
Protecting Their Innocence:

Modifying Mature Content for
Young Readers

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Young Readers Editions

- Between middle grade and YA
- Written for ages 10-14
- Often a version of a popular adult title



U.S. Department of Justice

2009 study about children's
exposure to violence



Modification Techniques

- use simpler, nonspecific phrases
- make it relatable to young readers



Sample Themes

- #MeToo movement
- Violence against Native Americans
- Fighting against the Hitler Youth
- Crime scene investigation



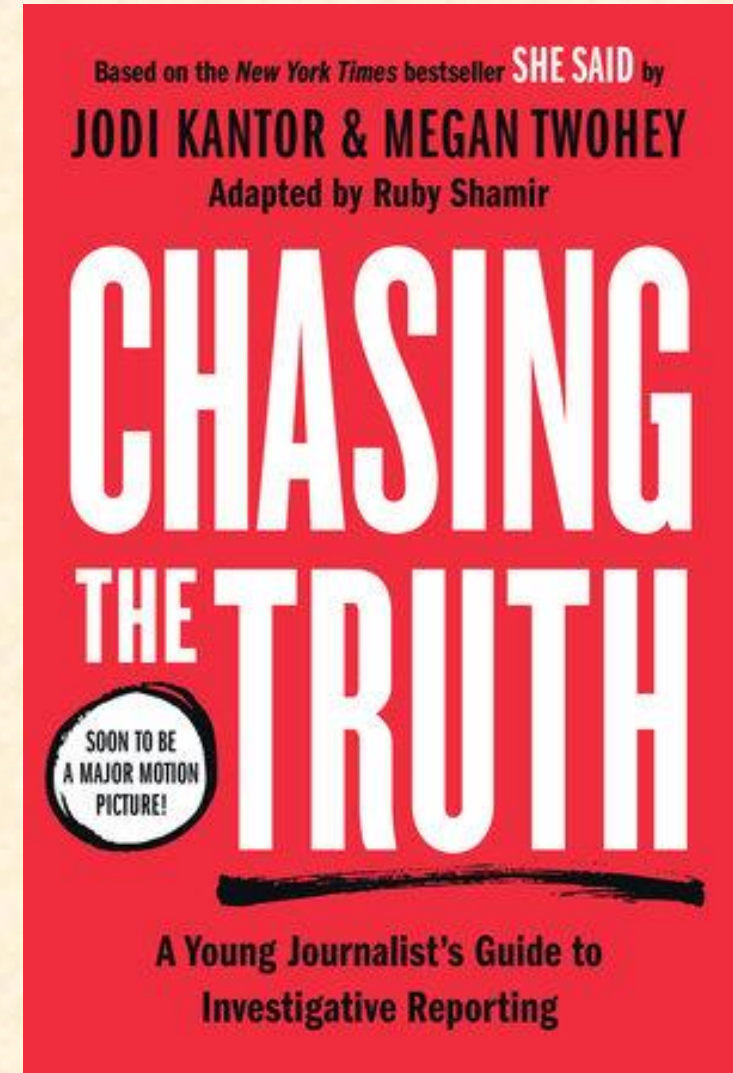
#MeToo movement

*Chasing the Truth: A Young Journalist's
Guide to Investigative Reporting*

adapted by Ruby Shamir

based on *She Said*

by Jodi Kantor and Megan Twohey



#MeToo movement

Key concepts:

- Investigative reporting
- Sexism and sexual harassment
- Accusations against Harvey Weinstein

sexism

in government and politics

in Hollywood

speaking out against

in various industries and academia

against women of color

sexual harassment

Weinstein, Harvey

accusations against

amFAR charity involvement

attempts to discredit accusers and social media attacks

attempts to interfere with the investigation

"Friends of Harvey"

