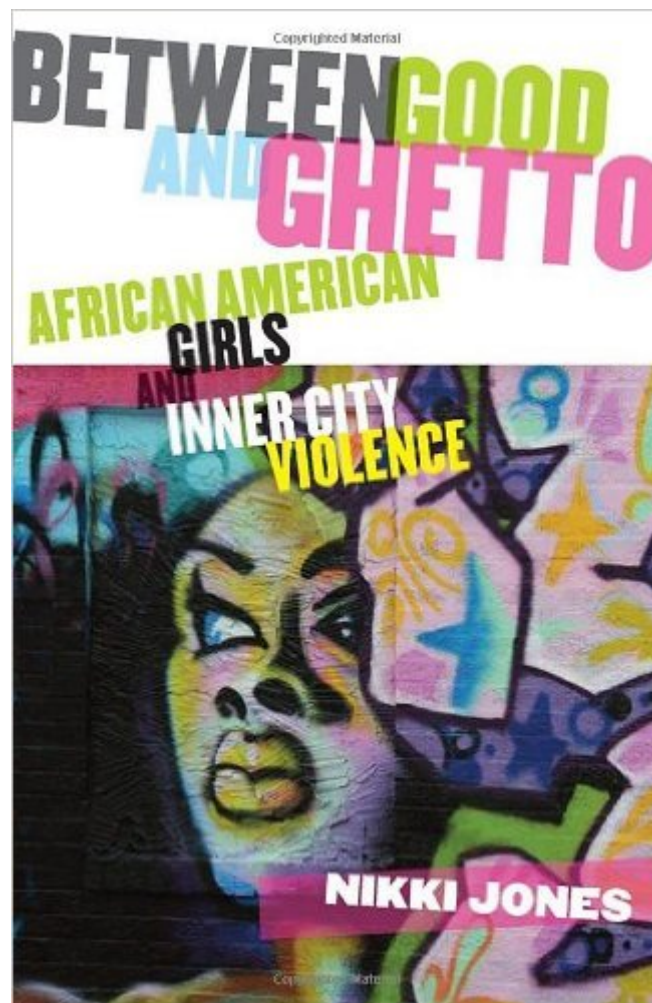


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# Between Good And Ghetto: African American Girls And Inner-City Violence (Rutgers Series In Childhood Studies)



## Synopsis

With an outward gaze focused on a better future, *Between Good and Ghetto* reflects the social world of inner city African American girls and how they manage threats of personal violence. Drawing on personal encounters, traditions of urban ethnography, Black feminist thought, gender studies, and feminist criminology, Nikki Jones gives readers a richly descriptive and compassionate account of how African American girls negotiate schools and neighborhoods governed by the so-called "code of the street"—the form of street justice that governs violence in distressed urban areas. She reveals the multiple strategies they use to navigate interpersonal and gender-specific violence and how they reconcile the gendered dilemmas of their adolescence. Illuminating struggles for survival within this group, *Between Good and Ghetto* encourages others to move African American girls toward the center of discussions of "the crisis" in poor, urban neighborhoods.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Read this in undergrad Sociology of the Urban Underclass and Criminal Justice courses with Professor Jones. Incredible book by an incredible professor. Changed my life. Examines the intersection of race, class, hegemonic femininity, age in the inner-city. It was hard for me to put it down once I started reading it.

This book is a great book that taught me how our society prevents certain groups of individual to

advance and make a life for themselves. Also shows the struggles some girls have in hard neighborhoods and how they have to be to survive.

A must-read for any sociologist or person who works in a legal, criminal, or educational profession. Racism and sexism are not the only roots of violence for inner-city, African-American/Black girls, and this book adds invaluable analysis to the debate.

This book was really interesting. It was a required reading for a sociology class at UCSB. Nikki Jones writes a compelling ethnography that follows case studies of girls as they have negotiated school, family life, and neighborhoods that are governed by the "code of the street" -- the form of street justice that controls violence in distressed urban areas. Jones describes the strategies that girls use to navigate interpersonal and gender-specific conflict. Jones further delineates what makes a "good" girl good and a "bad" girl bad.

A lot of the stories told in this book, I have either gone through personally or viewed through close friends or family. This book affirmed most of my ideas I already had on some issues.

Professor Jones challenges readers to think critically. This book gives a great sociological perspective that is ethical and respectful of the shared stories.

A very good tool for those in urban studies or anyone who needs to understand the world around them. Written well and understandable.

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