

Reviewer Name: Anonymous

School: Valencia High

Grade: Freshman

Book Title: Our Time is Now

Book Author: Stacey Abrams

Rate 1-5 (1-Lowest to 5-Highest): 4.5

Told in a pragmatic autobiographical manner, *Our Time is Now* is a systematic breakdown of voter suppression, discusses ways to fight back, and empowers the reader to be a responsible citizen by performing the seemingly simple task of voting. Stacey Abrams first gives her audience a deep history of methodically dismantling the voting process, from voter registration to accessing the ballot and ballot counting, weaving in personal anecdotes from her own experiences. The author takes the action of voting down to a science, and tells the story of an issue long kept in the shadows: voter suppression and how to fight back.

I enjoyed this book. It is a call to the citizen to do their duty, and its authoritative tone is a style I had never read previously. However, there were several moments in the book where I felt that the text became overly repetitive or mundane. Reading this book made me realize the intricacy of the voting system. While the system may consistently tend to favor the votes of some over others, the author imbues readers with hope and a desire to suppress the suppression. She suggests that we make registration easier, remove restrictive voter ID laws, restore a version of the Voting Rights Act, make ballot counting a stricter process, and increase voting equipment and staff, among other ideas.

I would recommend this book to people of all ages and backgrounds. Some audiences may find this book to be dull, but this book is certainly a must-read for anyone who is unaware or hesitant to vote despite the several challenges that, when put together, are the image of voter suppression. I think that this book is truly unique in its style; nothing I have ever read resembles this book in any way. It is vital that more people have information about voter suppression and do everything in their power to spread awareness about this issue.