**Government Power**

*The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins  
Call#: YA  
In a future North America, where the rulers of Panem maintain control through an annual televised survival competition pitting young people from each of the twelve districts against one another, sixteen-year-old Katniss's skills are put to the test when she voluntarily takes her younger sister's place.

*Little Brother* by Cory Doctorow  
Call #: YA  
After being interrogated for days by the Department of Homeland Security in the aftermath of a major terrorist attack on San Francisco, California, seventeen-year-old Marcus, released into what is now a police state, decides to use his expertise in computer hacking to set things right.

*For the Win* by Cory Doctorow  
Call #: YA  
In a future where poor children and teenagers work for corrupt bosses as gold farmers, finding valuable items inside massively-multiplayer online games, a small group of teenagers work to unionize and escape this near-slavery.

*The City of Ember* by Jeanne DuPrau  
Call #: J  
In the year 241, twelve-year-old Lina trades jobs on Assignment Day to be a Messenger to run to new places in her decaying but beloved city, perhaps even to glimpse Unknown Regions.

*House of the Scorpion* by Nancy Farmer  
Call #: YA  
In the country of Opium lives a boy named Matt, who is a clone of the powerful drug lord, El Patron. His purpose is to extend the life of El Patron when his own body fails him.

*Among the Hidden* by Margaret Peterson Haddix  
Call #: YA  
In a future where the Population Police enforce the law limiting a family to only two children, Luke has lived all his twelve years in isolation and fear on his family's farm, until another "third" convinces him that the government is wrong.

*The Giver* by Lois Lowery  
Call #: YA  
Given his lifetime assignment at the Ceremony of Twelve, Jonas becomes the receiver of memories shared by only one other in his community and discovers the terrible truth about the society in which he lives.

*Shade’s Children* by Garth Nix  
Call #: YA  
In a savage, post-nuclear world, four young fugitives attempt to overthrow the bloodthirsty rule of the Overlords with the help of Shade, their mysterious mentor.

**Political Issues: War**

*Code Talker: A Novel of the Navajo Marines of World War Two* by Joseph Bruchac  
Call #: YA  
After being taught in a boarding school run by whites that Navajo is a useless language, Ned Begay and other Navajo men are recruited by the Marines to become Code Talkers, sending messages during World War II in their native tongue.

*Sonny’s War* by Valerie Hobbs  
Call #: YA  
In the late 1960s, fourteen-year-old Cory's life is greatly changed by the sudden death of her father and her brother's tour of duty in Vietnam.

*Cracker!: The Best Dog in Vietnam* by Cynthia Kadohata, Cynthia  
Call #: YA  
A young soldier in Vietnam bonds with his bomb-sniffing dog.
Sunrise Over Fallujah by Walter Dean Meyers  
Call #: YA  
Robin Perry, from Harlem, is sent to Iraq in 2003 as a member of the Civilian Affairs Battalion, and his time there profoundly changes him.

Soldier’s Heart: A Novel of the Civil War by Gary Paulson  
Call #: YA  
Eager to enlist, fifteen-year-old Charley has a change of heart after experiencing both the physical horrors and mental anguish of Civil War combat.

Flygirls by Sherri Smith  
Call #: YA  
During WWII, a light-skinned African American girl "passes" for white in order to join the Women Airforce Service Pilots.

Somebody, Please Tell Me Who I Am by Harry Mazer and Peter Lerangis  
Call #: YA  
Wounded in Iraq while his Army unit is on convoy and treated for many months for traumatic brain injury, the first person Ben remembers from his earlier life is his autistic brother.

Thunder Over Kandahar by Sharon E. McKay  
Call #: YA  
A powerful novel of enduring friendship set amid the terror and chaos of present-day Afghanistan.

**Political Issues: Civil Rights**

Fire From the Rock by Sharon Draper  
Call #: YA  
In 1957, Sylvia Patterson's life--that of a normal African American teenager--is disrupted by the impending integration of Little Rock's Central High when she is selected to be one of the first black students to attend the previously all white school.

To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee  
Call #: F  
Scout Finch, daughter of the town lawyer Atticus, has just started school; but her carefree days come to an end when a black man in town is accused of raping a white woman, and her father is the only man willing to defend him.

The Rock and the River by Kekla Magoon  
Call #: YA  
In 1968 Chicago, fourteen-year-old Sam Childs is caught in a conflict between his father's nonviolent approach to seeking civil rights for African Americans and his older brother, who has joined the Black Panther Party.

My Mother the Cheerleader by Rob Sharenow  
Call #: YA  
Thirteen-year-old Louise uncovers secrets about her family and her neighborhood during the violent protests over school desegregation in 1960 New Orleans.

**Books that Inspired a Movement**

The Jungle by Upton Sinclair  
Call #: F  
The Jungle exposed the inhumane conditions of Chicago's stockyards and the laborer's struggle against industry and "wage slavery."

Uncle Tom’s Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe  
Call #: F  
Relates the trials and sufferings of slaves at the hands of Simon Legree and life in the antebellum South.