



Master of None

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Doomsday Scenario

- Back filling an abandoned town square of social services

Assumption of a single future

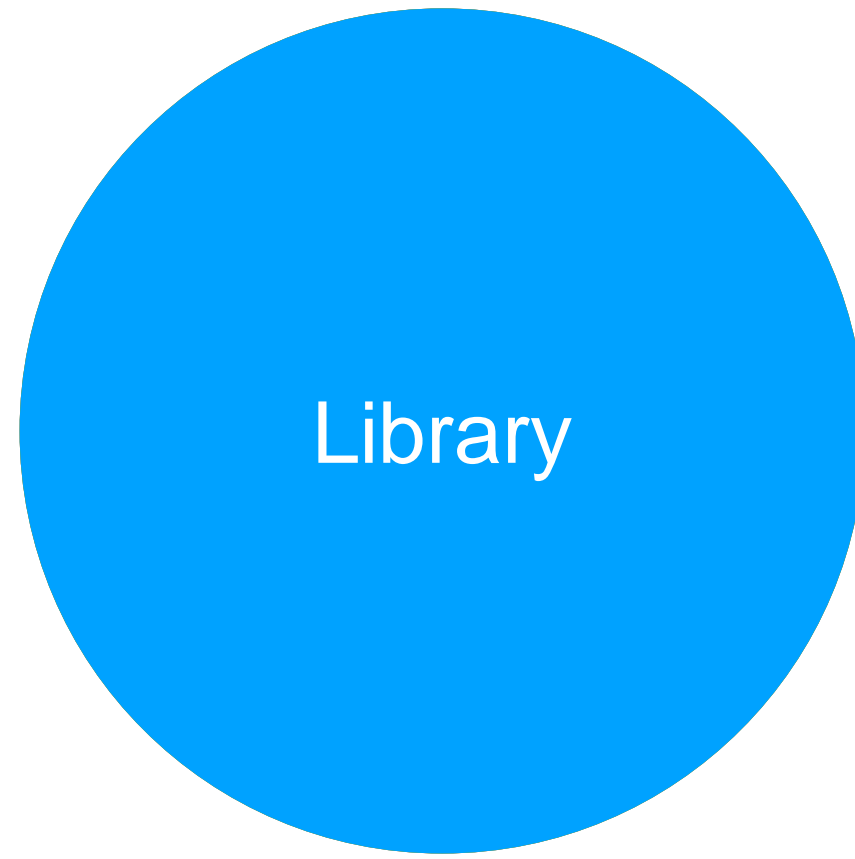
increasing government for more metrics

- Core functions challenged
 - Inadequate shift from narratives of neutrality to narratives of expertise

The Many Futures

- There are as many futures as communities served
- As we center the community at the heart of the library we benefit from broader support, but we are also tied to a broader part to that community.
- No longer can we just depend on the elites, the cultured, or the library supporter for our success. We must seek to engage and improve the whole community.

Librarian



Community Centered Done Well



- Libraries should seek to meet the aspirations and character of their communities

