

TESTING MRS. GRUBE / A DIFFERENT STANDARD

Two documentaries by Ondine Rarey

“Taken together, these two short films poignantly contrast different approaches to schools that are now contesting for the soul of American education.”

Monty Neill, Executive Director, Fair Test

“Watch the films, listen to the children in these two fifth-grade classrooms – and then answer the question, What DOES it mean to be a ‘good’ teacher?”

Gail Burnaford, Teacher of Education Department Chair, College of Education, Florida Atlantic University

“... a must for every one of the fifty million people who have had contact with public schooling in the last decade.”

Rich Gibson, Associate Professor, College of Education, San Diego State University

TESTING MRS. GRUBE and A DIFFERENT STANDARD pose the same urgent question from radically different perspectives: is the national standards movement in education - and its main component, high-stakes standardized testing – negatively impacting public schools, administrators, teachers and children?

TESTING MRS. GRUBE takes viewers inside PS 161, a "failing" school in Central Harlem, where preparation begins in September for state-mandated tests in April. Despite a scripted three-hour daily regime of test prep, Marie Grube's fifth-graders fail practice test after practice test... until she takes matters into her own hands.

At Central Park East Elementary I, Donnie Rotkin's fifth-graders choose classes in the arts, go on field trips to study birds and take on an in-depth study of Slavery and the Underground Railroad. In A DIFFERENT STANDARD we see how this progressive alternative school in Harlem must fight to protect its approach to teaching against the encroachment of what Rotkin calls "this testing craziness, this assault."

An intimate, painfully real look at what the implementation of the standards movement looks and sounds like at the classroom level, these two films educate and inspire while provoking discussion on the most pressing issue facing public education today.

Color / Total running time approx. 60 minutes

Available in DVD and VHS at

www.ondinerareyproductions.com

View clips from the films!

Institutional (Colleges / Universities).....	\$240
Community Groups / Public Libraries / Schools.....	\$89
Individuals.....	\$30
Rental.....	\$60