

The Memorial
Library

Social
Awareness
Series



Race & Anti-Racism:

recommended reading

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The Social Awareness Series is a new range of recommended reading lists based around contemporary social issues. Its aim is two-fold:

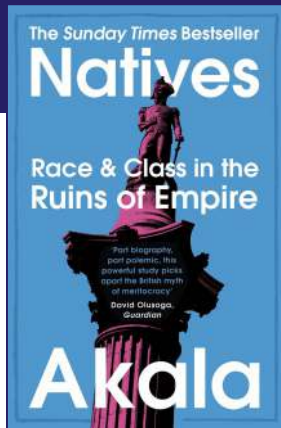
1. To help students build their awareness of these issues, via a range of inclusive, thought-provoking and accessible reading.
2. To provide an introduction to key ideas, thinkers and writers, past and present, around a particular topic.

We hope these lists will serve as a launch pad for further exploration, and we welcome feedback and suggestions for new texts and topics to cover.

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- 15 White Like Me: Reflections on Race from a Privileged Son—*Tim Wise*



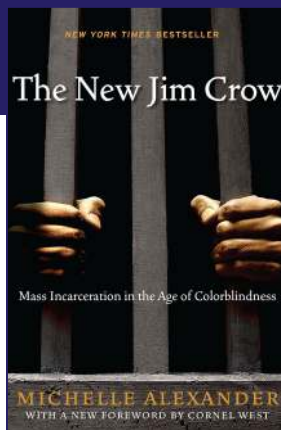
FIRST PUBLISHED: 2018

Natives: Race and Class in the Ruins of Empire—*Akala*

A searing modern polemic from the BAFTA- and MOBO-award-winning musician and political commentator, Akala

From the first time he was stopped and searched as a child, to the day he realised his mum was white, to his first encounters with racist teachers - race and class have shaped Akala's life and outlook. In this unique book he takes his own experiences and widens them out to look at the social, historical and political factors that have left us where we are today.

Covering everything from the police, education and identity to politics, sexual objectification and the far right, *Natives* will speak directly to British denial and squeamishness when it comes to confronting issues of race and class that are at the heart of the legacy of Britain's racialised empire.

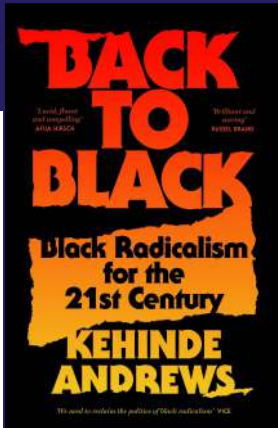


FIRST PUBLISHED: 2012

The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colourblindness—*Michelle Alexander*

Once in a great while a book comes along that radically changes our understanding of a crucial political issue and helps to fuel a social movement. The *New Jim Crow* is such a book. Lawyer and activist Michelle Alexander offers a stunning account of the rebirth of a caste-like system in the United States, one that has resulted in millions of African Americans locked behind bars and then relegated to a permanent second-class status, denied the very rights supposedly won in the Civil Rights movement.

Challenging the notion that the election of Barack Obama signalled a new era of colourblindness in the United States, *The New Jim Crow* reveals how racial discrimination was not ended but merely redesigned. By targeting black men through the War on Drugs and decimating communities of colour, the American criminal justice system functions as a contemporary system of racial control, relegating millions to a permanent second-class status even as it formally adheres to the principle of colourblindness.



FIRST PUBLISHED: 2018

Back to Black: Retelling Black Radicalism for the 21st Century—Kehinde Andrews

Back to Black traces the long and eminent history of Black radical politics. Born out of resistance to slavery and colonialism, its rich past encompasses figures such as Marcus Garvey, Angela Davis, the Black Panthers and the Black Lives Matter activists of today. At its core it argues that racism is inexorably embedded in the fabric of society, and that it can never be overcome unless by enacting change outside of this suffocating system. Yet this Black radicalism has been diluted and moderated over time; wilfully misrepresented and caricatured by others; divested of its legacy, potency, and force.

Kehinde Andrews explores the true roots of this tradition and connects the dots to today's struggles by showing what a renewed politics of Black radicalism might look like in the 21st century.