Feeding the Mind and Body



Toronto

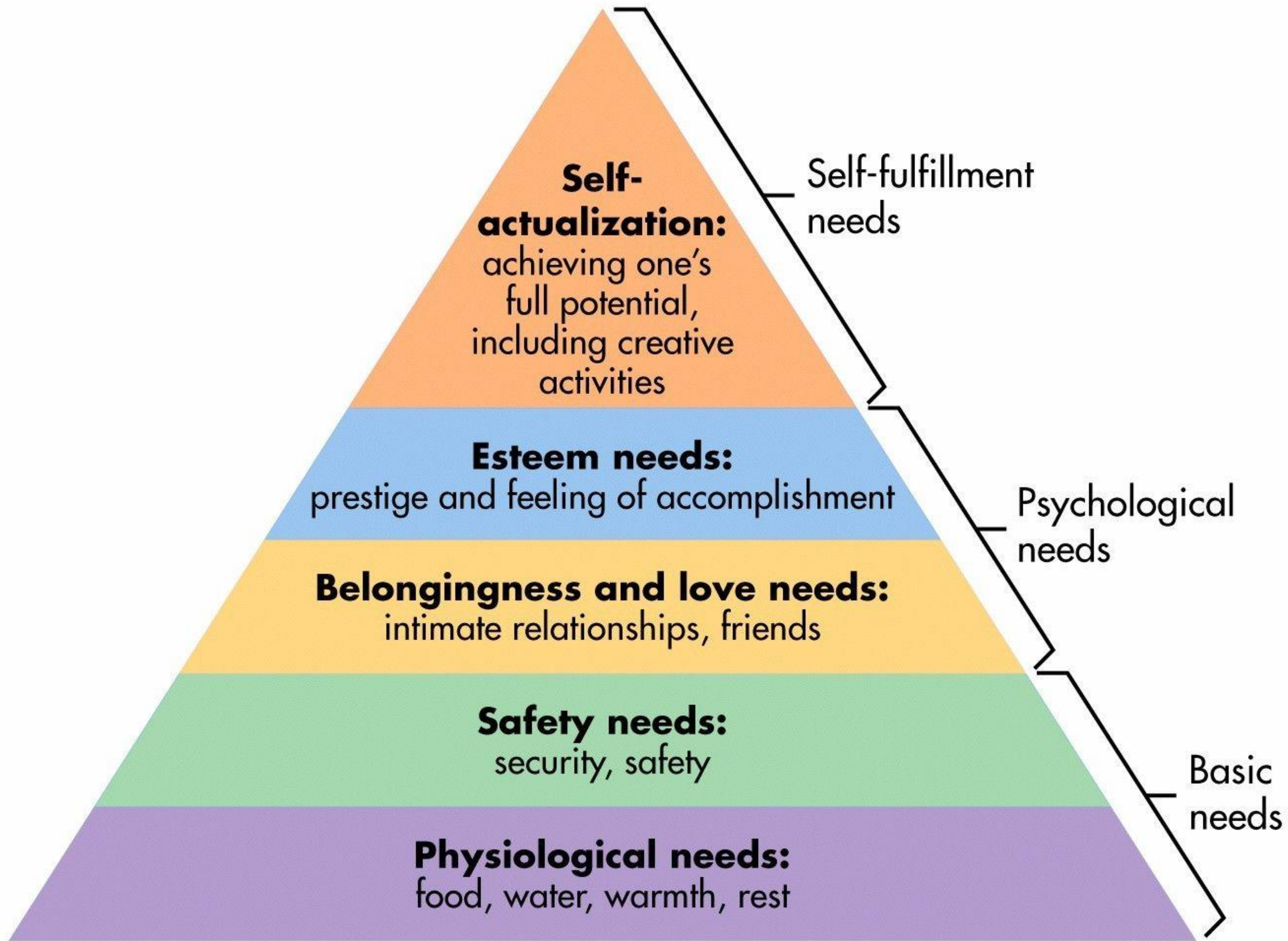


Philadelphia



Charleston

A library is a mandated
facilitated space maintained
by the community,
stewarded by librarians,
and dedicated to knowledge.



Community Centered Taken Too Far

- Community centrality is not an abdication our values, mission, and professionalism
- “Community Libraries” in England
- Materials challenges and the exclusion of professionals and self-censorship

Community Centered Taken Too Far

- Jack of all trades, master of none
 - Adapt, don't adopt: need to kill the idea of toolkits and best practices

