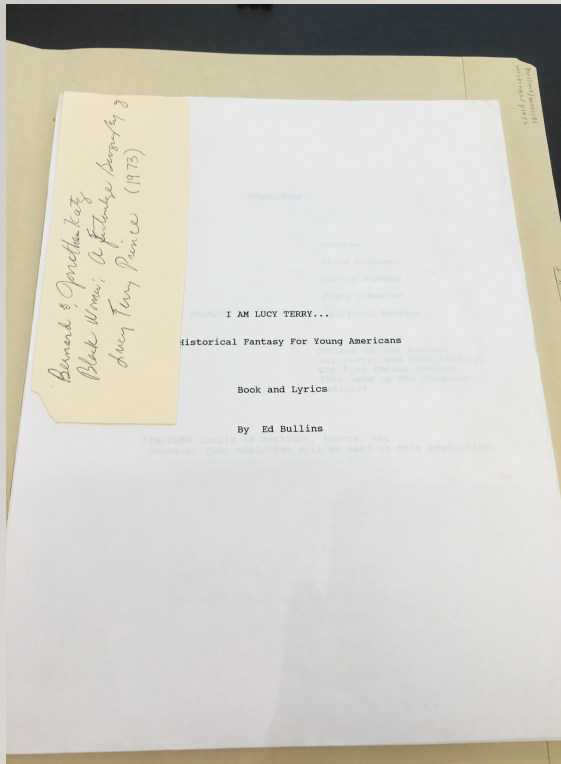
SOPHIA HEREDIA



WHAT IS THIS EXHIBIT ABOUT?

The main idea of the exhibit is that education availability is still evolving and changing, for many reasons throughout many time periods. For example, in 1864, education was limited to only white Americans, and it is now open to everyone that can afford it. It is important to note the change in limitations from racism to income, and that politicians are still trying to make it available to everyone. For example, some democratic politicians are advocating for free higher education. President Obama believes that everyone deserves a community college education and that our government should fund it for anyone that wants to take advantage of free community college. Bernie Sanders wanted to push for free public universities for everyone accepted and willing to attend. Those opposed to this, typically Republicans, argue that the money has to come from somewhere and the United States as a country does not have the funding to do so. In the 1800s however, education was limited because of racism and a lack of civil rights. Slave-owners did not want to educate their slaves which would cause them to gain skills other than labor skills.

The exhibit will demonstrate the theme through a play from the Rose Library entitled *I am Lucy Terry*, along with photographs from the Robert Langmuir collection of African American Photographs, and a government document stating the education laws at the time of slavery and segregation. It will also show video clips of present-day politicians and their views on the expansion of higher education to all citizens.



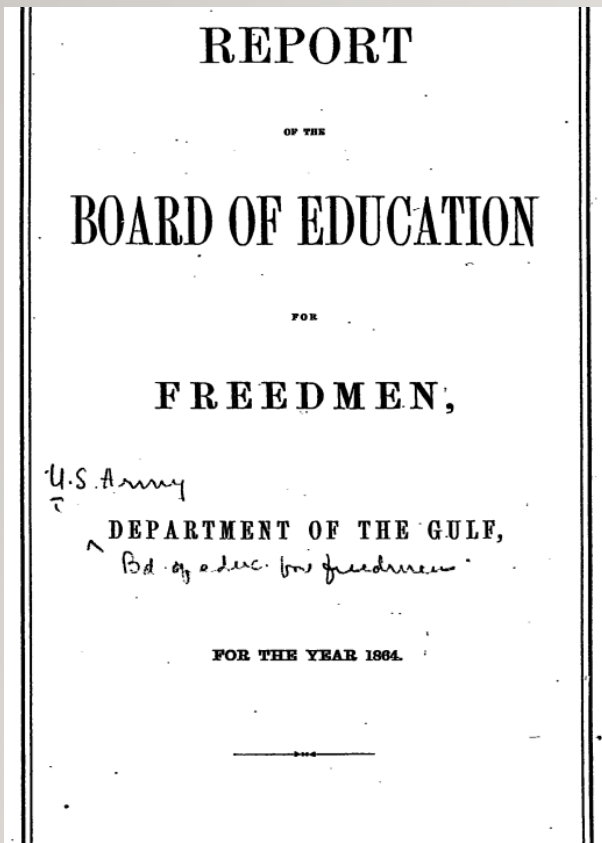
- Ed Bullins
- *I am Lucy Terry*
- 1976
- Printed paper script

I am Lucy Terry tells the story of an African American woman that is a slave, but desires an education that is not legally available to her. Her mistress sees the value of an education as well, however, so she does gain the education that she deserves. Her mistress volunteers to teach her even at the risk of serious consequences. This is important because it shows that even at the time of slavery, everyone saw the value in education.



