

The god boy



**ASSIGN
BUSTER**

The red sari by apirana Taylor and burning boats by Rosie Scott both highlight the issue of poverty. Burning boats is set in New Zealand where poverty is a rare thing. The red sari is set in New Delhi the capital of India where there are millions of people living in poverty.

In the red sari the narrator is not shocked by the poverty in New Delhi. The author sees the poverty as a very big problem that cannot be helped and helping one person will not make a difference because there are millions of them. "Don't give them anything just a couple of rupees.. don't be silly there's millions of them". The poverty in new Delhi is ignored rather than helped

Analyse how one main character or individual changed to become (more/less) admirable.

The god boy by Ian Cross is about 11 year old jimmy Sullivan. Jimmy and his family live in Raggelton new Zealand where he goes to a catholic school. Jimmy is not really who we think he is at the start as we read the book we see how jimmy really is.

At start jimmy seems like a normal 11 year old boy but as we read on we see that this not the case. In the book the god boy jimmy is a character which becomes less admirable. Ian Cross uses actions to help the reader understand jimmy. Jimmy has a problem with God.

And when he is told that God frowns upon bad behaviour by punishing those that sin, Jimmy believes that he is being reprimanded from up on high when the family life around him begins to disintegrate. His father's a drunk, his

mother has a secret abortion, and their disdain for each other grows throughout the novel.

Jimmy, always thinking he is to blame, attributes their arguments to the new bike he begged for and received and even offers to give it back if that will stop the trouble. Jimmy Sullivan believed he was protected by god but when things go wrong jimmy blames god. Ian Cross uses action to help the reader understand jimmy.

All through *The God Boy*, Jimmy's anger grows until one day he lashes out at God and finds a new mean streak swearing at an old lady, throwing stones at a friend, smashing a window which. When the novel's end comes around Jimmy believes he is being punished until he realises that he is not to blame he's made all the effort and God hasn't even lifted a finger. "then for days on end I get annoyed at God for putting one across on me way he did."

At his Catholic school, the other boys are unable to see what he is driving at when he wants to discuss parents, and think he is trying to start a sex discussion. While not actually a battered child, Jimmy exists in a 'no man's-land' between the warring parties. He is virtually an only child because his older sister Molly lives in a board Set in a small town in New Zealand, the story is told through the eyes of a gauche thirteen year-old boy called Jimmy Sullivan.

It is the haunting tale of a young boy growing up in a catholic household, seeing things he shouldn't and struggling to cope. The book appears to be domestic in scope and provincial in vision, but by the end of the novel, the

reader has encountered murder, and witnessed the warping of a promising mind and the destruction of a family.

In this deceptively modest masterpiece, the cruelty beneath society's surface is revealed, all the more devastatingly so through the ordinariness of the location. ing school in another town.