

Social Justice Literature

Title of Book: Dear Santa, Please don't come this year.

Author: Child's Play (no author) Illustrator: Patricia Ludlow

Publisher/year: Child's Play 1993

ISBN: 0-85953-778-1

What social topic/s does this book address:

- Race
- Class/poverty
- Peace/war
- Animal rights

Brief synopsis of the book: Begins with Santa almost quitting because no children are gracious any longer. A small group of kids write to Santa suggesting they skip a year so Santa can help everyone who cannot write for themselves. He decides to take the year off and asks parents to handle stockings for one year. He goes around the world digging wells, handing out medicine, and teaching children to read. He also helps the animals because they also cannot ask for themselves.

Is this story authentic in regard to:

- story line
- today's society
- social topic
- characters

Is this story:

- Respectful
- Engaging
- Honoring

Does this story directly talk about the social topic or does it tell a story using a social topic as a subtle background?
direct

Would you read this story to your class? yes

Would you want your child's teacher to read this story? Yes

What big ideas or questions do you see emerging from this book?
Wants/needs....what could you do to help those less fortunate around the holidays?