- Franklin Photo
- *Demonstration of solidarity*
- No date
- Black and white photograph

Demonstration of solidarity shows a strike for the education of African American students during the Civil Rights Movement. They are on strike for the rights they deserve, one of which being an education. This portrays how much education was valued, based on what they are willing to do to fight for their right. This is similar to my artifact, *I am Lucy Terry*, in which a slave owner and a slave risk serious consequences because of how much they value an education.



This government document is a report of the Board of Education for people that are free in the year 1864. It discusses who was able to have an education legally at the time, and the consequences of educating those that did not legally have the right. This gave perspective to think about how big of a risk it would be to get an illegal education, as everyone is able to get an education today. This is important to the exhibit to show how dangerous it was to get an education when it was not legal, and how much politicians opposed the education of African Americans. Currently, politicians are working to have as many people educated as possible. Society also views the value of education very highly and aims to give opportunities to those that deserve it by working hard. This can give an outlook on the difference of racism preventing education availability in the past, to costs and actual availability of resources preventing it today.

- United States Army Dept. of the Gulf. Board for Freedmen
- *Report of the Board of Education for Freedmen for the year 1864*
- 1864
- Typed government document



- Anonymous
- *Colored school at Alexandria Va. 1864 taught by Harriet Jacobs & daughter agents of New York Friends*
- 1864
- Black and White Photograph

This photograph was taken soon after education became available to everyone. It shows many African American students outside of their school, which demonstrates how popular became when legalized. This shows the development of education availability. During the time period of *I am Lucy Terry*, this was not possible. Education could not be taught to everyone in public, only in secret, so that no one would find out. This is important to the exhibit as it shows the progression of education availability.



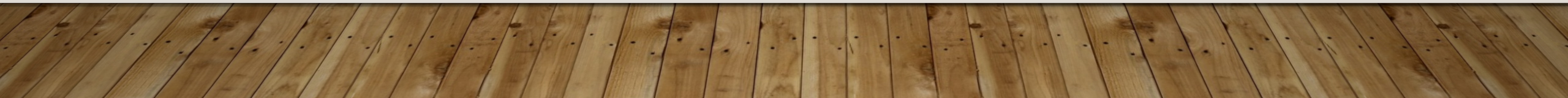
- Anonymous
- *African American women on graduation day at Howard University*
- 1919
- Black and white card photograph

This photograph was taken in 1919, when education was available to everyone. It demonstrates educated women at their college graduation showing that they have gained the education they need and deserve, and were successful. This shows the progression of education availability since during the time period of *I am Lucy Terry*, she was not able to legally obtain an education nor graduate formally.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DFpY2Z3rNjY>

- The White House
 - *President Obama Announces American Graduation Initiative*
 - 2009
 - YouTube video
-

This video is taken of President Obama discussing his initiative for free community college for everyone. He discusses how it is important for people to have the education that they desire, no matter their income. Economic class should not play a part in how educated Americans become, as we are one of the richest countries. Those that work hard to better themselves, should have the opportunity to do so. The video explains Obama's plan to make this initiative a reality. This is important because it is a current expansion of education availability. It is important to show current day education availability limitations as they are so different from ones from the past that were caused by racism.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FiA2XjEz0K8>

- Bernie Sanders
- *Fighting for Free Tuition*
- 2015
- YouTube video

This video demonstrates Senator Bernie Sanders and his stance that public universities should be free. He believes that higher education should be a right, not a privilege. He argues that there are too many qualified individuals that have student loans, or do not attend college because they cannot afford it. All students should have the opportunity to have a college education regardless of their income. This connects to the exhibit as Sanders believes that education should currently be made even more available than it is with free schooling through high school, and even more available than what President Obama pushed for with free community college. Currently, education is made available for free to all races, but higher education is not available to everyone due to economical cost.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0e50fQLyebI>

- Fox Business
 - *Students want top earners to pay their tuition*
 - 2015
 - YouTube video
-

This video includes Fox News reporters that do not believe that higher education should be more available. A college student, Keeley Mullen, describes her stance, free college education paid for by the 1% of people in the United States with the highest incomes. The reporter, Neil Cavuto, explains that the money to fund the education has to come from somewhere, and the richest people in the country are not going to want to pay taxes to cover this. He believes this may cause workers that have worked to earn a high income to want to leave our country, which will offset the economy. This relates to my exhibit because although availability continues to grow over time, there are people that oppose this for economical reasons.

As you can see, education availability has varied greatly over the years. Before the civil rights movement, African American people were not allowed to have an education. Education was only made available to white Americans. Since civil rights have been in action, education has been offered to all races. Currently, everyone has the opportunity to attend public school for elementary, middle, and high school for free, no matter the gender, race, or socioeconomic class. However, the fight for more education availability is not over. It is now in discussion if community college and public universities should be free. Those opposed to this argue not about racism but economical cost and repercussions.