



RESOURCE MATERIALS ON THE AMERICAN BLACK EXPERIENCE

TO READ

Alexander, Michelle. **THE NEW JIM CROW: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness.** New York: The New Press, 2010.

Angelo, Robin, **WHITE FRAGILITY: WHY ITS SO HARD FOR WHITE PEOPLE TO TALK ABOUT RACISM:** Antiracist educator Robin DiAngelo deftly illuminates the phenomenon of white fragility and “allows us to understand racism as a practice not restricted to ‘bad people ’(Claudia Rankine).

Referring to the defensive moves that white people make when challenged racially, white fragility is characterized by emotions such as anger, fear, and guilt, and by behaviors including argumentation and silence. These behaviors, in turn, function to reinstate white racial equilibrium and prevent any meaningful cross-racial dialogue. In this in-depth exploration, DiAngelo examines how white fragility develops, how it protects racial inequality, and what we can do to engage more constructively, 2016.

Baldwin, James, **THE FIRE NEXT TIME: A Classic Book/Must Read -** A national bestseller when it first appeared in 1963, *The Fire Next Time* galvanized the nation and gave passionate voice to the emerging civil rights movement. It consists of two "letters," written on the occasion of the centennial of the Emancipation Proclamation, that exhort Americans, both black and white, to attack the terrible legacy of racism.

Barber II, Rev. Dr. William J, **THE THIRD RECONSTRUCTION: MORAL MONDAYS, FUSION POLITICS, AND THE RISE OF A NEW JUSTICE MOVEMENT,** In this memoir of how Rev. Barber and allies as diverse as progressive Christians, union members, and immigration-rights activists came together to build a coalition, he offers a trenchant analysis of race-based inequality and a hopeful message for a nation grappling with persistent racial and economic injustice. Rev. Barber writes movingly—and pragmatically—about how he laid the groundwork for a state-by-state movement that unites black, white, and brown, rich and poor, employed and unemployed, gay and straight, documented and undocumented, religious and secular. Only such a diverse fusion movement, Rev. Barber argues, can heal our nation’s wounds and produce public policy that is

morally defensible, constitutionally consistent, and economically sane. *The Third Reconstruction* is both a blueprint for movement building and an inspiring call to action from the twenty-first century's most effective grassroots organizer, 2016.

Beatty, Jack. AGE OF BETRAYAL: The Triumph of Money in America, 1865-1900. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2007.

Blackmon, Douglas A. SLAVERY BY ANOTHER NAME: The Re-Enslavement of Black Americans from the Civil War to World War II. New York: First Anchor Books, a division of Random House. 2009. Originally published in Hardcover in USA by Doubleday, a division of Random House in 2008).

Brody, Leslie, Editor. DAUGHTERS OF KINGS: Growing Up as a Jewish Woman in America. Boston: Faber and Faber, 1997.

Coates, Ta-nehisi, BETWEEN THE WORLD AND ME: In a profound work that pivots from the biggest questions about American history and ideals to the most intimate concerns of a father for his son, Ta-Nehisi Coates offers a powerful new framework for understanding our nation's history and current crisis. heavily on the bodies of black women and men—bodies exploited through slavery and segregation, and, today, threatened, locked up, and murdered out of all proportion. What is it like to inhabit a black body and find a way to live within it? And how can we all honestly reckon with this fraught history and free ourselves from its burden? *Between the World and Me* is Ta-Nehisi Coates's attempt to answer these questions in a letter to his adolescent son. Coates clearly illuminates the past, bravely confronts our present, and offers a transcendent vision for a way forward. 2015

Delany, Sarah L. and A. Elizabeth with Hearth, Amy Hill. HAVING OUR SAY: The Delany Sisters' First 100 Years. New York: Delta Tradebook, 1997

Edelin, M.D., Kenneth C. BROKEN JUSTICE: A True Story of Race, Sex and Revenge in a Boston Courtroom. Ramsey, NJ: Arbor Books, 2008.

Edugyan, Esi, WASHINGTON BLACK: A NOVEL: Eleven-year-old George Washington Black—or Wash—a field slave on a Barbados sugar plantation, is initially terrified when he is chosen as the manservant of his master's brother. To his surprise, however, the eccentric Christopher Wilde turns out to be a naturalist, explorer, inventor, and abolitionist. Soon Wash is initiated into a world where a flying machine can carry a man across the sky, where

even a boy born in chains may embrace a life of dignity and meaning, and where two people, separated by an impossible divide, can begin to see each other as human. But when a man is killed and a bounty is placed on Wash's head, they must abandon everything and flee together. Over the course of their travels, what brings Wash and Christopher together will tear them apart, propelling Wash ever farther across the globe in search of his true self. Spanning the Caribbean to the frozen Far North, London to Morocco, *Washington Black* is a story of self-invention and betrayal, of love and redemption, and of a world destroyed and made whole again. 2018

Haizlip, Shirlee Taylor. *THE SWEETER THE JUICE: by October 1st A Family Memoir in BlacAnd White*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1994.

