

Jericho Trilogy Pathfinder

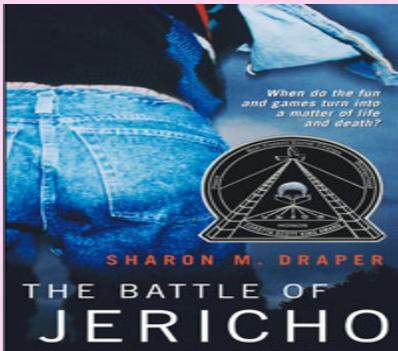
This pathfinder is intended to help you with the struggles that you or your friends may be facing in high school right now. This pathfinder will help you find resources that can answer the questions you might be too embarrassed or scared to ask an adult. This pathfinder is in no way trying to replace talking to an adult about your situation, but it will give you the words when you are ready to talk to an adult.

Are you dealing with bullies, peer pressure or abuse?

I suggest you read The Jericho Trilogy by [Sharon Draper](#). These three books, *The Battle of Jericho*, *November Blues* and *Just Another Hero*, focus on teens just like you and their struggles during high school.

How far should I go to fit in and be popular?

In *The Battle of Jericho*, Jericho Prescott, a junior at Fredrick Douglass High School, is offered the opportunity to pledge the most popular club at the school – The Warriors of Distinction. On the surface the club seems to be wonderful – it’s been around for almost fifty years and is highly respected by the community. The club even conducts a toy drive at the holiday season to help needy children. But under the surface, the club has many undisclosed activities, known only to those who go through the secret initiation rituals.



-[Excerpt from website](#)

Jericho Prescott and the other pledges are forced to shoplift, eat unknown foods, be blindfolded and tied to chairs, treated like dogs with collars and walking on all fours, and much more. This was all done in silence because “A *Warrior of Distinction* never breaks the [code of silence](#)” (p 79).

By the fifth round of drinks, Jericho didn't even care. He drank it sloppily, spilling a little in the process. For some reason, that struck him as incredibly funny. This ain't so bad, he thought dimly. He noticed that the [liquor bottle](#) was now empty. (p 278).

Watch the video about a pledge named [Jack Phoummarath](#). Click on “educational video” to view the very real and deadly consequences of hazing.

According to Merriam-Webster dictionary, [hazing](#) is an initiation process involving harassment. When does it turn from harmless fun to harassment?

CHECK POINT - HAZING?

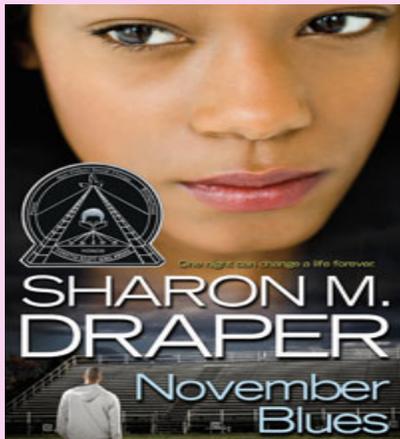
Answer the following questions to see if you know what the answers are:

TRUE or FALSE

1. Hazing is a problem for fraternities and sororities primarily
2. Hazing is no more than foolish pranks that sometimes go awry.
3. As long as there's no malicious intent, a little hazing should be O.K.
4. Hazing is an effective way to teach respect and develop discipline.
5. If someone agrees to participate in an activity, it can't be considered hazing.
6. It's difficult to determine whether or not a certain activity is hazing--it's such a gray area sometimes.

Click [here](#) to find the answers.

What should you do when life doesn't go as planned?



When November Nelson loses her boyfriend, Josh, to a pledge stunt gone horribly wrong, she thinks her life can't possibly get any worse. But Josh left something behind that will change November's life forever, and now she's faced with the biggest decision she could ever imagine. How in the world will she tell her mom? And how will Josh's parents take the news? She's never needed a friend more.

-Excerpt from the book

November finds herself pregnant and alone. Who should she talk to? She's told some of her friends, she's been to the doctor, but now she needs to tell her mom.

"It's going to take a while to absorb all this. We've been through a lot together, me and you. I don't know how, but we'll get through this." She looked at her daughter. "Oh, my Lord, I wish we didn't have to." (p 50)

November found a [doctor](#) and if you or a friend is in a similar situation, you will need to find one too.

Teenage girls across the country are dealing with unplanned pregnancies. Watch the "[Male Involvement Portal](#)" video to see who is out there to help the teenage boys facing the same unplanned pregnancies.

CHECK POINT – TEEN PREGNANCY

Answer the following questions to see if you know what the answers are:

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. The United States has the highest rates of teen pregnancy and births in the Western industrialized world
2. Teenagers who have strong emotional attachments to their parents are much less likely to become sexually active at an early age and less likely to have a teen pregnancy.
3. Teens who have been raised by both parents (biological or adoptive) from birth, have lower probabilities of having sex than youths who grew up in any other family situation.

Click [here](#) to find the answers.

Self - Esteem

November gains a friend when she least expected it. Olivia is *noticeably overweight, but compact*. (p 18). Olivia has self esteem issues. When asked by Jericho “*Why you always comin’ down on yourself?*” Olivia replies, “*It’s easier if I do it first.*” (p 27).