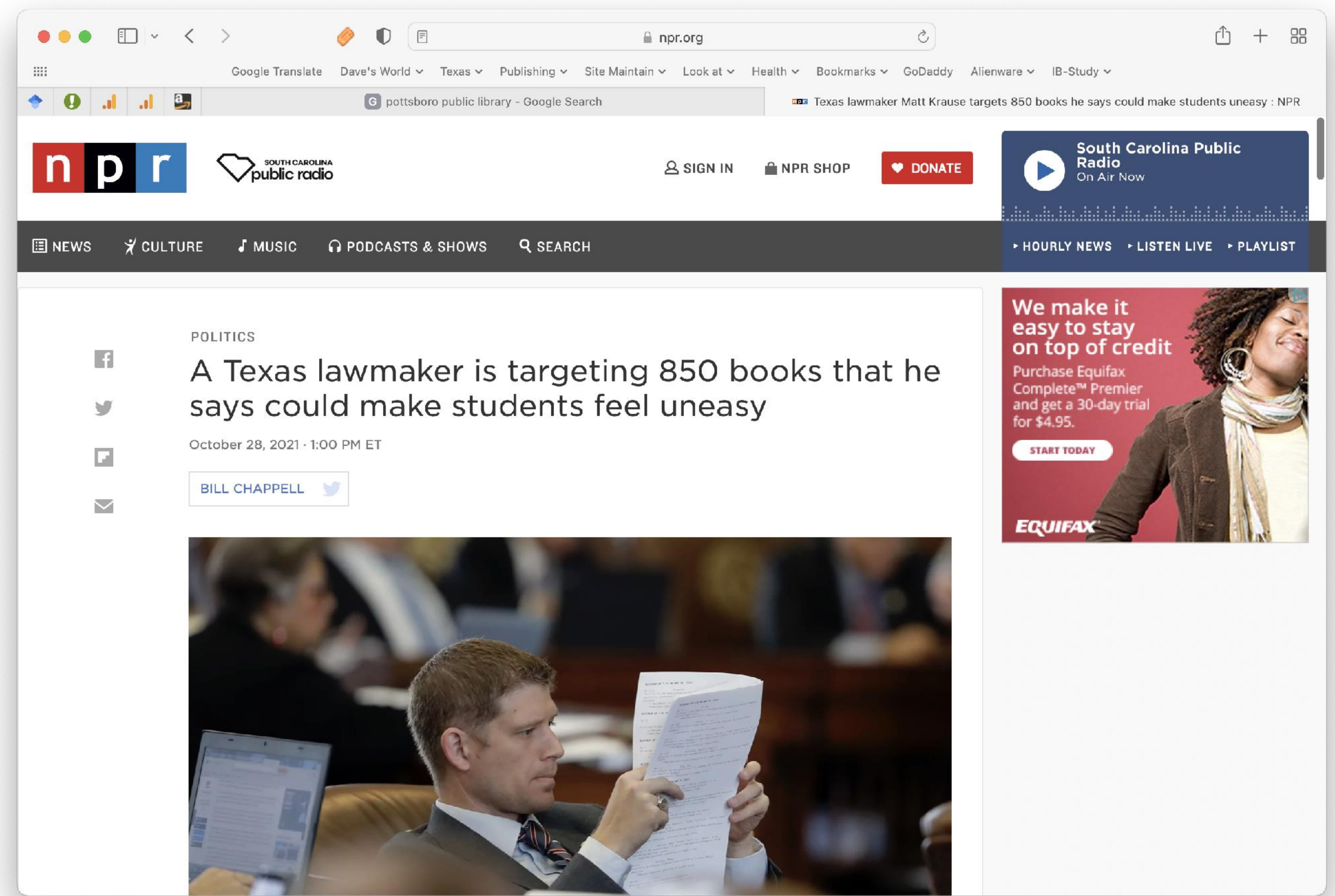
