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Editor's Message

When the *JRLYA* Advisory Board developed the journal's call for submissions about "Movements that affect teens (for example, #metoo, #whatif, #blacklivesmatter)," the committee left the theme open for interpretation from authors about what these movements might mean for teens. The three authors whose work is featured in this issue, looked at movements that affect teens through the lens of literature, and how literature reflects certain movements.

#wndb; #metoo

In the first part of a two-part series, Kasey L. Garrison examined the portrayals of various facets of culture in a sample of teen literature from two Australian book awards in her article, "What's Going on Down Under? Part 1: Portrayals of Culture in Award-Winning Australian Young Adult Literature." Garrison found that the most prevalent cultural theme was gender, which was situated in stories that focused on issues of harassment or body image. From her analysis and discussion of culture in this sample, Garrison concluded that Australian literature for teens holds a great deal of potential to serve as the impetus for discussions about social justice issues and movements such as the #metoo movement.

#curestigma; #stigmafree

Responding to the increasing number of books for teens being published about people with mental illness, Diane Scrofano explored how the narratives of characters with mental illness are being situated. In her article, "Disability Narrative Theory and Young Adult Fiction of Mental Illness," Scrofano used the narrative categories of restitution, chaos, and quest narratives to understand how characters with mental illness were being portrayed in 50 novels for teens. Scrofano discusses the implications of each narrative category and recommends that librarians and educators try to share more stories of mental illness in which characters have full and meaningful lives beyond their illnesses.

#antiwar

In her paper, "One, Two, Three, Four! We Don't Want Your F**king War! The Vietnam Antiwar Movement in Young Adult Fiction," Deborah Wilson Overstreet examined the depictions of the anti-Vietnam War movement in young adult novels, through the lens of three distinct narrative structures. Her findings suggest that the ways in which this sample of books

depicts the responses of and to the anti-war movement, may not align with the historical record. Wilson Overstreet concluded her research by discussing the importance of providing today's teen readers with accurate depictions of activism in order to help readers understand how they can effectively make their voices heard.

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JRLYA Editor