How many times have you made the first joke so people are laughing with you and not at you? Follow the link to [About-Face](#) and watch the Covert Dressing Room Action video.

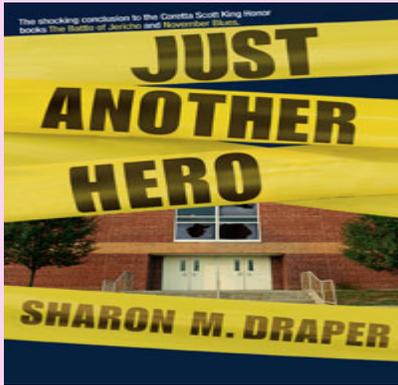
CHECK POINT – SELF ESTEEM

Answer the following questions, and then go to [Campaign For Our Children, Inc](#) to complete the self-esteem quiz.

TRUE OR FALSE

1. A person has high self-esteem if they are always concerned about what other people think of them.
2. Self-esteem means being proud of who and what you are.
3. A person that cares about being healthy and living a long life has high self-esteem.
4. Self-esteem means doing things that make other people happy no matter how it makes you feel.
5. A person with high self-esteem cannot think of any good qualities or traits that they have.

What makes you a hero?



Arielle Gresham, disliked and mistrusted by most of the students at her school, has a secret past, an unbelievably complicated present, and a shaky future. But no one knows or cares because she has managed to alienate anyone who could help her. She tries to cope with problems at school, but difficulties at home almost break her spirit. As the school tries to deal with an outbreak of false fire alarms, a series of thefts, a student addicted to prescription drugs, and another who is a victim of vicious online bullying, Arielle finds that outward appearances are seldom what they seem to be. -Excerpt from [website](#)

Arielle witnessed other students bullying a single student. When Arielle tried to offer help to Osrick, he did not want her to tell anyone.

*“Please, promise you won’t tell anybody!” Osrick pleaded. “Please!”
“Okay, okay! I promise.” Arielle frowned, pondering whether that was the right thing to say. Surely she should tell a teacher?” (p 4).*

Click on the [link](#) to find out what Arielle should have done in this situation. Go to [Stop Bullying Now](#) to watch Webisodes, play games and find out what you can do to stop bullying.

You can also click on the following links to find out more information about bullying.

[What is bullying?](#)

[Why do kids bully?](#)

[Effects of bullying.](#)

Arielle knew all about bullying because she watched her stepfather, Chad, do it to her and her mother. Although Chad provided a nice home, a car, and spending money for Arielle and her mom he was quick to remind them that it was his house, his car and his money. All the money spent had to be accounted for with receipts, even a coke and a bag of chips. Chad would “balance the books” at the end of each week.

Bullying and abuse is not always physical harm. It can also be mental harm. Chad never struck Arielle or her mom but he was [abusive and bullying](#). Click on the link and answer the questions in Arielle’s point of view regarding Chad. How many times did you answer “yes”?

Chad leaves Arielle and her mom, taking everything in the house with him. Arielle and her mom move into a women's shelter where they can save money to get back on their feet. Click on the following link to take a [virtual tour](#) of a women's shelter and to read about survivors.

CHECK POINT – BULLYING

Answer the following questions to see if you might be a bully.

1. There's a boy or a girl (or maybe more than one) whom you've repeatedly shoved, or punched or physically pushed around in a mean way just because you felt like it.
2. You had someone hurt someone you don't like.
3. You've spread a nasty rumor about someone, in conversation, in a note, or through email or instant messaging.
4. You and your friends have regularly kept one or more kids from hanging out or playing with you. Examples: at your lunch table, during sports or other activities, or activities that are a part of a club or other kind of group activity.
5. You've teased people in a mean way, calling them names, making fun of their appearance, or the way they talk or dress or act.
6. You've been part of a group that did any of these things – even if you only wanted to be part of the crowd.

If you answered yes to any of these questions, please follow the [link](#).

Drug dependency

Kofi is recovering from a year old broken arm but can't seem to stop taking the pain medication.

“On the street his meds were called Killers or Kickers or the Ox. But this is a legal prescription for OxyContin, he thought. I'm not like those kids who are using.” (p 27)

Kofi was having a problem. He let Dana have the almost empty prescription bottle in his pocket because he knew he had a full bottle at home.

If you are having a problem with prescription drugs, please click on the following [link](#) for information on finding a helpline or going to a meeting.

CHECK POINT – ADDICITON

Answer the following questions to see if you might have a problem with your prescription drug?

1. Can you go a day without your pills?
2. Are you getting your pills from more than one source?
3. Do you get annoyed when people comment about your drug use?
4. Do you feel guilty about things you have done while using drugs?

Click on the link to find out if you might have a [problem](#).

School Violence

Jack is a student at Frederick Douglass High School. He is also the gunman. How safe is your school? Should you worry about [school violence](#)?

And Jack – red-eyed and crazed – standing at the door. Pointing an AK-47 assault rifle directly at them all.

“I will no longer be ignored!” Jack cried out. “It’s time to listen to what I have to say!” (p 240).