FIRST PUBLISHED: 1963

The Fire Next Time—James Baldwin

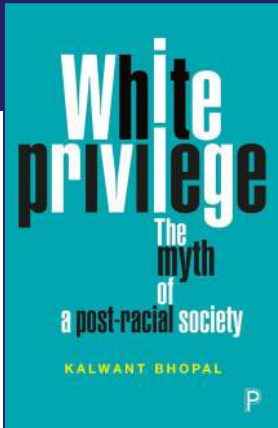
The landmark work on race in America from James Baldwin, whose life and words are immortalized in the Oscar-nominated film *I Am Not Your Negro*.

'We, the black and the white, deeply need each other here if we are really to become a nation'

James Baldwin's impassioned plea to 'end the racial nightmare' in America was a bestseller when it appeared in 1963, galvanising a nation and giving voice to the emerging civil rights movement.

Told in the form of two intensely personal 'letters', *The Fire Next Time* is at once a powerful evocation of Baldwin's early life in Harlem and an excoriating condemnation of the terrible legacy of racial injustice.

'Unfailingly eloquent and brimming with passion and heartache, The Fire Next Time frames the battles of the 1960s in an urgent and ever more relevant context for the modern era.' - *Waterstones*



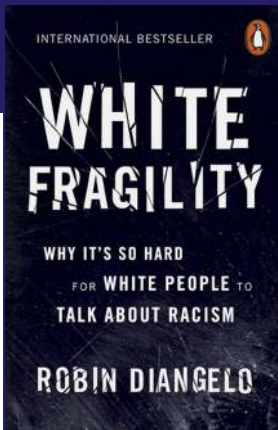
FIRST PUBLISHED: 2018

White Privilege: The Myth of a Post-Racial Society—*Kalwant Bhopal*

Why and how do those from black and minority ethnic communities continue to be marginalised?

Despite claims that we now live in a post-racial society, race continues to disadvantage those from black and minority ethnic backgrounds. Kalwant Bhopal explores how neoliberal policy making has increased rather than decreased discrimination faced by those from non-white backgrounds. She also shows how certain types of whiteness are not privileged; Gypsies and Travellers, for example, remain marginalised and disadvantaged in society.

Drawing on topical debates and supported by empirical data, this important book examines the impact of race on wider issues of inequality and difference in society.

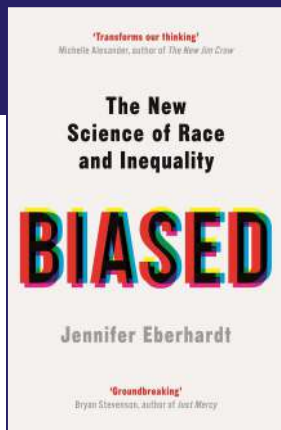


FIRST PUBLISHED: 2018

White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism—*Robin DiAngelo*

Anger. Fear. Guilt. Denial. Silence. These are the ways in which ordinary white people react when it is pointed out to them that they have done or said something that has - unintentionally - caused racial offence or hurt. But these reactions only serve to silence people of colour, who cannot give honest feedback to 'liberal' white people lest they provoke a dangerous emotional reaction.

Robin DiAngelo coined the term 'White Fragility' in 2011 to describe this process and is here to show us how it serves to uphold the system of white supremacy. Using knowledge and insight gained over decades of running racial awareness workshops and working on this idea as a Professor of Whiteness Studies, she shows us how we can start having more honest conversations, listen to each other better and react to feedback with grace and humility. It is not enough to simply hold abstract progressive views and condemn the obvious racists on social media - change starts with us all at a practical, granular level, and it is time for all white people to take responsibility for relinquishing their own racial supremacy.



FIRST PUBLISHED: 2019

Biased: The New Science of Race and Inequality—Jennifer Eberhardt

Every day, unconscious biases affect our visual perception, attention, memory and behaviour in ways that are subtle and very difficult to recognise without in-depth scientific studies. In a single interaction, they might slip by unnoticed. Over thousands of interactions, they become a huge and powerful force.

Jennifer Eberhardt is a pioneering social psychologist one of the world's leading experts on unconscious bias. In this landmark book, she lays out how these biases affect every sector of society, leading to enormous disparities from the classroom to the courtroom to the boardroom.