Hurmen, Belinda, Editor. *MY FOLKS DON'T WANT ME TO TALK ABOUT SLAVERY: Twenty-one Oral Histories of Former North Carolina Slaves*. Winston-Salem, North Carolina, John F. Blair, 1984.

Jones, Edward P. *THE KNOWN WORLD*. New York: Amistad, an imprint of HarperCollins 2003, (First Amistad Paperback Edition, 2004).

Kahn-Cullors, Patrisse & Bandele, Asha, *WHEN THEY CALL YOU A TERRORIST: A BLACK LIVES MATTER MEMOIR*: If you really want to understand the Black Lives Matter movement and the people who put their lives on the line fighting for its behalf, *When They Call You a Terrorist* is a must-read. Written by artist, activist, and Black Lives Matter co-founder Patrisse Khan-Cullors and journalist and author Asha Bandele, this powerful and breathtaking memoir reveals what it is like to be black in today's violently racially charged America, 2020.

Kendi, Ibram X, *HOW TO BE AN ANTIRACIST*: Antiracism is a transformative concept that reorients and reenergizes the conversation about racism—and, even more fundamentally, points us toward liberating new ways of thinking about ourselves and each other. At its core, racism is a powerful system that creates false hierarchies of human value; its warped logic extends beyond race, from the way we regard people of different ethnicities or skin colors to the way we treat people of different sexes, gender identities, and body types. Kendi takes readers through a widening circle of antiracist ideas—from the most basic concepts to visionary possibilities—that will help readers see all forms of racism clearly, understand their

poisonous consequences, and work to oppose them in our systems and in ourselves. Kendi weaves an electrifying combination of ethics, history, law, and science with his own personal story of awakening to antiracism. This is an essential work for anyone who wants to go beyond the awareness of racism to the next step: contributing to the formation of a just and equitable society, 2019.

Kendi, Ibram X, **STAMPED FROM THE BEGINNING: THE DEFINITIVE HISTORY OF RACIST IDEAS IN AMERICA:** The National Book Award winning history of how racist ideas were created, spread, and deeply rooted in American society. Kendi chronicles the entire story of anti-black racist ideas and their staggering power over the course of American history. He uses the life stories of five major American intellectuals to drive this history: Puritan minister Cotton Mather, Thomas Jefferson, abolitionist William Lloyd Garrison, W.E.B. Du Bois, and legendary activist Angela Davis. As Kendi shows, racist ideas did not arise from ignorance or hatred. They were created to justify and rationalize deeply entrenched discriminatory policies and the nation's racial inequities. In shedding light on this history, *Stamped from the Beginning* offers us the tools we need to expose racist thinking. In the process, he gives us reason to hope. 2017

Korten, David C. **AGENDA FOR A NEW ECONOMY: From Phantom Wealth to Real Wealth.** San Francisco, CA: Barrett-Koehler, 2009.

Lichtenstein, Alex, **TWICE THE WORK OF FREE LABOR: The Political Economy of Convict Labor in the New South.** London: Verso, 1996.

Ogletree, Jr., Charles J. **ALL DELIBERATE SPEED: Reflections on the First Half Century of *Brown v. Board of Education*.** New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 2004

Oluo, Ijeoma, **SO YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT RACE,** Widespread reporting on aspects of white supremacy—from police brutality to the mass incarceration of Black Americans—has put a media spotlight on racism in our society. Still, it is a difficult subject to talk about. How do you tell your roommate her jokes are racist? Why did your sister-in-law take umbrage when you asked to touch her hair—and how do you make it right? How do you explain white privilege to your white, privileged friend? In *So You Want to Talk About Race*, Ijeoma Oluo guides readers of all races through subjects ranging from intersectionality and affirmative action to "model minorities" in an attempt to make the seemingly impossible possible:

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honest conversations about race and racism, and how they infect almost every aspect of American life, 2019

Rougeau, Vincent D. CHRISTIANS IN THE AMERICAN EMPIRE: Faith and Citizenship in the New World Order. New York: Oxford University Press 2008.

