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TEACHING & LEARNING THESES & DISSERTATIONS

"The Poor Kid Finds the Pirate Treasure": Depictions of Social Class in Newbery Medal and Honor Books 2004-2013

[Danielle Eileen Forest, Old Dominion
University](#)

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Committee Director

Sue Kimmel

Committee Member

Karla Collins

Committee Member

Carol Doll

Committee Member

Yonghee Suh

Abstract

Background: Given events of recent years like the economic recession, issues related to social class are more important than ever before. Although educational scholars have devoted increasing attention to social class, it has not been widely studied in curricular materials like children's literature. Because books can influence children's views of the world, understanding what values and ideologies are communicated about class in literature is important.

Focus of Study: Grounded in the theoretical perspectives of critical literacy and the sociology of school knowledge, the purpose of this study was to deconstruct portrayals of social class in books earning the Newbery Medal or Honor between 2004 and 2013. Forty-two books comprised the sample. Newbery titles were selected since they are easily accessible to children and used in school settings.

Research Design: The study utilized a flexible design incorporating both the deductive and inductive approaches to qualitative content analysis. In the deductive part of the analysis, references to social class in the books were coded according to portrayals, or "frames," of class identified in prior research. In the inductive part of the analysis, references to class not fitting the frames were analyzed and categorized using the abstraction process to develop new frames.

Findings: Thirty-one frames emerged as ways of portraying characters in the four class groups (upper class, middle class, working class, and poor). While some frames were positive depictions of class groups, some included negative stereotypes. Additionally, working class characters constituted the majority of protagonists in the texts, though they were usually portrayed in historical rather than contemporary settings.

Conclusions: The findings offer a framework for future researchers interested in analyzing portrayals of social class in children's literature, curricular materials, and other media. They also suggest a need for teaching critical literacy skills in K-12 and teacher education settings since some titles included negative framings of class groups. Further, teachers and librarians might use the findings to select books validating the class identities of their students and to offer entryways into discussing issues of class in school settings.

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The Newbery Medal is awarded annually by the American Library Association for the most distinguished American children's book published the previous year. List of books from American Library Association www.ala.org. The Honor books are those that were not the first place of the year, but deserve honorable mention.

<http://www.ala.org/also/awardsgrants/bookmedia/newberymedal/newberymedal>. Newbery Contenders by Year: 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018. A book's total score is based on multiple factors, including the number of people who have voted for it and how highly those voters ranked the book. All Votes Add Books To This List. 1. Pirate books for kids. This post contains affiliate links. As an Amazon Associate I earn from qualifying purchases. If you have a new reader who loves to read about pirates, check out these easy pirate books for kids. You can download and print for free! Have you seen our giant collection of sight word books? I've been creating these books for almost three years now, and we're on set 34! First of all I want to thank you for your great website and for all the wonderful materials we can find here. I love these books and I was really excited to download the one about pirates, but unfortunately when I click "Download" there is an "Ocean" book instead of "Pirates". Where can I find the "Pirates" story? Thank you for you effort! Reply to this comment. The John Newbery Medal, awarded annually for the most distinguished contribution to juvenile literature, takes its name from the eighteenth-century British bookseller who first conceived of publishing books for children. First presented in 1922 to Hendrick Willem Van Loon for *The Story of Mankind*, the medal is awarded each year to an author whose work was published during the preceding year and who is a United States citizen. Following is a list of the Newbery Medal winners in the NLS collections. The list is in chronological order by year; the winning title is followed by honor titles. Things improve for awhile when he meets Lizzie Bright Griffin, a girl from the poor, nearby Malaga Island community founded by former slaves. For grades 6-9 and older readers. 8. Will they manage to find(find) the treasure before other pirates? Gerunds 4. 1. The captain invited his officers to dine (dine) with. 7. Everyone on the pirate ship keeps _ (talking) about the treasure map and the treasure. 8. Will they manage _ (find) the treasure before other pirates? Gerunds _____. 4. Infinitive or Gerund 1. The captain invited his officers _ (dine) with him the first evening. Random House Kids. *Battlefleet Gothic 2010 Compendium: Rogue Traders*. Uploaded by. Social Media. Copyright © 2020 Scribd Inc. Browse Books.