

*Savage Inequalities* by Jon Kozol

A Review by: Ashley Nelson

*Savage Inequalities* by Jon Kozol is an in depth look into the issues of race and class in urban communities and how those issues affect education. Anyone that doesn't understand what people mean when they talk about how schools are still segregated should read this book! It gives a logical and clear explanation of how political and economic policies have resulted in highly segregated school districts, especially in cities. Kozol also does an excellent job of explaining why the situation has persisted despite the efforts that communities have made to improve their school conditions. I would especially recommend this book for anyone who grew up in a rural area, like I did, because the school systems of cities are vastly different.

With all the praise I have for the book I do recognize that it is about thirty years old. While many of the issues discussed in the book are, unfortunately, still present in today's world the age of the book may lead some to believe that the situation must have improved. For that reason, I would highly recommend that anyone who chooses to read this book also do some research on how the places mentioned are today. Regardless of the book's age it is a valuable read due to its meticulous explanation of the issues that plague poorer urban areas.