[Do Something.org](#) is a website designed for teens to learn about school violence and top ways to take action.

Youth violence is very real and you have probably witnessed it from yourself, a friend or a classmate. The following [link](#) provides some warning signs. But keep in mind a person may or may not give off these signals.

These are just some things to keep in mind when you think you have a problem or someone you know has a problem.

CHECK POINT – VIOLENCE

Answer the following questions to see if you know the facts on Youth Violence.

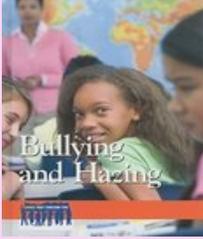
TRUE or FALSE

1. Teen violence has become an increasing problem in the United States.
2. There is no single profile for a violent teen.
3. Schools are still relatively safe places for young people.

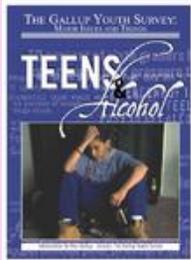
Click on the [link](#) to find out these answers and more facts on Youth Violence.

OTHER RESOURCES

Materials and resources were chosen based on content and age appropriateness. Most call numbers are preceded with “YA” for Young Adult



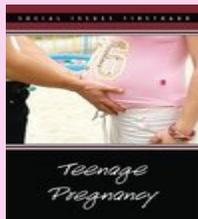
Bullying and Hazing by Jill Hamilton, book editor.
Describes what bullying and hazing is and what steps can be taken to stop it.



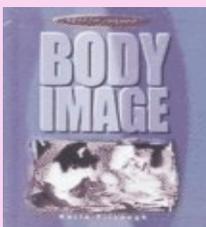
Teens & Alcohol by Gail Snyder
Uses data from the Gallup Youth Survey and other sources to examine issues related to teenage drinking.



High School Hazing: When rites become wrongs by Hank Nuwer
An invaluable, eye-opening contribution to a better understanding of the unnecessary and potentially deadly practices that many teenagers and adults still consider harmless pranks.



Teenage Pregnancy by Norah Piehl
Focuses on teens facing pregnancy, growing up while raising a child and professionals helping teen parents.



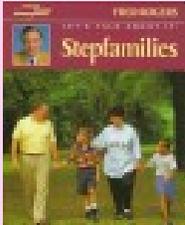
Body Image by Karla Fitzhugh
Focuses on changing ideals and improving body image.



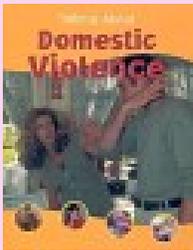
Taking Action Against Bullying by Jane Bingham
Focuses on the reasons people bully and how beat bullying.



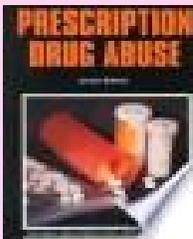
School Violence: Deadly Lessons by Francha Roffe Menhard
Recounts some of the heinous acts of violence in America's schools, explains why people resort to this type of behavior, and discusses ways to avoid such tragedies.



Stepfamilies by Fred Rogers
Discusses the changes involved in becoming part of a stepfamily and ways to deal with the new situation.



Talking about Domestic Violence by Nicola Edwards
Some issues are hard to talk about, especially for children. "Talking About... offers safe, caring discussions on difficult topics. Complex issues are set forth in a way that is easy to understand, and readers' questions are answered in a straightforward but sensitive way.



Prescription Drug Abuse by Jeremy Roberts
Discusses how prescription drugs are abused, how to recognize this problem in parents and friends, and how to seek help.

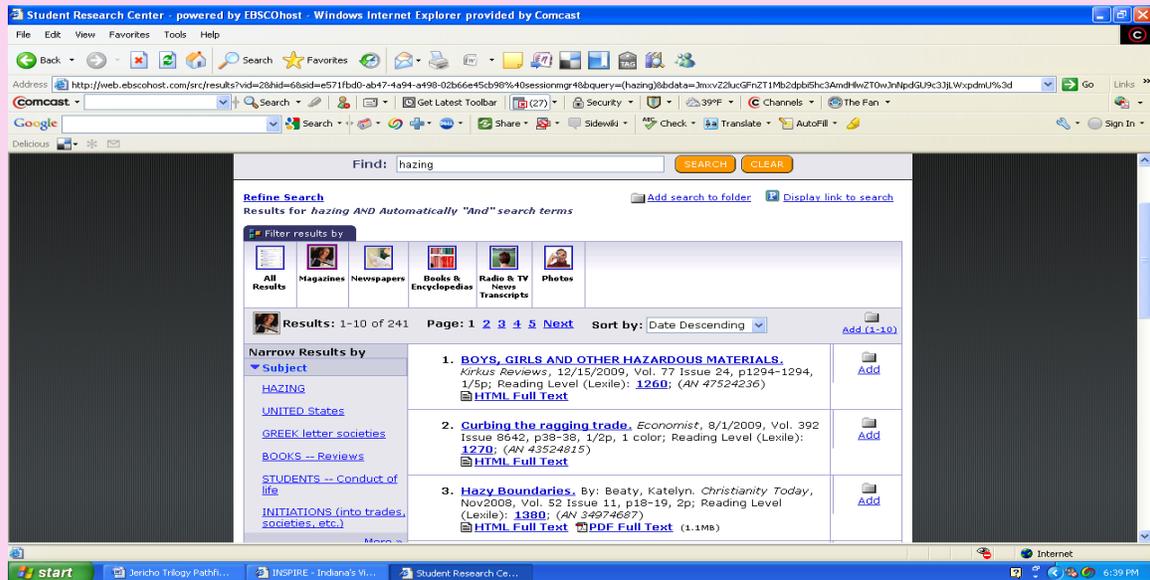
DATABASES

Inspire.net is free to all Indiana schools. A database is similar to "Google" or "Yahoo" searches except that with databases you usually get more accurate information.