Hollywood career and reputation

legal consequences for

and Miramax employees

questionable financial dealings

relationship with Bob Weinstein

response to the article's accusations

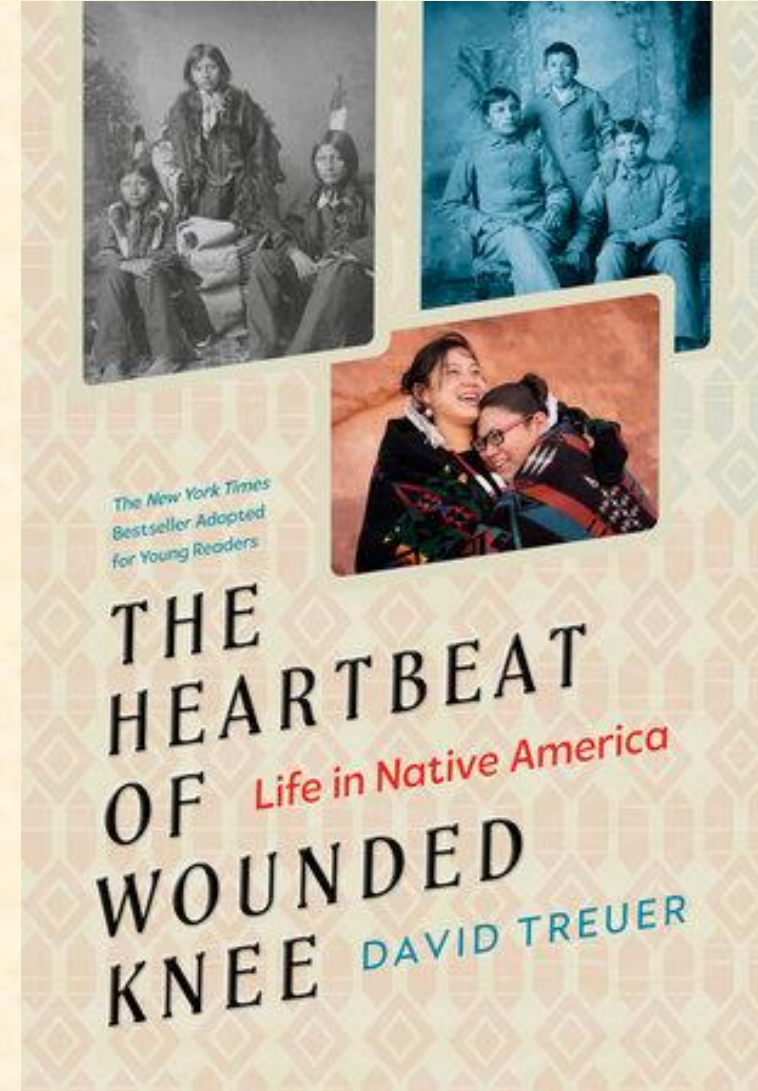
trial and verdict

and The Weinstein Company employees

Violence against Native Americans

The Heartbeat of Wounded Knee
by David Treuer

based on *The Heartbeat of Wounded Knee: Native America from 1890 to the Present*
by David Treuer



Violence against Native Americans

Key concepts:

- abuse
- forced boarding schools
- loss of land, life, and culture

discrimination and mistreatment of American Indians

diseases spread by European settlers

diversity of the Native population

religious freedom

American Indian Religious Freedom Act (AIRFA)

the Ghost Dance religion

protection of Indian burial grounds

U.S. government

protesting the actions of the

tactics for dealing with the "Indian problem"

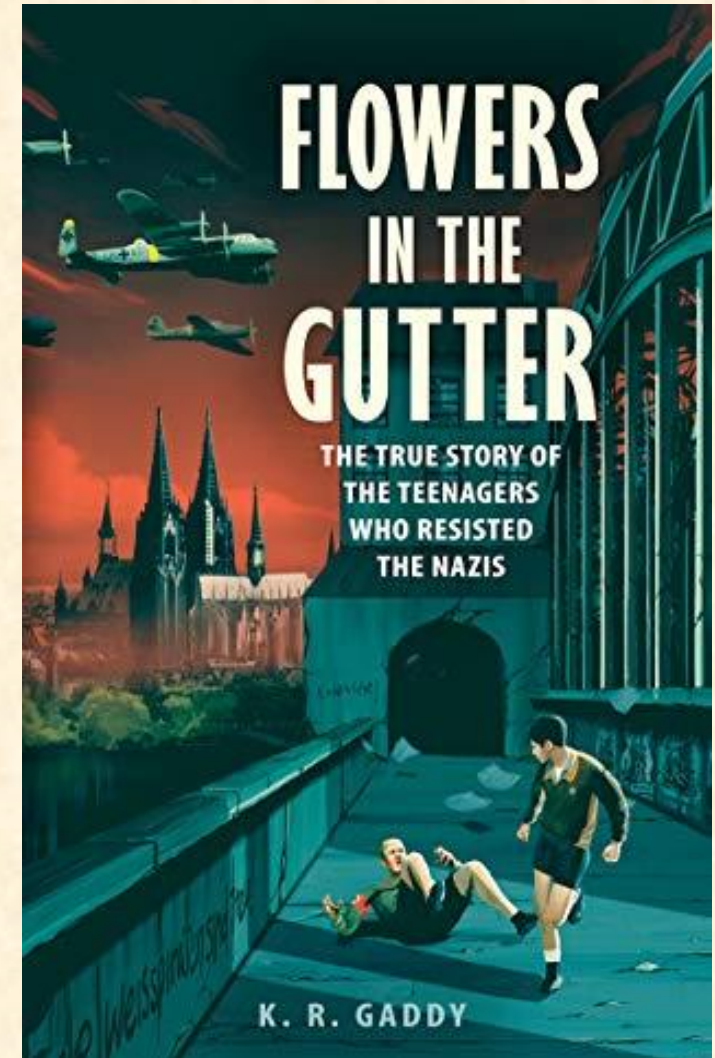
unlawful removal of Indians

violence against women

Fighting against the Hitler Youth

Flowers in the Gutter: The True Story of the Teenagers Who Resisted the Nazis

by K. R. Gaddy



Fighting against the Hitler Youth

Key concepts:

- The Nazi Party
- anti-Semitism
- violence and torture

anti-Semitism

Büb and Wolfgang's experiences
in Cologne, Germany
Kristallnacht

forced laborers

camps built near work sites
Ellern work camp
Gertrud and her mother's plan to help
Nazi treatment of

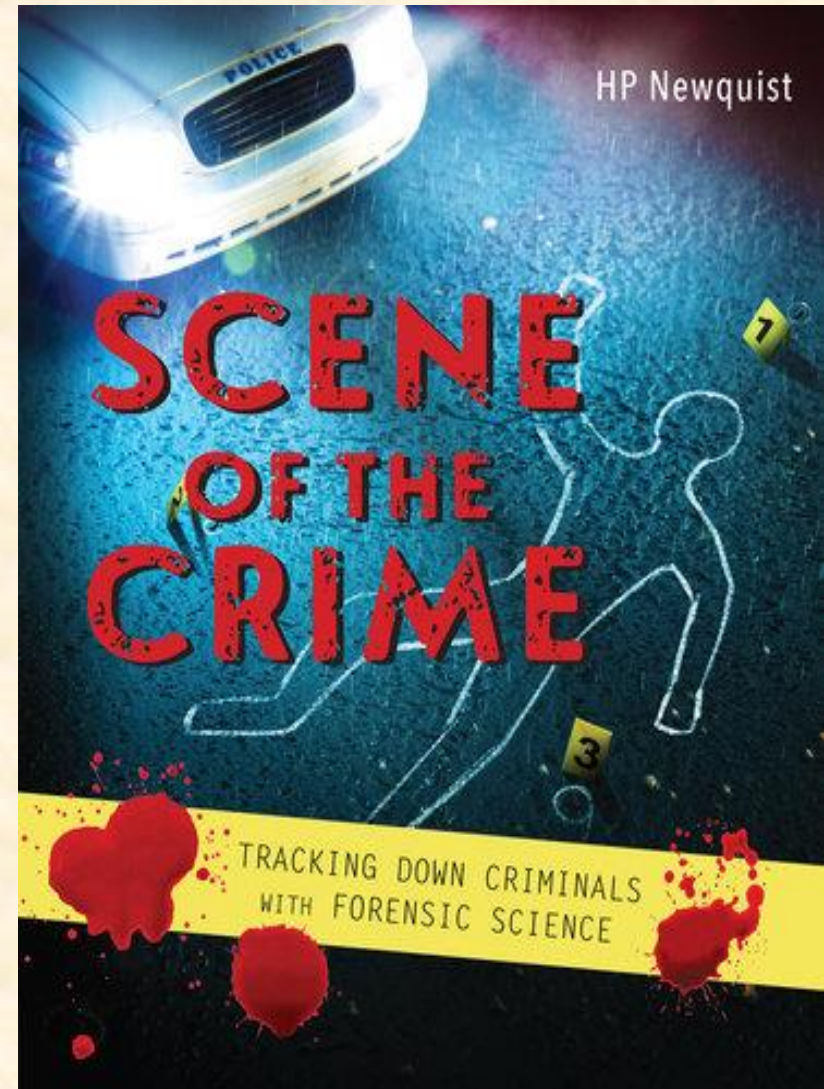
Gestapo (secret state police)

Brauweiler execution order
Cologne Gestapo raid on young people
EL-DE House
false confessions
interrogation and torture of prisoners
memo regarding the Kittelbach Pirates
raid of Pepita's family's apartment

Crime scene investigation

*Scene of the Crime: Tracking Down
Criminals with Forensic Science*

by H. P. Newquist



Crime scene investigation

Key concepts:

- blood and forensic evidence
- crime scenes
- human decomposition

blood

- after a bone marrow transplant
- blood spatter analysis
- bloodstains
- blood types
- draining
- luminol
- re-liquefying samples
- transfusing

human decomposition

- body farms for studying
- and drugs or medication
- effect of individuals' unique microbiomes on
- flies and maggots
- internal changes
- process length
- purge stage of nitrogen release
- vertical corpses vs. horizontal corpses

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