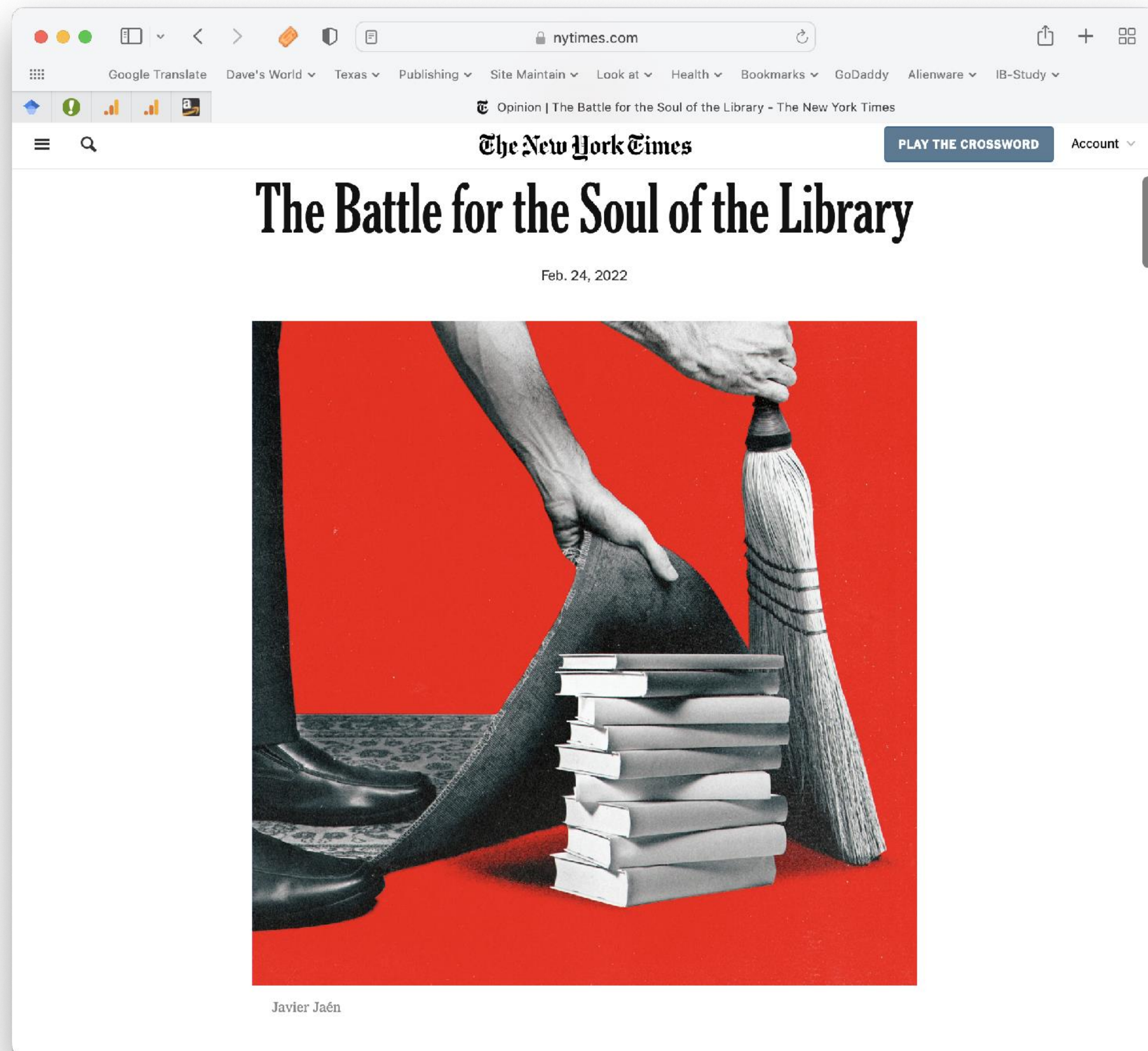
Community Centered Taken Too Far

