# **Confronting Diversity Issues On Campus: Survival Skills For Scholars**

Higher education institutions are increasingly diverse, with students, faculty, and staff from a wide range of backgrounds and experiences. This diversity is a strength, but it can also present challenges, particularly for scholars from underrepresented groups.



### Confronting Diversity Issues on Campus (Survival Skills for Scholars) by Benjamin P. Bowser



Scholars from diverse backgrounds may face discrimination, bias, and exclusion on campus. They may also feel isolated and marginalized. These challenges can have a negative impact on their academic success and well-being.

In this article, we will provide survival skills for scholars from diverse backgrounds to help them navigate the challenges they may face on campus. We will discuss how to build a support network, develop coping mechanisms, and advocate for change.

#### **Building a Support Network**

One of the most important things that scholars from diverse backgrounds can do is to build a support network of friends, family, mentors, and colleagues who can provide emotional support and guidance.

There are a number of ways to build a support network on campus. One way is to join student organizations and affinity groups. These groups can provide a sense of community and belonging for scholars from diverse backgrounds.

Another way to build a support network is to reach out to faculty and staff members who are committed to diversity and inclusion. These individuals can provide mentorship and support, and they can also help to connect scholars with resources.

Finally, scholars from diverse backgrounds can also build support networks online. There are a number of online communities and forums where scholars from diverse backgrounds can connect with each other and share their experiences.

#### **Developing Coping Mechanisms**

In addition to building a support network, scholars from diverse backgrounds should also develop coping mechanisms to help them deal with the challenges they may face on campus.

One coping mechanism is to practice self-care. This means taking care of your physical and mental health by eating healthy, getting enough sleep, and exercising regularly.

Another coping mechanism is to develop a positive self-image. This means believing in yourself and your abilities, even when you are faced with challenges.

Finally, scholars from diverse backgrounds should also learn to speak up for themselves. This means being assertive and advocating for your rights. It also means being willing to challenge discrimination and bias.

#### **Advocating for Change**

In addition to building a support network and developing coping mechanisms, scholars from diverse backgrounds should also advocate for change on campus.

One way to advocate for change is to get involved in campus organizations and initiatives that are working to promote diversity and inclusion.

Another way to advocate for change is to speak up about your experiences of discrimination and bias. This can be done in person, in writing, or through social media.

Finally, scholars from diverse backgrounds can also advocate for change by being role models for others. By demonstrating success and resilience, scholars from diverse backgrounds can help to challenge stereotypes and create a more inclusive campus environment.

Confronting diversity issues on campus can be challenging, but it is essential for creating a more inclusive and equitable academic environment. Scholars from diverse backgrounds can navigate these challenges by building a support network, developing coping mechanisms, and advocating for change.

By working together, scholars from diverse backgrounds can create a more inclusive and equitable campus community for all.

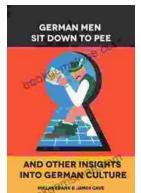


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