Skloot, Rebecca. THE IMMORTAL LIFE OF HENRIETTA LACKS. New York: Crown, a division of Random House, 2010.

The Editors of Black Issues in Education with James Anderson, PhD. and Dara N. Byrne, Ph.D., THE UNFINISHED AGENDA OF *Brown v. Board of Education*. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons, 2004.

Tough, Paul. WHATEVER IT TAKES: Geoffrey Canada's Quest to Change Harlem and America. With New Afterword. New York: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. 2008 (First Mariner paperback Edition 2009).

Ward, Jesmyn, THE FIRE THIE TIME: A NEW GENERATION SPEAKS ABOUT RACE National Book Award winner Jesmyn Ward compiled this collection of essays and poems about race by contemporary writers. "The Fire This Time" was conceived as a modern response to James Baldwin's powerful 1963 essay collection "The Fire Next Time", 2016

Wilkerson, Isabel, CASTE: The Origins Of Our Discontents. Random House. 2020

Wilkerson, Isabel. THE WARMTH OF OTHER SUNS: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration. New York: Random House. 2010.

ENSLAVEMENT (4 titles)

1. **Blackmon** – Atlanta Bureau Chief of the *Wall Street Journal* who has written extensively about race, the economy, and American society. Reared in the Mississippi Delta, he lives in downtown Atlanta with his wife and children. Awarded the Pulitzer Prize

“The genius of Blackmon's book is that it illuminates both the real human tragedy and the profoundly corrupting nature of the Old South slavery as it transformed to establish a New South social order.” – The Atlanta Journal – Constitution.

“In this groundbreaking historical exposé, Douglas A. Blackmon brings to light one of the most shameful chapters in American history – an “Age of Neoslavery” that thrived from the aftermath of the Civil War through the dawn of World War II.

Using a vast record of original documents and personal narratives, Blackmon unearths the lost stories of slaves and their descendants who journeyed into freedom after the Emancipation Proclamation and then back into the shadow of involuntary servitude shortly thereafter. By turns moving, sobering, and shocking, this unprecedented account reveals the stories of those who fought unsuccessfully against the re-emergence of human labor trafficking, the companies that profited most from neoslavery, and the insidious legacy of racism that reverberates today.” – From back of book.

Anchor ISBN: 978-0-385-72270-4

www.slaverybyanothername.com; available through Amazon.com; & barnesandnobles.com.

2. **Lichtenstein** –a PhD dissertation by the son of one of Ruth-Arlene’s law colleagues that Blackmon lists in his Selected Bibliography. Available through Amazon.com. One reviewer found this to be a “most erudite, engaging, and enlightening histories of convict leasing and the chain gang I've read.. [but]. slights the "story from 'below,'" leaving out for the most part the "tales of racial brutality and torture" one might expect from such a book. ”

3. **Jones** – winner of the 2004 Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Critics Circle Award, and a finalist for the National Book Award.

“In one of the most acclaimed novels in recent memory, Edward P. Jones. . . tells the story of Henry Townsend, a black farmer and former slave who falls under the tutelage of William Robbins, the most powerful man in Manchester County, Virginia. Making certain he never circumvents the law, Townsend runs his affairs with unusual discipline. But when death takes him unexpectedly, his widow, Caldonia, can’t uphold the estate/s order and chaos ensues. In a daring and ambitious novel, Jones [weaves] a footnote of history into an epic that takes an unflinching look at slavery in all of its moral complexities.” – From back page of book.

ISBN 0-06-055754-0 (Hardcover); ISBN 0-06-055755-9 (pbk); available through Amazon.com & barnesandnobles.com.

4. **Alexander** – “A longtime civil rights advocate and litigator, MICHELE ALEXANDER won a 2005 Soros Justice Fellowship and now holds a joint appointment at the Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity and the

Moritz College of Law at Ohio State University. Alexander served for several years as director of the Racial Justice Project at the ACLU of Northern California, and subsequently directed the Civil Rights Clinics at Stanford Law School, where she was an associate professor. Alexander is a former law clerk for Justice Harry Blackmun on the U.S. Supreme Court and has appeared as a commentator on CNN, MSNBC, and NPR. *The New Jim Crow* is her first book.”

“As the United States celebrates the nation’s ‘triumph over race’ with the election of Barack Obama, the majority of young black men in major American cities are locked behind bars or labeled felons for life. Jim Crow laws were wiped off the books decades ago, but today an astounding percentage of the African American community is warehoused in prisons or trapped in a permanent, second-class status--much like their grandparents before them who lived under an explicit system of control.

