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Education Reformer to Speak

10.12.2009 | Culture and Society An author who visited nearly 60 public schools and found conditions have grown worse for inner-city children since Brown v. Board of Education dismantled segregated schools will visit the University of Dayton Wednesday, Nov. 4.

Public school resegregation is a "national horror hidden in plain view," Jonathan Kozol wrote in *The Shame of the Nation: The Restoration of Apartheid Schooling in America*. The book hit *The New York Times*' best-seller list in its first week of publication.

Kozol will appear as part of the University's Distinguished Speakers Series. His talk, at 8 p.m. in the Kennedy Union ballroom, is free and open to the public. Kozol will hold a book-signing after his talk.

According to a *Publisher's Weekly* review of the book, Kozol argues that school segregation is still the rule for poor minorities. These schools lack the basics: clean classrooms, hallways and restrooms; up-to-date books in good condition; and appropriate laboratory supplies. Kozol, and the like-minded politicians, educators and advocates he seeks out, believe a new civil rights movement will be necessary to eradicate it.

Kozol also has written *Savage Inequalities: Children in America's Schools*, *Death at an Early Age*, *Rachel and Her Children* and *Illiterate America*. *Death at an Early Age* received the 1968 National Book Award in science, philosophy and religion. *Rachel and Her Children*, a study of homeless mothers and their children, received the Robert F. Kennedy Book Award for 1989.

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