The following are step by step searches using Inspire

- Go Inspire.net
- Click on "Student Research Center"
- In the basic search box, type in "Hazing"
- Filter results by clicking on "Magazines"
- Scroll down to item #10
 - Article: Hazing goes to high school by Kimberly Papa

Abstract of Article: The article discusses a study from the National Conference on High School **Hazing** which cites that one in ten adolescents is hazed. Although a typical **hazing** involves being forced to undertake dangerous, difficult or degrading tasks, experts report an alarming increase in the level of violence. According to Alfred University dean of students Norman J. Pollard, the most common form of **hazing** is still humiliation.



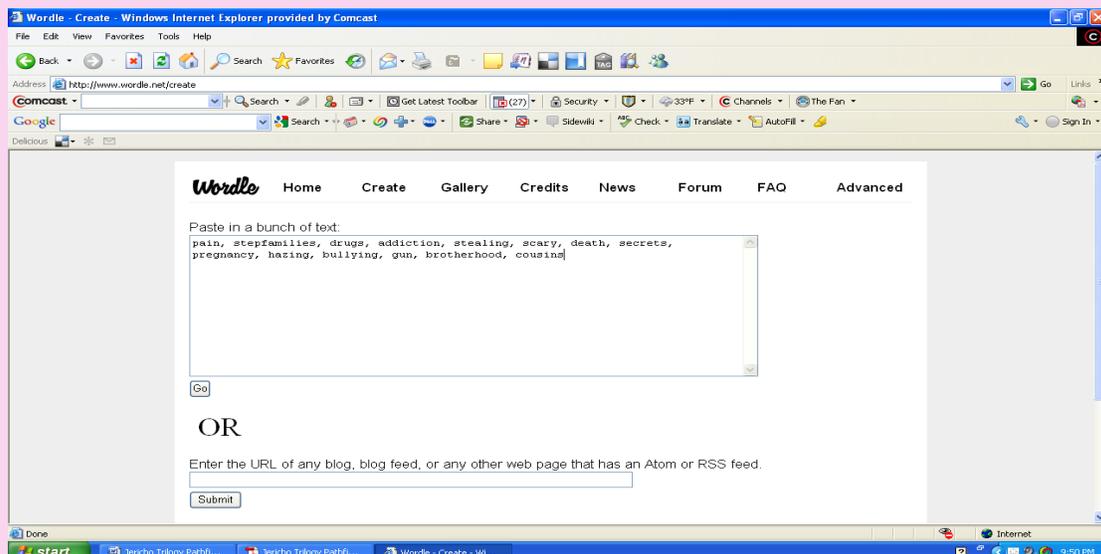
Interactive Book, Information or Instructional Software

[Wordle.net](http://www.wordle.net)

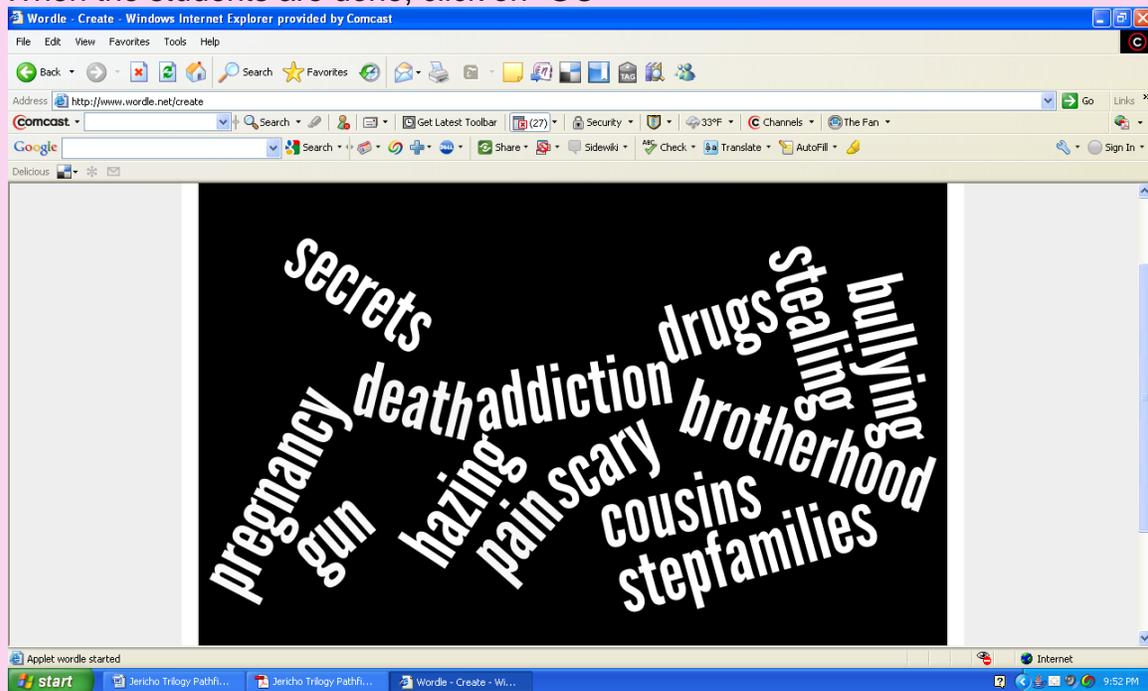
Wordle.net can be used as a teaching tool for writing prompts.

