

Social Justice Literature

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Title of Book: Tight Times

Author: Barbara Shook Hazen

Publisher/year: Puffin Books/1979

ISBN: 0-14-050442-7

What social topic/s does this book address:

- race
- culture (including immigration)
- gender
- sexual orientation
- ability
- family composition (including adoption)
- Class/poverty/homelessness/unemployment

Brief synopsis of the book:

A boy's father loses his job. IT talks about choices the family has made based on finances (cereal , holidays). The boy desires to have a pet, which they cannot afford. He ends up bringing a stray cat into the house as a pet. A great story about family dynamics.

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?

Directly talks about unemployment and financial issues.

Would you read this story to your class? _____

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

What big ideas or questions do you see emerging from this book?

A great story about wants/needs and unemployment. There is a part where the dad makes a 'special' drink, which may or may not be a topic you want to explore, but it's in the background enough that it can be left out of the topic.
