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in an age of unprecedented corporate and political control over life inside of educational institutions this book provides a needed intervention to investigate how the economic and political elite use traditional artifacts in k 16 schools to perpetuate their

interests at the expense of minoritized social groups the contributors provide a comprehensive examination of how textbooks the most dominant cultural force in which corporations and political leaders impact the schooling curricula shape students thoughts and behavior perpetuate power in dominant groups and trivialize social groups who are oppressed on the structural axes of race class gender sexuality and disability several contributors also generate critical insight in how power shapes the production of textbooks and evaluate whether textbooks still perpetuate dominant western narratives that normalize and privilege patriotism militarism consumerism white supremacy heterosexism rugged individualism technology and a positivistic conception of the world finally the book highlights several textbooks that challenge readers to rethink their stereotypical views of the other to reflect upon the constitutive forces causing oppression in schools and in the wider society and to reflect upon how to challenge corporate and political dominance over knowledge production

school textbooks in iran saudi arabia egypt and elsewhere in the arab and muslim worlds are filled with anti western and anti israel propaganda most readers will be shocked to discover that history and geography textbooks widely used in america s elementary and secondary classrooms contain some of the very same inaccuracies about jews judaism and israel did you know that there is no record of any important jewish contribution to the sciences world civilizations thomson wadsworth or that christianity was started by a young palestinian named jesus the world scott foresman pearson supplemental materials and other classroom influences are even worse the trouble with textbooks exposes the poor scholarship and untruths in textbooks about jews and israel the problems uncovered in this ground breaking analysis are instructive and illustrate the need for reform in the way textbooks are developed written marketed and distributed substitute another area how we teach american history western civilization or comparative religion and we have another equally intriguing case study the trouble with textbooks shows what can go terribly wrong in discussing religion geography culture or history and in this case all of them the trouble with textbooks tells a cautionary tale for all readers whatever their background of how textbooks that americans depend on to infuse young people with the values for good citizenship and to help acculturate students into the multicultural salad that is american life instead disparage some groups and teach historical distortions with millions of young people using these textbooks each year the denigration of some should be a concern for all

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