The teacher will have the students call out words that are related to the subject.

The teacher will type all the words into the text box.



When the students are done, click on “GO”



The words are presented in a different format and can generate class discussions just by the different proximity the words have with one another.

Publisher of the Jericho Trilogy

[Simon and Schuster Publishing](#)

Simon & Schuster, Inc. is a global leader in the field of general publishing, providing consumers worldwide with a diverse range of quality books across a wide variety of genres and formats. It is the publishing operation of CBS Corporation, one of the world's premier media companies.

[Pulse It](#)

Pulse It is a way to read amazing teen books for free online, and have your voice heard as a reviewer, trend-spotter, and all-around expert. So if you want early access to great books, join this community of fellow readers and become part of the “it” thing.

[Everyone likes something for free, and this is the place to find everything that is free on Simon & Schuster.](#)

Find free downloads of entire books, special giveaways and sweepstakes where you can enter for a chance to win even more free stuff such as books or even a trip to London or Hawaii. As the sweeps and free books are continually changing,

be sure to sign up for free stuff alerts and keep checking back -- you never know what you might be able to get for free.

[The Coretta Scott King Book Award](#)



The Coretta Scott King Awards are presented annually by the American Library Association to honor African-American authors and illustrators who create outstanding books for children and young adults. Initially, the award was established in 1969 to recognize authors and then was expanded to include a separate award for illustrators in 1979. These awards are given to commemorate the life and work of the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and to honor Mrs. Coretta Scott King for her continuing efforts in working for peace and civil rights issues.

The Battle of Jericho is the 2004 Coretta Scott King Honor Book

November Blues received the 2008 Coretta Scott King Honor Book Literary Award.

Organizations for teens:

[Boys Town](#)

Boys Town knows how great the need is for compassionate and effective care for today's at-risk youth. Every year, hundreds of thousands of children are abused and neglected. Like numbers suffer emotional or behavioral disorders.

[Boys and Girls Club of America](#)

In every community, boys and girls are left to find their own recreation and companionship in the streets. An increasing number of children are at home with no adult care or supervision. Young people need to know that someone cares about them. Boys & Girls Clubs offer that and more. Club programs and services promote and enhance the development of boys and girls by instilling a sense of competence, usefulness, belonging and influence. Boys & Girls Clubs are a safe place to learn and grow – all while having fun. They are truly The Positive Place for Kids.

[Students Against Violence Everywhere \(SAVE\)](#)

SAVE is a student driven organization. Students learn about alternatives to violence and practice what they learn through school and community service projects. As the participate in SAVE activities, students learn crime prevention and conflict management skills and the virtues of good citizenship, civility, and nonviolence.

Website Bibliography:

The Official Site of Sharon Draper

www.sharondraper.com

Sharon Draper's website is a useful tool for this pathfinder because it provides information on the three books. The site also provides resources for teachers. Students would be able to use this information to find out more information on Sharon Draper and her books.

The Cool Spot

www.thecoolspot.gov

The Cool Spot was created for kids 11-13 years old by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA). The NIAAA is the lead U.S. agency supporting research into the causes, prevention, and treatment of alcohol problems. It is a component of the National Institutes of Health, within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. This website is useful to this pathfinder because kids need to understand the dangers of alcohol. In *The Battle of Jericho*, the pledges were forced to drink alcohol and then perform a dangerous stunt. This website could be used by students for facts and statistics on different alcohol problems. A unique aspect this website is that it provides a broad array of support for teens and resisting alcohol and learning the truth about alcohol.

StopHazing.org

www.stophazing.org

The main purpose of StopHazing.org is to serve as a resource for accurate, up-to-date hazing information for students, parents and educators. In *The Battle of Jericho*, Jericho is questioned several times by Mr. Boston, a teacher, who is watching with apprehension because he personally has been on the receiving end of an "initiation" that was all in good fun. This website relates to the topic because it gives facts about hazing. This website can be used as a resource on hazing for several different age levels. A unique aspect of this website is that it offers a discussion board where people can post messages and reply to others.