- Instead of seeking to be all things to all people, we must strive to do Less; Better
 - Not the same as every other library though
- This is particularly vital now, as our communities atomize
- We must weave together the fabric of the community
 - We need to stop serving our communities and start saving them
- We are part of the community and must use our own agency and power to not simply serve our communities, but save them

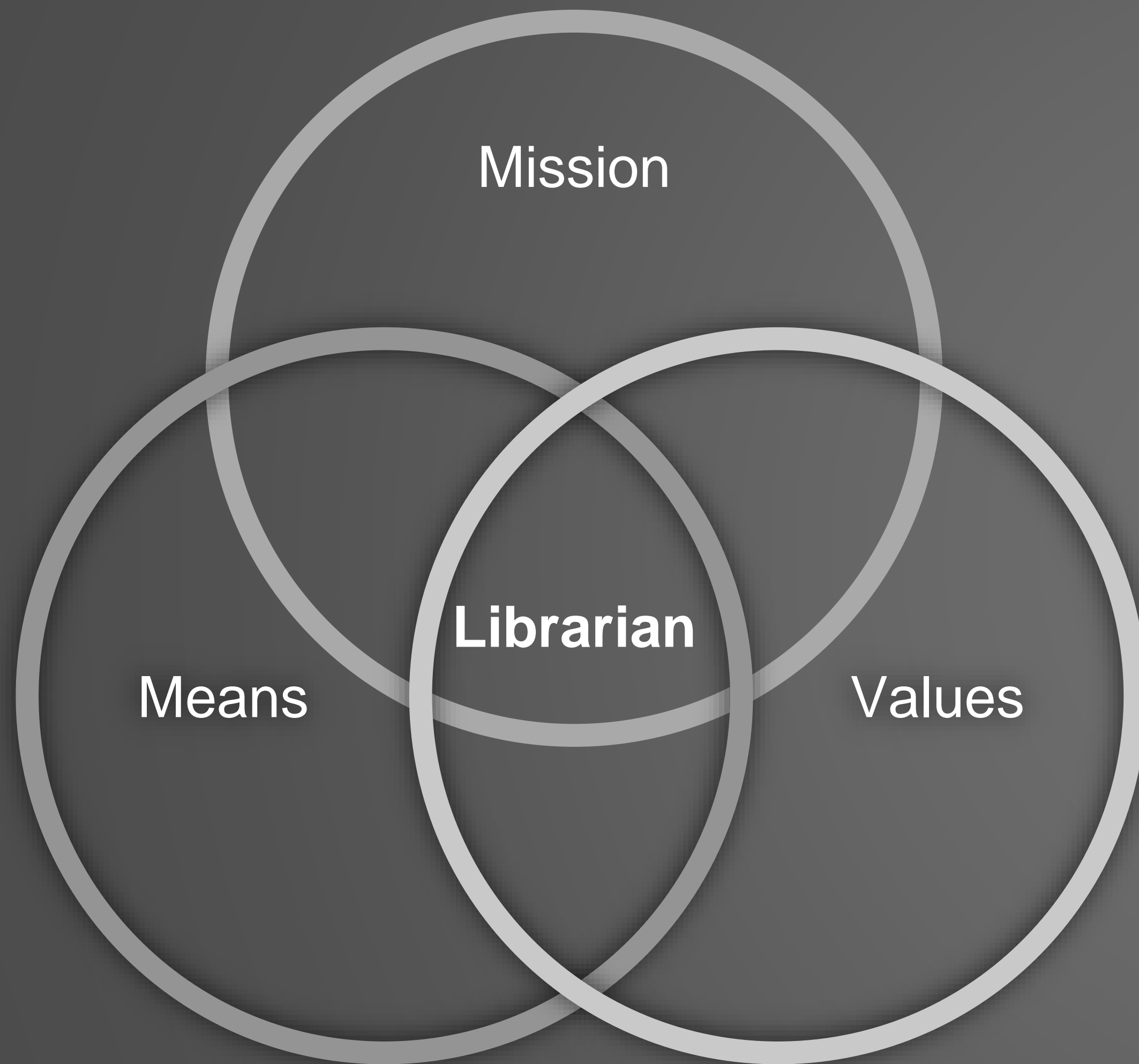
NOT Bibliofundamentalism

- This is not about retreating to our book palaces
- Rather this means we must throw off the pretense of being unbiased
- Need to argue against book banning through our professionalism and understanding of the whole community, not a simplistic definition of neutrality as all points of view
- TLA Launches Texans for the Right to Read, EveryLibrary Banned Bookstore, NYPL Supports the Right to Read Banned Books

Saving the Community's Soul



Librarian, Know Thyself



The mission of librarians is to improve society through facilitating knowledge creation in their communities

