Rise Up: Sport, Social Justice, & Activism

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#SJSUvswordsstoaction
SJSU Institute for the Study of Sport, Society and Social Change

• In January 2017, SJSU launched the Institute for the Study of Sport, Society and Social Change.

• San Jose State occupies a unique niche in the history of sport and social change—because of its people. The university is the birthplace of the Olympic Project for Human Rights (OPHR), a movement led by Harry Edwards that culminated in the iconic protest of Olympic medalists Tommie Smith and John Carlos.

• The legacy of equity and social justice is a part of SJSU’s DNA. The university was founded on education for all and providing a voice for those who may otherwise remain silent. The ISSSSC honors this legacy and continues the dialogue about athlete activism and the influence of sport in effecting positive social change.

• As our nation confronts and explores deeply complex social issues, it is critical that we continue to challenge the boundaries of sport and activism. Sport offers the occasion to pose big questions, not just of athletes, but also of ourselves and provide enlightened perspectives.

WORDS to Action:
The Institute for the Study of Sport, Society and Social Change is dedicated to research, analysis and education at the intersection of sport and society.
Provide historical context of activism concept

Contextualize, describe, and define activism within the sport context

Discuss the ways to foster sport activism

Create an opportunity for reflection of own Activism

Provide resources for social change

Presentation Objectives

#SJSUwordstoaction
Remember & Understand

To promote culturally relevant approaches
To facilitate supportive social justice discourse
To practice positive leadership and student-centered collaboration
To support holistic development
To develop mental health and wellbeing culture

Behind the Whistle SCHEMA Goals

In order to see where we are going, we not only must remember where we have been, but we must understand where we have been.

— Ella Baker —

AZ QUOTES
Sport, Social Justice, & Activism

#RiseUp
Demonstration conducted by African-American athletes, Tommie Smith and John Carlos, after winning gold and bronze medals. Each athlete raised a Black-gloved fist and kept them raised until the National Anthem finished.

- Wore human rights badges on their jackets.
- Over and above winning medals, these athletes made names for themselves by an act of racial protest.
- The raising of the Black Power Fist stood for those against the political and racial injustice in America.
- Smith and Carlos received death threats from racist Americans for making the gesture.
- The gesture and American backlash can be compared to modern day feelings of Colin Kaepernick, who kneeled during the National Anthem for similar reasons.
Definitions

Advocacy

- Public support for or recommendation of a particular cause or policy.

Activism

- The policy of action of using vigorous campaigning to bring about political or social change.
How do we foster the Social Justice energies and efforts of our P-20 students?

#BlackLivesMatter
The “Five” Imperatives

1. A substantially and organically sustained pool of aggrieved plaintiffs seeking redress.

2. A relentless and expanding demand for change, legitimized not only by the aggrieved population but also by collaborating “outside” interests and even, unwittingly, by some detractors.

3. A threatened “establishment interest” that make the changes demanded more reasonable and appealing to the establishment in terms of cost-reward outcomes than maintaining the status quo.

4. Substantively factual arguments and supporting ideological "scaffolding” and “framing” to successfully surmount and overcome two characteristically employed adversarial “ploys”

5. A sustaining ideology beyond that professed by adversaries and that legitimizes goals and means that enable vigorous “push back” against tendencies toward definitional hegemony and retrenchment relative to compelled changes.

by Dr. Harry Edwards and Dr. Ken Noel
How can I promote social change through my sport platform?

#SJSUwordstoaction
#BeAChangeAgent
Rise Up: How do YOU promote Social Change?

*Click on the Rise Up to link to our Padlet and share your story. Password: BTW2020

How will you use your platform for social change?

How will you help “Others” use their platforms?
1. Educate others
2. Advocate for legislation
3. Run for office
4. Demonstrate/Protest
5. Public awareness/Social media campaign
6. Research & Dissemination
7. Raise money/resources
8. Write to a company or public official
9. Engage in community service
10. Get the press involved

Social Change

Adopted from Anti-Defamation League
Social Justice Resources
In P-20 Education and In Sport

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Resources in Education

Social Justice Books: A Teaching for Change Project
Resources in Sport
Social Justice
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Speak
Join the dialogue by attending future Institute for the Study of Sport, Society and Social Change events.

Keep the conversation going by using #SJSUwordstoaction.

Give
Support the institute and future programming that will create change.

Visit
Learn more about the intersection of sport and activism by exploring the Dr. Harry Edwards Collection at SJSU’s Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library.

sjsu.edu/wordstoaction
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San José State University’s Institute for the Study of Sport, Society and Social Change
Thank You

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