In this stunning and incisive critique, civil rights lawyer-turned legal scholar Michelle Alexander argues that we have not ended racial caste in America; we have simply redesigned it. . . by targeting black men through the War on Drugs and decimating community of color, the U.S. criminal justice system functions as a contemporary system of racial control. In the current era, it is no longer permissible to use race, explicitly, as a justification for discrimination, exclusion, and social contempt. Yet it is perfectly legal to discriminate against criminals in nearly all the ways that it was once legal to discriminate against African Americans. The old forms of discrimination – discrimination in employment, housing, education, and public benefits; denial of the right to vote; and exclusion from jury service – are suddenly legal once you’re labeled a felon.

“Alexander challenges the civil rights community, and all of us, to place mass incarceration at the fore-front of a new movement for racial justice in America.” – From book jacket leaves.

ISBN 978-1-59558-103-7 (hardcover)

PERSONAL STORIES (5 titles)

1. **Wilkerson** –“The first black woman to win a Pulitzer Prize in journalism

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and the first African American to win for individual reporting, she has also won the George Polk Award and a John Simeon Guggenheim Fellowship. She has lectured on narrative at the Neiman Foundation at Harvard University and has served as Ferris Professor of Journalism at Princeton University and as the James M. Cox Jr. Professor of Journalism at Emory University. She is currently Professor of Journalism and Director of Narrative Nonfiction at Boston University. During the Great Migration her parents journeyed from Georgia and southern Virginia to Washington, D.C., where she was born and reared.” From book jacket. *The Warmth of Other Suns* is her first book.

Visit: www.isabelwilkerson.com & www.thewarmthofothersuns.com

“In this epic, beautifully written masterwork, ...Wilkerson chronicles one of the great untold stories of American history: the decades-long migration of black citizens who fled the South for northern and western cities in search of a better life. From 1915 to 1970, this exodus of almost six million people changed the face of America. Wilkerson interviewed more than a thousand people and gained access to previously untapped data and official records, to write this definitive and vividly dramatic account of how these American journeys unfolded, altering our cities, our country, and ourselves.

“With stunning detail, Wilkerson tells this story through the lives of three unique individuals: Ida Mae Gladney, who in 1937 left sharecropping and prejudice in Mississippi for Chicago, where she achieved quiet blue-collar success and, in old age, voted for Barack Obama when he ran for an Illinois state senate seat; sharp and quick-tempered George Sterling, who in 1945 fled Florida for Harlem, where he endangered his job fighting for civil rights, saw his family fall, and finally found peace in God; and Robert Foster, who left Louisiana in 1953 to pursue medicine, becoming the personal physician to Ray Charles as part of a glitteringly successful career that allowed him to purchase a grand home where he often threw exuberant parties.” From book jacket.

ISBN 978-0-679-44432-9

2. **Delaney & Delaney** – “Sarah L. Delaney and R. Elizabeth Delany were born in Raleigh, North Carolina, on the campus of St. Augustine’s College. Their father, born into slavery and freed by the Emancipation Proclamation, was an administrator at the college and America’s first elected black Episcopal bishop. Sarah received her bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Teachers College at Columbia University and was New York City’s first appointed black home economics teacher on the high school level. Elizabeth received her doctor of dental surgery degree from Columbia University in 1923 and was the second black woman licensed to practice dentistry in New York. Dr. Elizabeth Delany died in

September 1995, at the age of 104. Sarah Delany died in January 1999, at the age of 109.”

“Warm, feisty, and intelligent, the Delany sisters speak their mind in a book that is at once a vital historical record and a moving portrait of two remarkable women who continued to love, laugh, and embrace life after over a hundred years of living side by side.

“Their sharp memories show us the post-Reconstruction South and Booker T. Washington; Harlem’s Golden Age and Langston Hughes, W.E.B. Dubois, and Paul Robeson. Bessie breaks barriers to become a dentist; Sadie quietly integrates the New York City system as a high school teacher. Their extraordinary story makes an important contribution to our nation’s heritage... and an indelible impression on our lives.” From inside and out of back cover page of book.

ISBN – 978-0-385-31252-3

Visit: www.amyhillhearth.com for information about Delany Sisters’ co-author, a Peabody Award-winning writer and *New York Times* bestselling author who specializes in oral histories of older women.

