



## Youth Activism in an Era of Education Inequality (Qualitative Studies in Psychology)

By Ben Kirshner

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*Winner, 2016 Best Authored Book presented by the Society for Research on Adolescence*

This is what democracy looks like: Youth organizers in Colorado negotiate new school discipline policies to end the school to jail track. Latino and African American students march to district headquarters to protest high school closure. Young immigration rights activists persuade state legislators to pass a bill to make in-state tuition available to undocumented state residents. Students in an ESL class collect survey data revealing the prevalence of racism and xenophobia.

These examples, based on ten years of research by youth development scholar Ben Kirshner, show young people building political power during an era of racial inequality, diminished educational opportunity, and an atrophied public square. The book's case studies analyze what these experiences mean for young people and why they are good for democracy. What is youth activism and how does it contribute to youth development? How might collective movements of young people expand educational opportunity and participatory democracy? The interdependent relationship between youths' political engagement, their personal development, and democratic renewal is the central focus of this book. Kirshner argues that youth and societal institutions are strengthened when young people, particularly those most disadvantaged by educational inequity, turn their critical gaze to education systems and participate in efforts to improve them.

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

"[A]ll facets of youth activism are meticulously studied, analyzed, and interpreted using qualitative psychology research, with its case studies intertwined throughout...[I]ts solid research base seems essential for those seeking current analyses and data regarding student activism before beginning similar programs."-VOYA

"[M]any of the ideas are worth reiterating to a new generation of teachers and researchers. Educating youth to be active participants in social change and proactively engaging them in exploring and defining their own values are inherently valuable regardless of the era or the political climate." -PsyncCRITIQUES

"Provides a powerfully rich analysis of youth activism, and youth participatory research across a variety of settings. Kirshner's brilliant analysis sheds light into the dark and complicated corners of youth engagement and political action. This book is a must read for researchers and practitioners searching for fresh analysis and innovative insights into youth civic activism and engagement."-Shawn A. Ginwright,San Francisco State University

"Persuades us that schools would improve and societies benefit if we heard the voices of youth, who are typically left out of public conversations. Listen closely as they explain why they are organizing for equal education."-Connie Flanagan,University of Wisconsin-Madison

#### About the Author

**Ben Kirshner** is Associate Professor of Education at the University of Colorado Boulder. He is also Faculty Director of *CU Engage: Center for Civic Learning and Public Research*, whose mission is to work collaboratively with students, staff, faculty, and community groups to address complex public challenges.

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#### Kenneth Sisk:

This Youth Activism in an Era of Education Inequality (Qualitative Studies in Psychology) is great publication for you because the content which is full of information for you who all always deal with world and have to make decision every minute. This book reveal it details accurately using great coordinate word or we can declare no rambling sentences inside. So if you are read the item hurriedly you can have whole info in it. Doesn't mean it only provides you with straight forward sentences but challenging core information with attractive delivering sentences. Having Youth Activism in an Era of Education Inequality (Qualitative Studies in Psychology) in your hand like keeping the world in your arm, info in it is not ridiculous a single. We can say that no guide that offer you world throughout ten or fifteen tiny right but this reserve already do that. So , this can be good reading book. Hi Mr. and Mrs. hectic do you still doubt that will?

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