

MAYCOMB ELEMENTARY

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To Kill a Mockingbird
English Benchmark



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Change Maycomb and Benefit your future by: Scout Finch

Tom Robinson was in no way guilty and I can't really figure out what bothers me more, that a good-hearted man ended up dying for something he didn't do or the fact that the people of my community purposely let this happen. My own neighbors, the people I trust and look up to, set a horrible example for the younger generation of Maycomb. If I can't make all of you want to change for the better of this community and stop the racist trends, then I don't know who will because the elders sure won't. How can this community ever be fair if we are following in the footsteps of our racist and ignorant family members and neighbors. Therefore, the example they set for us is one that will keep these same problems like the Tom Robinson case around in the community for many more years to come.

Although, most people in this community could not be considered good role models, there still are some fair people in Maycomb. Judge Taylor, despite what he knew would happen, he still assigned my dad, Atticus Finch to this

case. He knew that if anyone could even try to get the people of this racist community to realize how ridiculous their stubborn ways are, it would be him. Yes, Tom was found guilty, but my dad did something that no one else could. Do you know how long it took for them to come up with a verdict? It took them several hours to declare Tom guilty because my father actually made these people think. It's up to the younger generation to get Maycomb together because the elders are just too brainwashed by the generation before them, and we can't let that happen to us. If we keep this up, Tom will be one of many to die for an unfair and unnecessary reason.

This case I think, is something that you would actually have to witness first-hand to even get the gist of how unfair it was because Tom was innocent. My brother, Jem, and I snuck into the courtroom with the idea that there is no way that our respected neighbors could let Tom be found guilty. It came as a total shock to me as I watched their faces

believe everything that Tom said and the total opposite for Mayella Ewell, but then at the same time as soon as they spoke you realized that they were actually siding with something that in their hearts they knew was wrong. Everyone in Maycomb makes decisions and sets their beliefs according to everyone else. Sometimes, I even think they don't even realize how wrong their ways are just because it's something that they were raised to believe is normal. I even once listened to a teacher ramble on about how wrong Hitler is and how the things he is doing to people just because of their race is absolutely horrible, which is all so very true, but she is also the same woman I heard make a comment coming out of the courtroom ultimately stating that Tom deserves what he is getting. It's mind-boggling that she could be that oblivious to the fact that by following the crowd in saying that Tom is guilty, she is going against everything she taught us about Hitler, which you could tell she strongly believed in and it came from her heart. Nothing sums up this town more than a