But unconscious bias is not a sin to be condemned. It's a universal human condition, and as Eberhardt shows, one that can - and must - be overcome.



FIRST PUBLISHED: 2017

Why I'm No Longer Talking to White People About Race—Renni Eddo-Lodge

In 2014, award-winning journalist Reni Eddo-Lodge wrote about her frustration with the way that discussions of race and racism in Britain were being led by those who weren't affected by it. She posted a piece on her blog, entitled: 'Why I'm No Longer Talking to White People About Race'.

Her words hit a nerve. The post went viral and comments flooded in from others desperate to speak up about their own experiences. Galvanised by this clear hunger for open discussion, she decided to dig into the source of these feelings.

Exploring issues from eradicated black history to the political purpose of white dominance, whitewashed feminism to the inextricable link between class and race, Reni Eddo-Lodge offers a timely and essential new framework for how to see, acknowledge and counter racism.

It is a searing, illuminating, absolutely necessary exploration of what it is to be a person of colour in Britain today.

“I will not be erased”

Our stories about growing up as people of colour

gal-dem

FIRST PUBLISHED: 2019

“I Will Not be Erased”: Our stories about growing up as people of colour—*gal-dem*

gal-dem, the award-winning online and print magazine, is created by women and non-binary people of colour. In this life-affirming, moving and joyous collection of fourteen essays, *gal-dem*'s talented writers use raw material from their teenage years - diaries, poems and chat histories - to give advice to their younger selves and those growing up today.

gal-dem have been praised by the *Guardian* for being '...the agents of change we need', and these essays tackle important subjects including race, gender, mental health and activism, making this essential reading.

'A radical, beautiful, world-changing collection of writing that we all need to read.' - Scarlett Curtis, *Feminists Don't Wear Pink*

INSURGENT EMPIRE



ANTICOLONIAL

RESISTANCE AND

BRITISH DISSENT



PRIYAMVADA GOPAL

'A SUPERB STUDY OF ANTICOLONIAL RESISTANCE' GUARDIAN

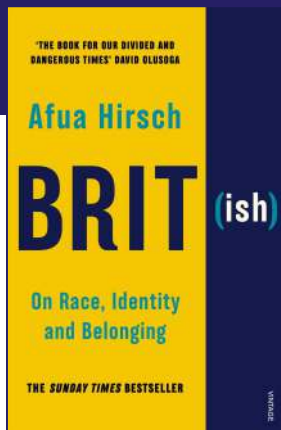
FIRST PUBLISHED: 2019

Insurgent Empire: Anticolonial Resistance and British Dissent—*Priyamvada Gopal*

Much has been written on the how colonial subjects took up British and European ideas and turned them against empire when making claims to freedom and self-determination. The possibility of reverse influence has been largely overlooked. *Insurgent Empire* shows how Britain's enslaved and colonial subjects were not merely victims of empire and subsequent beneficiaries of its crises of conscience but also agents whose resistance both contributed to their own liberation and shaped British ideas about freedom and who could be free.

This book examines dissent over the question of empire in Britain and shows how it was influenced by rebellions and resistance in the colonies from the West Indies and East Africa to Egypt and India.

'Examining colonial resistance to the British Empire from within, *Insurgent Empire* offers a fascinating parallel narrative to the familiar one of colonial adoption of Western mores... Gopal's book is the very best kind of revisionist history.' - *Waterstones*



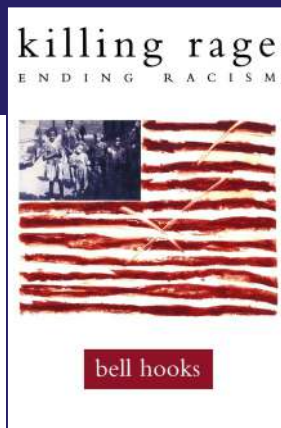
FIRST PUBLISHED: 2018

Brit(ish): On Race, Identity and Belonging—Afua Hirsch

The *Sunday Times* bestseller that reveals the uncomfortable truth about race and identity in Britain today.

You're British. Your parents are British. Your partner, your children and most of your friends are British. So why do people keep asking where you're from? We are a nation in denial about our imperial past and the racism that plagues our present. *Brit(ish)* is Afua Hirsch's personal and provocative exploration of how this came to be - and an urgent call for change.