Planned Parenthood

www.plannedparenthood.org

Planned Parenthood is a trusted health care provider, an informed educator, a passionate advocate, and a global partner helping similar organizations around the world. Planned Parenthood delivers vital reproductive health care, sex education, and information to millions of women, men, and young people worldwide. This website provides women's health information. It

relates to the topic because in *November Blues*, November Nelson has an unplanned pregnancy. This website can be used to help people make the right decision with their baby, i.e. keeping the baby or giving the baby up for adoption or ending the life of the baby. A unique aspect of this website is that it does not try to sway you one way or the other. It provides information on both sides of the spectrum. For example, they provide information on prenatal care and on abortion services.

Family First Aid

www.familyfirstaid.org

Family First Aid is a website to help troubled teens. The website has a whole host of issues it addresses such as teen pregnancy, teen depression, and teen violence. This website relates to the topic because in *November Blues*, November is facing an unplanned pregnancy on her own. This website can be used as a resource for facts and statistics on a whole host of teen issues. This website is unique in the fact that it is specifically for teenagers.

Stop Bullying Now

www.stopbullyingnow.hrsa.gov/kids

You can learn all about bullying and what you can do to stop it. Webisodes that help you Take a Stand. Lend a Hand. Stop Bullying Now! This website relates to the topic of bullying and can be used as a webisode for students to understand that snide remarks and gossiping are bullying. A unique aspect of this website is the ability to play games using the information you learned about the characters from the webisodes.

Ultimate Personal Power

<http://ultimatepersonalpower.com>

To help people move forward in their life from where they are currently in their life to where they want to be, in a positive and efficient manner. This website relates to the topic because in *Just Another Hero*, Arielle and her mom are being mentally abused by Chad, Arielle's stepfather. Many people hear "abuse" and they automatically think "physical" or "sexual". Mental abuse is a powerful weapon because it leaves no outward marks. This website can be used as a quiz to see if you are in an abusive relationship. This website is unique in the aspect that it wants to keep people informed of different kinds of abuse.

Safe Horizon

www.safehorizon.org

Safe Horizon's mission is to provide support, prevent violence, and promote justice for victims of crime and abuse, their families and communities. This website relates to the topic in *Just Another Hero* when Arielle and her mom

have to live in a women's shelter when Chad leaves town. This website can be used to learn more from survivors of domestic abuse. This website offers a unique aspect of the virtual tour. Taking the tour we are able to read the stories of women who have lived in the shelter.

Narcotics Anonymous

www.na.org

Every addict in the world has the chance to experience our message in his or her own language and culture and find the opportunity for a new way of life. This website relates to Kofi in *Just Another Hero*. This website can be used as a resource for facts and statistics on drug abuse.

Dr Oz – Oprah Show

<http://www.oprah.com/oprahshow/Dr-Ozs-Advice-for-Prescription-Pill-Addicts>

Oprah.com is a premier destination site for self-empowerment and self-improvement, providing people with the tools they need to live their best lives. It is also the home to everything Oprah on air, online and in print. This website specifically relates to topic of prescription pill addiction. In the book *Just Another Hero*, Kofi is battling with his addiction to pain medication. The need for the pills started out legitimate but now he is using them as a crutch.

Kids Health

www.kidshealth.org/teen

Kids Health is a safe, private place for teens who need honest, accurate information and advice about health, emotions, and life. TeensHealth is accessible 24 hours a day so you can get the doctor-approved information you need to make educated decisions — or help a friend who needs advice. There's a lot of confusing, misleading, and just plain wrong health information on the Web. Our mission is to tell it to you straight. This website relates to the topic of school violence. It provides articles regarding the safety of school. This website could be used to find information on school safety, teen pregnancy, or drug addiction. This website is unique because it offers 24 hour support for problems and real information.

Do Something

www.dosomething.org

DoSomething.org believes you have the power to make a difference. It is our aim to inspire, support and celebrate a generation of doers: people who see the need to do something, believe in their ability to get it done, and then take action. At DoSomething.org we provide the tools and resources for you to convert your ideas and energy into positive action. Be part of a generation of doers. This website relates to the topic because it talks about violence and bullying at school. This website can be used to get students information

regarding resources and ways to take action. This website is unique because it offers many different areas that teens can get involved with issues around their community, city, state and country.

Teen Violence Statistics

www.teenviolencestatistics.com

Statistics show youth violence is becoming a huge problem throughout the world. The purpose of this website is to help educate the public on teenage violence issues; such as gang violence, school shootings, school bullying, anger issues, date rape, and more. Our goal is to help teens, families, and communities get the education and help they need to prevent teen violence. This site offers information on how to seek therapy or treatment for teens and families who are suffering from teen violence issues or abuse. By learning about the causes of teen violence and what each of us can do to help prevent this type of abuse we can help our communities be a safer place. This website relates to the topics of school violence. This website can be used to find facts and statistics regarding teen violence issues. This website is unique in the fact that it provides straightforward information for teens.

Simon and Schuster Publishing

www.simonandschuster.com

Simon & Schuster, Inc. is a global leader in the field of general publishing, providing consumers worldwide with a diverse range of quality books across a wide variety of genres and formats. It is the publishing operation of CBS Corporation, one of the world's premier media companies. This website relates to the topic peripherally. The Jericho Trilogy was published by Simon and Schuster. The website did provide information on teen books and the ability to post reviews and comments. A unique aspect of this website is that it provides free access to books online for internet users.