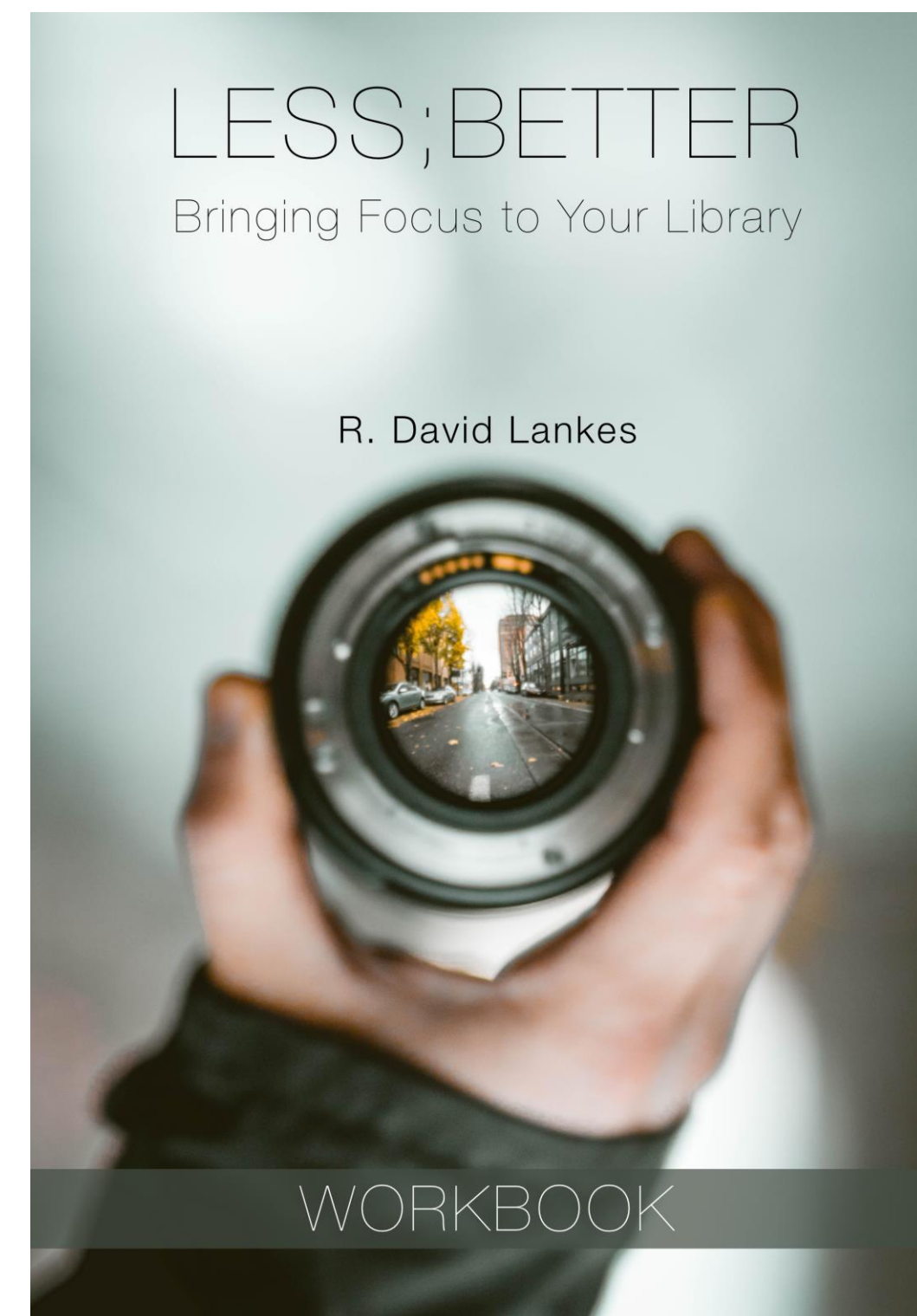
Access, Knowledge, Environment, Motivation

Learning, Openness, Diversity, Intellectual Honesty (not Unbiased), Intellectual Freedom & Safety

<http://DavidLankes.org>



Podcast



Coming Soon