

John Steinbeck

[History](#)



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College: The Grapes of Wrath John in his book *The Grapes of Wrath* pointed out the failures with the American society and the world as well during the period of Great Depression and eve of World War Two. The economic systems adopted by major world powers were also heavily criticized in his words especially the inadequacies with capitalism which was championed by the United States of America. He used his book to express his anger and dissatisfactions due to injustices he saw and witnessed when slavery was widely practiced, dehumanizing social institutions were still in place. He criticized the way nations handled the Great Depression demonstrating the human incapacities in deal with natural disasters. The institutions that yielded from World War Two were regarded as denials of human dignity and sustenance in *The Grapes of Wrath* which was John's most controversial work in his writing career (John, 2011).

The novel condemns the generation for all wrong reasons and its inability to uphold and guarantee human sustenance and dignity. This description of the 1930s and 1940s generation although strict has shifted the paradigm to the current generation. The current generation is by far significantly different from the one described by John in 1930s. The current generation does not entertain and permit slavery and other form of dehumanizing practices like what happened then. A departure from the past generation, the current one is offering economic, socio-cultural and political freedoms to countries and regions unlike the only capitalism that was preferred then with all its inadequacies. Currently, countries may choose any form of socio-economic system from capitalism like United States to communism like China (John, 2011).

However a common characteristic with the two generation is how they

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handle natural disasters. The preparedness is not adequate considering how the John's generation handled the Great Depression is not any different from what the current generation handled the Great Recession in 2007/2008. The difference is perception and perspectives of how the current generation approaches issues and natural disasters due to advancement of technology unlike the past. Point worth noting is the responsiveness of natural disasters and economic recessions, the current generation has improved mostly due to sophisticated way of information transfer. Respect for human rights has greatly improved with the current generation compared to that of our parents and grandparents. In conclusion the current generation differs significantly virtually in all aspects with our parents and grandparents generation. This difference is reflected in socio-economical, cultural, political and ethical perspectives and approaches (John, 2011).

Reference

John, S., (2011). *The Grapes of Wrath*, New York: NY, Ishi Press International