Won't Someone Please Think of the Children? Seventy-Five Years on the Battlefield of Books for Kids

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Abstract

Tell it to me straight. If I mention the title A Birthday Cake for George Washington to you, does it happen to ring any bells? Odds are, it probably does. Unless you've been living under a very comfortable and well-supplied rock you're aware that this particular book by Ramin Ganeshram is the most controversial children's book released by a major publisher in the past year.

References


Ann Rinaldi, My Heart Is on the Ground: The Diary of Nannie Little Rose, a Sioux Girl (New York: Scholastic, 1999).


DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.5860/cal.14n3.10

Refbacks

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Think of the children” (also “What about the children?”) is a phrase that evolved into a rhetorical tactic. Used literally it refers to children's rights, as in discussions of child labor. In debate, this plea for pity is wielded as an appeal to emotion which constitutes a logical fallacy. Children are simultaneously the victims of predators and vulnerable to exposure to dangerous images. All accompanied by the shrill cry of 'will no one think of the children?'.