'[A] bracing and brilliant exploration of national identity ... Through her often intensely personal investigations, she exposes the everyday racism that plagues British society, caused by our awkward, troubled relationship to our history, arguing that liberal attempts to be colour-blind have caused more problems than they have solved. A book everyone should read: especially comfy, white, middle-class liberals.' - Caroline Sanderson, *The Bookseller*



FIRST PUBLISHED: 1995

Killing Rage: Ending Racism—bell hooks

One of our country's premier cultural and social critics, bell hooks has always maintained that eradicating racism and eradicating sexism must go hand in hand. But whereas many women have been recognized for their writing on gender politics, the female voice has been all but locked out of the public discourse on race.

Killing Rage speaks to this imbalance. These twenty-three essays are written from a black and feminist perspective, and they tackle the bitter difficulties of racism by envisioning a world without it. They address a spectrum of topics having to do with race and racism in the United States, and in the title essay, hooks writes about the killing rage--the fierce anger of black people stung by repeated instances of everyday racism--finding in that rage a healing source of love and strength and a catalyst for positive change.

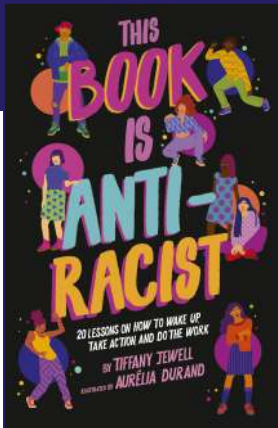
The History of White People—Nell Irvin Painter



FIRST PUBLISHED: 2010

Beginning with the origins of Western civilisation, Nell Irvin Painter traces the invention of the idea of a white race—often for economic, scientific and political ends. She shows how American identity in the eighteenth century was intrinsically tied to the elevation of white skin into the embodiment of beauty, power and intelligence; how American intellectuals insisted that only Anglo Saxons were truly American and how the definitions of who is "white" and who is "American" have evolved over time.

A story filled with towering historical figures, *The History of White People* closes a gap in a literature that has long focused on the non-white and it reminds us that the concept of "race" is a human invention whose meaning, importance and reality have changed according to a long and rich history.



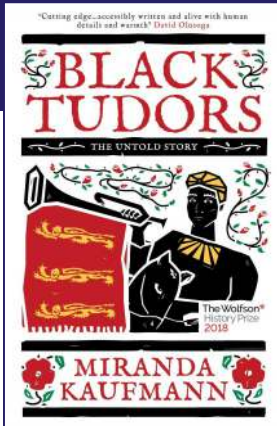
FIRST PUBLISHED: 2020

This Book is Anti-Racist: 20 lessons on how to wake up, take action, and do the work—Tiffany Jewell

Who are you? What is racism? Where does it come from? Why does it exist? What can you do to disrupt it? Learn about social identities, the history of racism and resistance against it, and how you can use your anti-racist lens and voice to move the world toward equity and liberation.

Gain a deeper understanding of your anti-racist self as you progress through 20 chapters that spark introspection, reveal the origins of racism that we are still experiencing and give you the courage and power to undo it. Each chapter builds on the previous one as you learn more about yourself and racial oppression. 20 activities get you thinking and help you grow with the knowledge. All you need is a pen and paper.

'*This Book is Anti-Racist*' is an invaluable tool to help self-educate and foster activism. Covering history, theory and practical measures, Jewell and Durand's guide is an essential volume for all young readers.'—*Waterstones*



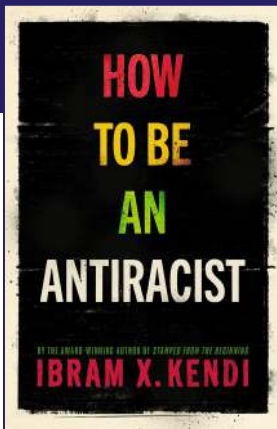
FIRST PUBLISHED: 2017

Black Tudors: The Untold Story—*Miranda Kaufman*

A black porter publicly whips a white Englishman in the hall of a Gloucestershire manor house. A Moroccan woman is baptised in a London church. Henry VIII dispatches a Mauritanian diver to salvage lost treasures from the *Mary Rose*. From long-forgotten records emerge the remarkable stories of Africans who lived free in Tudor England...

