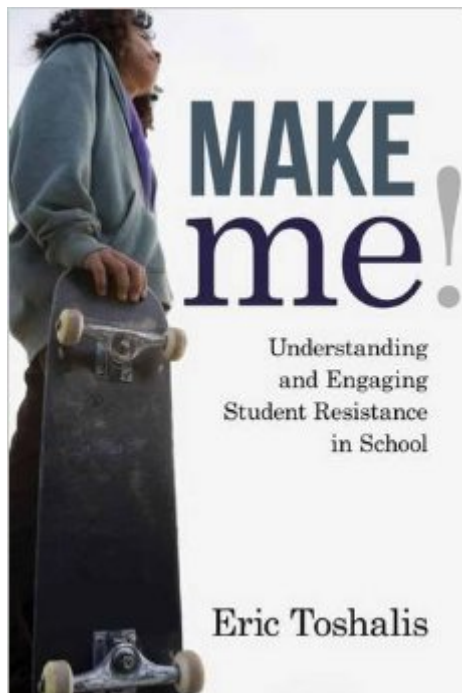


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# Make Me!: Understanding And Engaging Student Resistance In School (Youth Development And Education Series)



## Synopsis

In this groundbreaking book, Eric Toshalis explores student resistance through a variety of perspectives, arguing that oppositional behaviors can be not only instructive but productive. All too often treated as a matter of compliance, student resistance can also be understood as a form of engagement, as young people confront and negotiate new identities in the classroom environment. The focus of teachers' efforts, Toshalis says, should not be about "managing" adolescents but about learning how to read their behavior and respond to it in developmentally productive, culturally responsive, and democratically enriching ways. Noting that the research literature is scattered across fields, Toshalis draws on four domains of inquiry: theoretical, psychological, political, and pedagogical. The result is a resource that can help teachers address this pervasive classroom challenge in ways that enhance student agency, motivation, engagement, and academic achievement. The coauthor of *Understanding Youth: Adolescent Development for Educators* (Harvard Education Press, 2006), Toshalis blends accessible explanations of theory and research with vignettes of interactions among educators and students. In *Make Me!*, Toshalis helps teachers perceive possibility, rather than pathology, in student resistance.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Mr. Toshalis like most education researchers is painfully naive and demonizes teachers. To me, it seems like he has already answered his research question and then goes to find evidence to

support his conclusion. Even so, I do think he has several ideas on how teachers can approach their students more positively. He honestly addresses class problems which are taboo in the education establishment. Mr. Toshalis is good at pointing out problems within the education system but his solutions are naive and may disappoint actual teacher who actually is in the classroom. To be fair, the solutions are much more complicated than the problems. This book is worth reading but like anything proceed with a critical mind.

Must read for Title I educators!

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