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A Kind and Just Parent: The Children of Juvenile Court

By William Ayers

Beacon Press. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 224 pages. Dimensions: 8.8in. x 6.0in. x 0.6in. Most people know juvenile offenders only from daily headlines, and the images portrayed by the media are extreme and violent: predators and even superpredators. Distorted and incomplete, these pictures shape the way Americans think and feel about city kids, poor kids, children of color. A Kind and Just Parent gives us a transformative view of kids caught up in the justice system that we could never get from nightly news and newspaper stories. William Ayers has spent five years as teacher and observer in Chicagos Juvenile Court prison, the nations first and largest institution of juvenile justice, founded by legendary reformer Jane Addams to act as a kind and just parent for kids in need. Today, immensely confused and confusing, it serves as a perfect microcosm of the way American justice deals with children. Through brilliant storytelling, Ayers captures the lives and personalities of young people caught up in the juvenile justice system. The book follows a year in the life of the prison school. Its characters are three dimensional: funny, quirky, sometimes violent, and often vulnerable. We see young people talking about their lives, analyzing...



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