They were present at some of the defining moments of the age. They were christened, married and buried by the Church. They were paid wages like any other Tudors. The untold stories of the *Black Tudors*, dazzlingly brought to life by Kaufmann, will transform how we see this most intriguing period of history.

'Black Tudors demonstrates the way understanding of history is constantly changing based on changing contemporary values and perspectives.'—*The Riveter*



FIRST PUBLISHED: 2019

How to be an Antiracist—*Ibram X. Kendi*

In this rousing and deeply empathetic book, Ibram X. Kendi shows that when it comes to racism, neutrality is not an option: until we become part of the solution, we can only be part of the problem.

Using his extraordinary gifts as a teacher and storyteller, Kendi helps us recognise that everyone is, at times, complicit in racism whether they realise it or not, and by describing with moving humility his own journey from racism to antiracism, he shows us how instead to be a force for good.

Along the way, Kendi punctures all the myths and taboos that so often cloud our understanding, from arguments about what race is and whether racial differences exist to the complications that arise when race intersects with ethnicity, class, gender and sexuality. In the process he demolishes the myth of the post-racial society and builds from the ground up a vital new understanding of racism - what it is, where it is hidden, how to identify it and what to do about it.

IT'S NOT ABOUT THE BURQA

EDITED BY MARIAM KHAN

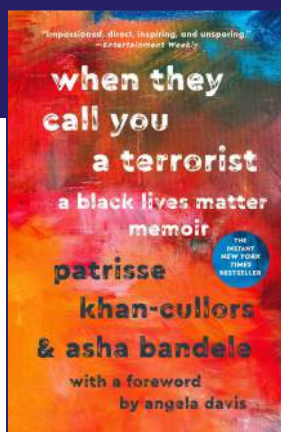
An incredibly important collection of essays that explores the pressures of being a Muslim woman today... passionate, angry, self-reflecting, nuanced and utterly compelling in every single way.
Nikesh Shukla, editor of *The Good Immigrant*

FIRST PUBLISHED: 2019

It's Not About the Burqa: Muslim Women on Faith, Feminism, Sexuality and Race—*Mariam Khan, ed.*

Here are voices you won't see represented in the national news headlines: seventeen Muslim women speaking frankly about the hijab and wavering faith, about love and divorce, about feminism, queer identity, sex, and the twin threats of a disapproving community and a racist country.

With a mix of British and international women writers, from activist Mona Eltahawy's definition of a revolution to journalist and broadcaster Saima Mir telling the story of her experience of arranged marriage, from author Sufiya Ahmed on her Islamic feminist icon to playwright Afshan D'souza-Lodhi's moving piece about her relationship with her hijab, these essays are funny, warm, sometimes sad, and often angry, and each of them is a passionate declaration calling time on the oppression, the lazy stereotyping, the misogyny and the Islamophobia.



FIRST PUBLISHED: 2018

When They Call You a Terrorist: A Black Lives Matter Memoir—*Patrisse Khan-Cullors and Asha Bandele*

Following the acquittal of George Zimmerman in the fatal shooting of Trayvon Martin, three women - Alicia Garza, Opal Tometi, and Patrisse Khan-Cullors - came together to form an active response to the systemic racism causing the deaths of so many African-Americans. They simply said: Black Lives Matter; and for that, they were labelled terrorists.

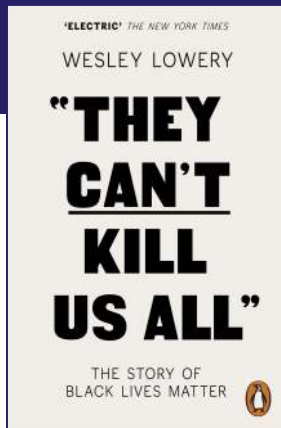
In this empowering account of survival, strength and resilience, Patrisse Khan-Cullors and award-winning author and journalist asha bandele recount the personal story that led Patrisse to become a founder of Black Lives Matter, seeking to end the culture that declares Black life expendable. Like the era-defining movement she helped create, this rallying cry demands you do not look away.