The Coretta Scott King Award (information)

www.ala.org

The CSK Award has grown since its inception in the late 1960s. At its humble inception at the May 1970 dinner gala of the New Jersey Library Association, Lillie Patterson was honored for her biography, Martin Luther King, Jr. Man of Peace. In 1972, CSK held its first breakfast at an ALA conference site (but without ALA recognition). Official affiliation with SRRT came in 1980 and in 1982 the American Library Association recognized the Coretta Scott King Award as an association award. Success of the CSK Task Force can be attributed to the work of tireless volunteers and visionary founders. This website also relates to the topic peripherally because Sharon Draper won an honorable mention on both *The Battle of Jericho* and *November Blue*. The CSK Award is a very prestigious award and known throughout the library community. This website could be used

for further information regarding the background of the award and the criteria that is used in determining a winner.

Audio/Video/Images

Talk About It

www.ancomm.com

Developed by AnComm 'Talk About It®' is the nation's first and only anonymous online and text based reporting and emergency notification for service for schools. Easy-to-use and implement, 'Talk About It®' is a preventative solution focused on bridging the communication gap between students and faculty to foster a safer, more comfortable learning environment. This website relates to the topic because remaining silent about the hazing and initiation process was reinforced throughout the book. Students would be able to utilize this website to find information and statistics regarding violence and bullying in the school. This website is unique because it offers its services to schools at a cost, but the system would undoubtedly pay for itself after the first problem was reported.

In Memory of Jack Phoummarath

www.inmemoryofjack.com

Jack was a vibrant, young freshman student at the University of Texas at Austin in 2005. At a required fraternity initiation ceremony, Jack and other pledges were required to drink all the alcohol provided to them by the active members. Jack became incapacitated as a result of consuming too much alcohol. When the event ended, Jack was left alone unattended and died. The Phoummarath's have taken proceeds from the settlement of their cases and are creating an endowment in honor of their son to promote alcohol awareness and to educate other students about the dangers of hazing and binge drinking. The Phoummarath family hopes their efforts will make a difference and prevent other families from losing a child in such a senseless tragedy. This website relates to the pathfinder because of the hazing ritual The Warriors of Distinction put the pledges through. In the book, Josh was also at the "celebratory" ending of pledge week. This website can be used as a reminder that hazing is not fun, it is hurtful and intentional. Students need to be aware of the dangers of hazing so that they can recognize the signs and put a stop to it. This website is unique in the fact that it is an actual account of a hazing gone very badly and the consequences are very serious.

About-Face

www.about-face.org

About-Face's mission is to equip women and girls with tools to understand and resist harmful media messages that affect self-esteem and body image.

This website relates to the topic because the book focuses on 16-year-old girls and more often than not, girls focus on their outward beauty for acceptance by others. This website could be used for students to research the negative effect that the media has on the female body. This website is unique in the fact that it is trying to make the public realize that one size does not fit all and that one size is not a zero!

The National Campaign

www.thenationalcampaign.org

The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy seeks to improve the lives and future prospects of children and families and, in particular, to help ensure that children are born into stable, two-parent families who are committed to and ready for the demanding task of raising the next generation. Our specific strategy is to prevent teen pregnancy and unplanned pregnancy among single, young adults. We support a combination of responsible values and behavior by both men and women and responsible policies in both the public and private sectors. This website relates to the topic because it addresses unplanned pregnancies. This website can be used for information regarding responsible choices when it comes to sex. This website offers a unique aspect in that it focuses on the men. Most “unplanned” pregnancy sites focus only on the woman. This website offers men in leadership roles talking to men about their responsibility.

Extension Ideas

The Coretta Scott King Award

Students will need to read the work of an author who has won the CSK Award or the CSK Honor Award

Students can access the [CSK Award](#) by clicking on the link

Students will compare the literature to the [selection criteria](#) for the CSK Award and write a 3-5 page paper reviewing the book and making specific references to the selection criteria.

The Battle of Jericho (www.sharondraper.com/bookdetail-guides.asp?id=14)

Imagine it is three weeks after the end of the novel (first week of March). Write a letter or create a conversation between the following characters:

- Jericho to Arielle
- Arielle to Jericho
- Dana to Kofi
- Mr. Tambori to Jericho
- Mr. Culligan to Josh's parents
- Josh's parents to Mr. Culligan
- Eric Bell to Jericho

The Battle of Jericho (www.sharondraper.com/bookdetail-guides.asp?id=14)

PERSUASIVE PAPER "I have another question," Dana continued. Jericho knew what was coming. He tensed. "Why are there no girls in this club? I'd like to be considered for membership, and I want to know why I wasn't asked to join."

Write a persuasive paper that argues the following point: "It is acceptable for school clubs to allow only one particular group of people as members." Whether you agree or disagree, your paper should address only one side of the issue.

November Blues (<http://www.sharondraper.com/bookdetail-guides.asp?id=16>)

PERSONAL ESSAY

"That night, November shivered as she curled up in her bed with her Big Bird stuffed toy that she'd gotten when she was five. She would never let her friends know she still slept with a stuffed animal, but Josh had known. He'd even bought her a little green Kermit the Frog for her birthday last year. When she'd asked him why Kermit, Josh had said, "The frog can keep the bird company while you're gone to school, and besides, it will drive Miss Piggy crazy with jealousy!"

