

Poetry as Protest with Nikki Finney's *left* -- March 2021 -- Ongoing Equity Learning Session

<p>Intro Summary to Topic and Poet Nikki Finney</p> 	<p><i>OF POETRY & PROTEST: From Emmett Till to Trayvon Martin</i> is a book of poetry written by 43 African American poets. Editor Michael Warr writes, “I want <i>OF POETRY & PROTEST: FROM EMMETT TILL TO TRAYVON MARTIN</i> to be a book for the ages, as any editor, writer, book designer, or publisher would. I envision future school kids waving through the “pages” of this book on a holographic “screen” that floats in midair, enthralled by the text, the images, and the personal journeys of the writers, while perplexed and disbelieving of he need to condemn sanctioned murder, in the same way that most of us today cannot imagine a past when Americans picnicked at public lynchings in broad daylight. I hope that one day this book is a relic.”</p> <p>This book of poetry and visual arts written & created by 43 African American poets demonstrates the poetic contributions as responses or “protests” against police brutality, and the fact that several of the poems are reprints from previous works confirms that the practices of addressing violence against black people have been longstanding efforts among African American poets.</p>
<p>PreSurvey</p>	<p>https://forms.gle/jDhUB6pu9bmFGMm7A</p>
<p>Key Learning Resource(s)</p>	<p>Read the lyrics of the poem Watch the video of Finney reading <i>left</i></p>
<p>Discussion / Reflection Questions</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What comes up for you? 2. This poem is about Hurricane Katrina (2005). Nikky Finney said in an interview, “Poets save things and pass

	<p>them forward to the next generation, to the next person to know and understand that they can save something as well.” Did any memories of the victims of Hurricane Katrina come up for you?</p> <p>3. Do you remember the racist response to Hurricane Katrina by the U.S. Government (at least 1,800 dead due to incompetent government, FEMA, Corps of Engineers)?</p>
Post Survey	https://forms.gle/zYvG9b1Ex9JF8oTr7
For Continued Learning on this Topic	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Of Poetry and Protest• Racist Nursery Rhymes