Taking Up Space: The Black Girl's Manifesto for Change—*Chelsea Kwakye and Ore Ogunbiyi*

A groundbreaking exploration of the problems of diversity in education, by two extremely talented young graduates. As a minority in a predominantly white institution, taking up space is an act of resistance. And in higher education, feeling like you constantly have to justify your existence within institutions that weren't made for you is an ongoing struggle for many people.

Chelsea Kwakye and Ore Ogunbiyi, two recent Cambridge graduates, wrote *Taking Up Space* as a manifesto for change: tackling issues of access, unrepresentative curricula, discrimination in the classroom, the problems of activism, and life before and after university. Featuring honest conversations with students, *Taking Up Space* goes beyond the buzzwords of diversity and inclusion and explores what those words truly mean for young black girls today.



They Can't Kill Us All: The Story of Black Lives Matter—*Wesley Lowery*

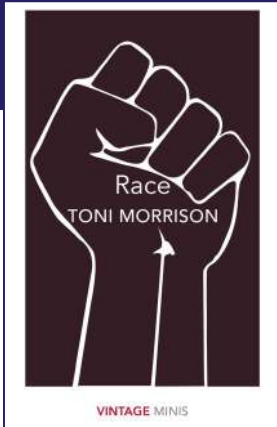
A deeply reported book on the birth of the Black Lives Matter movement, offering unparalleled insight into the reality of police violence in America, and an intimate, moving portrait of those working to end it

In over a year of on-the-ground reportage, Washington Post writer Wesley Lowery traveled across the US to uncover life inside the most heavily policed, if otherwise neglected, corners of America today.

Offering a historically informed look at the standoff between the police and those they are sworn to protect, *They Can't Kill Us All* demonstrates that civil unrest is just one tool of resistance in the broader struggle for justice. And at the end of President Obama's tenure, it grapples with a worrying and largely unexamined aspect of his legacy: the failure to deliver tangible security and opportunity to the marginalised Americans most in need of it.

FIRST PUBLISHED: 2016

Race—Toni Morrison



THE BLUEST EYE, FIRST PUBLISHED: 1970

SONG OF SOLOMON, FIRST PUBLISHED: 1977

BELOVED, FIRST PUBLISHED: 1987

An exploration of race from one of the twentieth century's primary chroniclers of the African American experience.

Is who we are really only skin deep? In this searing, remonstrative book, Toni Morrison unravels race through the stories of those debased and dehumanised because of it. A young black girl longing for the blue eyes of white baby dolls spirals into inferiority and confusion. A friendship falls apart over a disputed memory. An ex-slave is haunted by a lonely, rebukeful ghost, bent on bringing their past home. Strange and unexpected, yet always stirring, Morrison's writing on race sinks us deep into the heart and mind of our troubled humanity.

Includes selections from the books *Song of Solomon*, *The Bluest Eye*, and *Beloved* by Toni Morrison



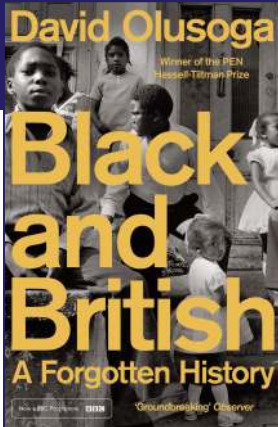
FIRST PUBLISHED: 2018

So You Want to Talk About Race—Ijeoma Oluo

In *So You Want to Talk About Race*, editor-at-large of *The Establishment* Ijeoma Oluo offers a contemporary, accessible take on the racial landscape in America, addressing head-on such issues as privilege, police brutality, intersectionality, micro-aggressions, the Black Lives Matter movement, and the "N" word.

Perfectly positioned to bridge the gap between people of color and white Americans struggling with race complexities, Oluo answers the questions readers don't dare ask, and explains the concepts that continue to elude everyday Americans.

Oluo is an exceptional writer with a rare ability to be straightforward, funny, and effective in her coverage of sensitive, hyper-charged issues in America. Her messages are passionate but finely tuned and crystalize ideas that would otherwise be vague by empowering them with aha-moment clarity.



