



The Outsiders

Introduction to the novel

—or not used—for different

Outsiders is a realistic portrayal of teenage life written by a teenaged woman that she wrote because it was the kind of story that she wanted to read. Without clichés and obligatory happy endings, she longed to write stories about real problems. Have students write their own story about “real people with real problems” and have them to include insights into why the problems exist and how characters respond to them.

2. Hinton started a trend, which became a battleground for readers, parents, teachers, and librarians. The Outsiders and the books that followed in its footsteps were torn apart and raged over whether they were in the students' own good. These books portrayed issues such as alcohol and other drug use, teen pregnancy, and divorce. Parents, educators and critics of realism worried that they could encourage their readers to imitate their characters. Discuss.

Drug Literacy

Big ideas

- x Drugs can be tremendously helpful and also very harmful
- x As humans, both individually and as communities, we need to learn how to manage the drugs in our lives
- x We can learn how to control our drug use by reflecting on the different ways people have thought about drugs, exploring stories from various cultures and listening to each other

Competencies

- x Assess the complex ways in which drugs impact the health and wellbeing of individuals, communities and societies
- x Explore and appreciate diversity related to the reasons people use drugs, the impact of drug use and the social attitudes toward various drugs
- x Develop social and communication skills in addressing discourse and behaviour related to drugs
- x Develop personal and social strategies to manage the risks and harms related to drugs

For a complete look at the drug literacy competencies, as defined by the Centre for Addictions Research of BC, see: www.uvic.ca/research/centres/assess/docs/iminds/hsp-drug-curriculum.pdf