They'd giggled and pretended and figured they'd have forever to laugh together. But they didn't. Kermit was still around to keep Big Bird company, but November knew she was now on her own. She cuddled the well-worn toy and cried herself to sleep."

Write a personal essay that describes a special memory or object in your life. Explain why it is meaningful to you. Be sure to include sensory imagery--sights, smells, touches, tastes, sounds.

November Blues

Self Esteem building

Make a list of –

- three or more of your strengths, for example, persistence, courage, friendliness, creativity
- three or more things you can do to make yourself laugh
- three or more things you could do to help someone else
- three or more things that you do that make you feel good about yourself

List taken from <http://mentalhealth.samhsa.gov/publications/allpubs/sma-3715/activities.asp>
Edited for assignment

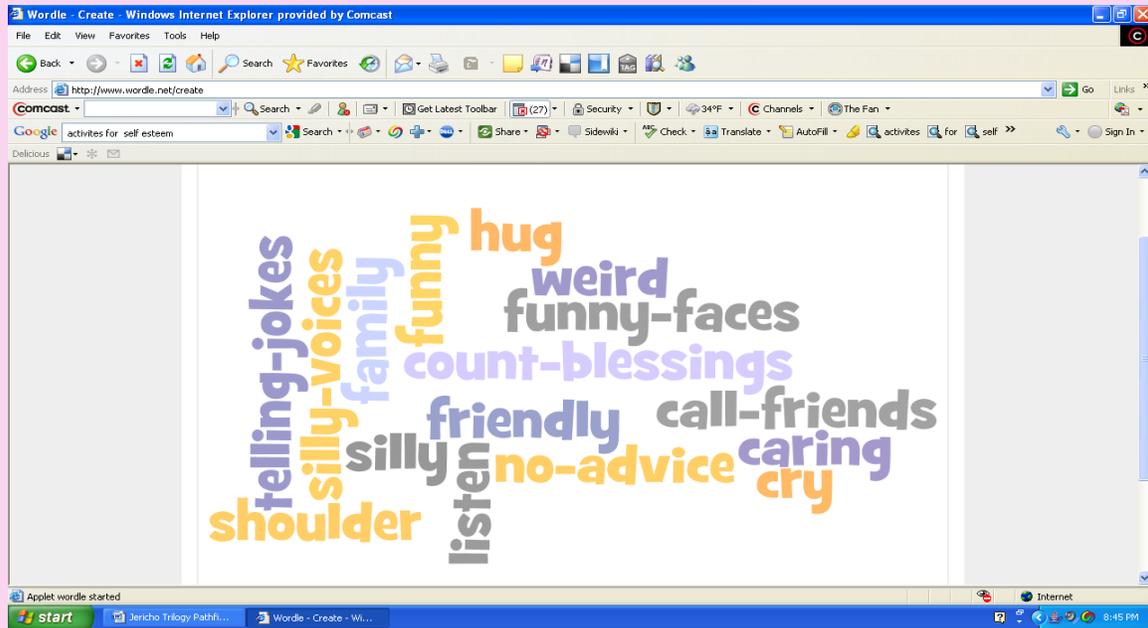
Have students go to the computer lab and pull up [Wordle.net](http://www.wordle.net)

Students will put the answers to the list in the text box

If answers are more than one word, use a hyphen or underscore so the words will not be separated (count_blessings)

Select "go" when finished.

Each student will print his/her sheet and display it in the classroom.



Just Another Hero

As a class, students will participate in [NATIONAL YOUTH VIOLENCE PREVENTION WEEK!](#)

Day 1: Promote Respect & Tolerance Reach out to the unreached. Challenge all students to get to know at least one student they do not know.

Day 2: Manage Your Anger, Don't Let it Manage You! Sponsor a decorate-a-door contest on ways to handle stress or manage anger for homeroom classes.

Day 3: Resolve Conflicts Peacefully Create a public service announcement on the importance of managing conflicts peacefully.

Day 4: Promote Safety Conduct a safety-themed poster contest. Display and let students or faculty judge.

Day 5: Engage Yourself and Others in Practice: Paint a peaceful mural on a building or sidewalk.

Just Another Hero

"When I had a closet full of sharp outfits, well, I just never thought about a kid like me who might need something to wear. It honestly never crossed my mind." (p 201)

"They've got a general store down there too. Toothpaste, deodorant, stuff like that. All free. Set up like a real store, so you don't feel like you're a beggar, you know what I mean?" Alice had explained. (p 197).

The school will sponsor a clothing and toiletry drive for a local shelter.

The class that collects the most articles of clothing will win a pizza party.

The class that collects the most toiletry items will win a pizza party.

In the event the same class wins both, an ice cream party will take the place of the second pizza party.

The Jericho Trilogy

Create a delicious account that focus on the issues that November, Jericho, Olivia, Arielle, Kofi, Dana and Josh were facing in The Jericho Trilogy.

Each character should have at least two websites and three tags each.

Go to <http://delicious.com/karenpalmer08> to look at an example.