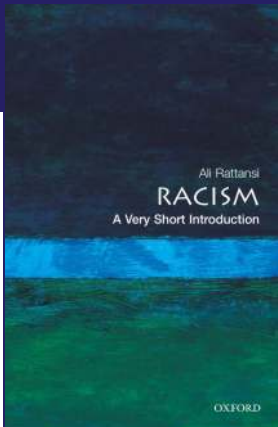
FIRST PUBLISHED: 2016

Black and British: A Forgotten History—*David Olusoga*

In this vital re-examination of a shared history, award-winning historian and broadcaster David Olusoga tells the rich and revealing story of the long relationship between the British Isles and the people of Africa and the Caribbean.

It shows that the great industrial boom of the nineteenth century was built on American slavery, and that black Britons fought at Trafalgar and in the trenches of both World Wars. Black British history is woven into the cultural and economic histories of the nation. It is not a singular history, but one that belongs to us all.

Unflinching, confronting taboos and revealing hitherto unknown scandals, Olusoga describes how the lives of black and white Britons have been entwined for centuries.



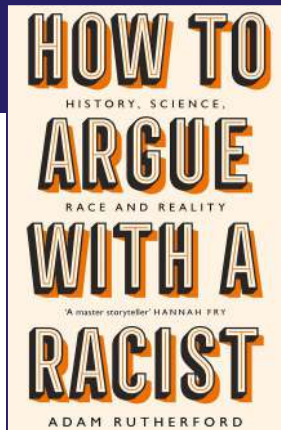
FIRST PUBLISHED: 2007

Racism: A Very Short Introduction—*Ali Rattansi*

There is often a demand for a short, sharp definition of racism, for example as captured in the popular formula Power + Prejudice= Racism. But in reality, racism is a complex, multidimensional phenomenon that cannot be captured by such definitions.

This Very Short Introduction explores the history of racial ideas and a wide range of racisms - biological, cultural, colour-blind, and structural - and illuminates issues that have been the subject of recent debates. Is Islamophobia a form of racism? Why has whiteness become an important source of debate? What is unconscious or implicit bias?

Ali Rattansi tackles these questions, and also shows why African Americans and other ethnic minorities in the USA and Europe continue to suffer from discrimination that results in ongoing disadvantage in these white dominant societies. Finally he explains why there has been a resurgence of national populist and far-right movements and explores their implications for the future of racism.



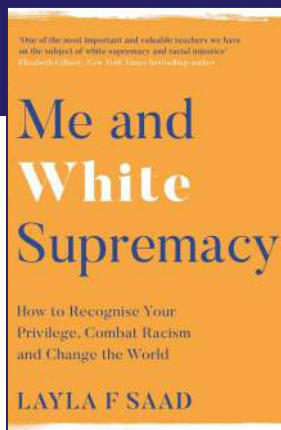
FIRST PUBLISHED: 2020

How to Argue with a Racist: History, Science, Race and Reality—Adam Rutherford

Race is real because we perceive it. Racism is real because we enact it. But the appeal to science to strengthen racist ideologies is on the rise - and increasingly part of the public discourse on politics, migration, education, sport and intelligence.

Stereotypes and myths about race are expressed not just by overt racists, but also by well-intentioned people whose experience and cultural baggage steer them towards views that are not supported by the modern study of human genetics. Yet, if understood correctly, science and history can be powerful allies against racism, granting the clearest view of how people actually are, rather than how we judge them to be.

How To Argue With a Racist is a vital manifesto for a 21st-century understanding of human evolution and variation, and a timely weapon



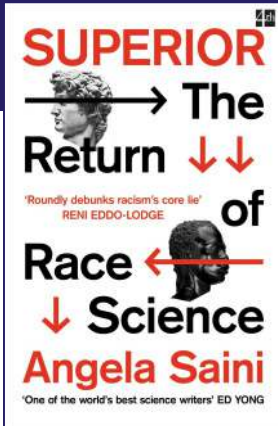
FIRST PUBLISHED: 2020

Me and White Supremacy: How to Recognise Your Privilege, Combat Racism and Change the World—Layla Saad

Me and White Supremacy shows readers how to dismantle the privilege within themselves so that they can stop (often unconsciously) inflicting damage on people of colour, and in turn, help other white people do better, too.

