

TEACHERS COLLEGE
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
THE READING AND WRITING PROJECT

These pop culture text sets attempt to represent not just a topic, but an issue within that topic, and sides of that issue. The text sets present multiple perspectives on an issue—as well as multiple levels of texts and multiple modalities. Some articles may need to be adapted for lower level readers, and some website text you may choose to move into Word and reformat so it is easier to read and has fewer distractors/ads. Be sure to capture the whole URL, without spaces for line-breaks, when you seek these online resources. Thanks to all the teachers who shared resources. If you have a bibliography you'd like to share with social studies teachers, please email us at: contact@readingandwritingproject.com.

Please keep in mind that websites are temporal and so might no longer be posted.

Censorship

An article about attempts to ban *Harry Potter* books in schools
<http://childrensbooks.about.com/cs/censorship/a/banharry.htm>

Ways kids can join the fight for free speech
<http://www.kidspeakonline.org/whatcanido.html>

An article about the freedom to read
<http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/article/freedom-read>

An article about Facebook and free speech
<http://www.allfacebook.com/study-facebook-teaches-kids-freedom-of-speech-2011-09>

An article on finding age-appropriate books for readers:
<http://www.scholastic.com/resources/article/books-for-kids/>

An article about parents attempting to ban one of their child's summer reading books
<http://www.postandcourier.com/news/2011/sep/24/parents-say-book-inappropriate-for-teens/>

Video of a local school board meeting on the book ban of *Bless Me, Ultima*
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5i_lf5zOY6Q