Gabrielle Atwood Halko West Chester University

What Does Justice Look Like?: Hybridity and Reader Activism in Fred Korematsu Speaks Up

A blend of poetry, photographs, letters, and timelines, the book *Fred Korematsu Speaks Up* continues the work of representation of Japanese American incarceration (JAI) in children's literature even as it moves that body of work in a different direction. While Korematsu, like many Japanese Americans, did not speak of his incarceration – his daughter learned of his Supreme Court case when a classmate reported on it in school – *Fred Korematsu Speaks Up* opens with a direct peritextual call to the reader in a passage that begins, "Have you ever spoken up when you saw something that wasn't right?" and ends with "You can speak up for justice too." While there are numerous texts for young readers that portray the devastation and unfairness of Executive Order 9066 and JAI, this hybrid text intentionally destablilizes the established JAI narrative via visual and informational "detours" such as sidebars, pullout boxes, and callout bubbles. These features continually move the reader in and out of the narrative and shift the focus from the story of Fred Korematsu to the responsibility and agency of the young reader as citizen. The multimodality of *Fred Korematsu Speaks Up* advances the narrative of JAI beyond mere revelation and through its intentional use of collage, urges young readers to resist.