When Layla Saad began an Instagram challenge called #MeAndWhiteSupremacy, she never predicted it would spread as widely as it did. She encouraged people to own up and share their racist behaviours, big and small. She was looking for truth, and she got it. Thousands of people participated, and over 90,000 people downloaded the book.

The updated and expanded *Me and White Supremacy* takes the work deeper by adding more historical and cultural contexts, sharing moving stories and anecdotes, and including expanded definitions, examples, and further resources.



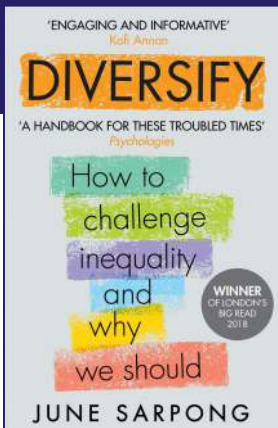
FIRST PUBLISHED: 2019

Superior: The Return of Race Science—Angela Saini

Where did the idea of race come from, and what does it mean? In an age of identity politics, DNA ancestry testing and the rise of the far-right, a belief in biological differences between populations is experiencing a resurgence. The truth is: race is a social construct. Our problem is we find this hard to believe.

In *Superior*, award-winning author Angela Saini investigates the concept of race, from its origins to the present day. Engaging with geneticists, anthropologists, historians and social scientists from across the globe, *Superior* is a rigorous, much needed examination of the insidious and destructive nature of the belief that race is real, and that some groups of people are superior to others.

'Roundly debunks racism's core lie - that inequality is to do with genetics, rather than political power' - Reni Eddo-Lodge



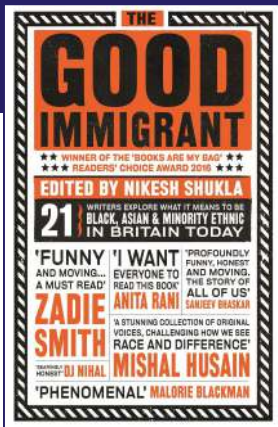
FIRST PUBLISHED: 2017

Diversify: How to Challenge Inequality and Why We Should—June Sarpong

Putting the spotlight on groups who are often marginalised in our society, including women, ethnic minorities, those living with disabilities, and the LGBTQ+ community, *Diversify* uncovers the hidden cost of exclusion and shows how a new approach to how we learn, live and do business can solve some of the most stubborn challenges we face.

With unshakeable case studies, brand-new research from Oxford University, and six revolutionary steps to help you overcome unconscious bias, this book will help you become part of a better society.

'Engaging and informative ... June Sarpong examines the research behind diversity and discrimination while grounding them in personal narratives, highlighting our common humanity.' - Kofi Annan, co-recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize



FIRST PUBLISHED: 2016

The Good Immigrant—Nikesh Shukla, ed.

Bringing together 21 exciting black, Asian and minority ethnic voices emerging in Britain today, *The Good Immigrant* explores why immigrants come to the UK, why they stay and what it means to be 'other' in a country that doesn't seem to want you, doesn't truly accept you - however many generations you've been here - but still needs you for its diversity monitoring forms.

Inspired by discussion around why society appears to deem people of colour as bad immigrants - job stealers, benefit scroungers, undeserving refugees - until, by winning Olympic races or baking good cakes, or being conscientious doctors, they cross over and become good immigrants, editor Nikesh Shukla has compiled a collection of essays that are poignant, challenging, angry, humorous, heartbreaking, polemic, weary and - most importantly - real.

'If I could, I'd push a copy of this through the letter box of every front door in Britain.' - *The Independent*



FIRST PUBLISHED: 2004

White Like Me: Reflections on Race from a Privileged Son—Tim Wise

The inspiration for the acclaimed documentary film of the same name, this deeply personal polemic reveals how racial privilege shapes the daily lives of white Americans in every realm: employment, education, housing, criminal justice, and elsewhere.

Using stories from his own life, Tim Wise examines what it really means to be white in a nation created to benefit people who are "white like him." This inherent racism is not only real, but disproportionately burdens people of color and makes progressive social change less likely to occur.

Explaining in clear and convincing language why it is in everyone's best interest to fight racial inequality, Wise offers ways in which white people can challenge these unjust privileges, resist white supremacy and racism, and ultimately help to ensure the country's personal and collective well-being.