3. Hurmance – The primary source for these 21 oral histories “was the Federal Writer’s Project Collection, *Slave Narratives: A Folk History of Slavery in the U.S. from Interviews with Former Slaves*. The original manuscript. . . is housed in the Rare Book and Special Collections Division of the Library of Congress. Facsimile editions of the collection are available. One edition was published by Scholarly Press of St. Clair Shores, Michigan in 1976. Another edition, entitled *The America Slave: A Composite Autobiography* and edited by George P. Rawick, was published by Greenwood Press of Westport, Connecticut in 1972. The latter edition also includes narratives from the Fisk University interviews of the 1920s as well as an original survey volume by the editor.” (Hurmance

ISBN 0-89587-039-8 (pbk); ISBN 0-89587-038-X (hardcover)

Both available through Amazon.com.

4. **Haizlip** – a graduate of Wellesley College, she has held a number of Prominent positions in public service and the media, including manager of the Virgin Islands’ CBS-TV affiliate, director of corporate communications for WNET-TV in New York, director of the National Center for Film and Video Preservation at the American Film Institute, and head of her own public relations firm. She is the mother of two daughters, and with her husband, Harold, lives in Los Angeles.

“Growing up in Connecticut in the 1940s and 1950s, the daughter of a prominent black Baptist minister, Shirlee Taylor Haizlip enjoyed a position of privilege and security in her identity that for many years she took for granted. For

her mother, Margaret, and the rest of the Morris family, fair skin had been a double-edged legacy, a contrast to the Reverend Taylor's dark, proud, and successful clan. Light enough to "pass," Margaret's father and surviving siblings, descendants of an Irish immigrant and a mulatto slave, had disappeared into the white world, abandoning her and cutting themselves off from their tangled roots.

"Shirlee grew to adulthood moving easily between the black world and the white, but with an unfulfilled dream of discovering what had become of her mother's family. As Margaret approached eighty, her daughter determined to realize that dream. What she unearthed in dusty archives, letters, journals, and other records, is a tale of journeys—physical, emotional, racial, and social—that continues even today. Across the boundaries of race and time, the story spans six generations of both sides of Shirlee's family, ranging from Ireland, North Carolina, Virginia, and Washington, D.C., to Connecticut, New York, Ohio, the Virgin Islands, and finally California. There, with help of a private detective, Shirlee tracked down her mother's only surviving sibling and reunited two sisters—one who called herself white and the other who called herself black—after seventy-six years. She also uncovered a history of desertion, redemption, and betrayal set in motion by the charged, complicated meaning that color has carried in our society. The different choices the members of her multihued family made, and the different lives each of them led as a result, raise questions of identity and allegiance common to us all." From book jacket.

ISBN 0-671-79235-0

5. **Brody** – Editor of this collection of personal stories that "explores with great candor the everyday realities and struggles of growing up Jewish in American. Prompted by editor Leslie Brody's lifetime of questions about the nature of her own Jewish identity, a community of thirteen Jewish and non-Jewish women embarked on a journey of discovering what it means to be an American Jewish woman. In *Daughters of Kings* this diverse group shares moving and personal experiences about the effects of Judaism on their lives and work." From book jacket.

All the contributors were 1994-95 Radcliffe Institute Fellows at Harvard University. Two of the non-Jewish writers were Karen Fraser Wyche and Ruth-Arlene W. Howe.

ISBN – 0-571-19919-4 Hardcover; Faber & Faber is out of existence, but copies may still be available thru Amazon.com for a little as \$.01.

EDUCATION (3 titles)

1. **Ogletree** – The Harvard Law School Jesse Climenko Professor of Law and

Associate Dean for Clinical Programs is lead counsel in the recent reparations lawsuit representing the African-American survivors of the 1921 Tulsa race riots. A prominent speaker and leading authority on civil rights, he and wife Pamela and two children live in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and attend St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church.

“... On May 17, 1954 . . . the Supreme Court ruled unanimously that the doctrine of “separate-but-equal” no longer had a place in American society. For Thurgood Marshall and the other lawyers who argued the case, the decision in *Brown v. Board of Education* promised to change irrevocably the social fabric of the United States. Finally, the nation’s highest court had agreed that segregation was inherently unequal, that legalized racial inequality could no longer be tolerated. “What frequently goes unmentioned, however, was the Court’s calculated inclusion of the words “all deliberate speed” in a second decision that called for the end of school segregation. Those three words left the Court’s mandate flawed from the outset, allowing public groups, politicians, and policy makers to systematically subvert the spirit of the *Brown* decision and delay its implementation over the next fifty years.

.....

”In focusing on the legal ramifications of, and challenges to, the *Brown* decision, Ogletree champions the work of an often unsung group of heroes: the lawyers, especially Charles Hamilton Houston and Thurgood Marshall, who—while thousands of people were valiantly protesting in the streets—argued strenuously and persuasively to courtrooms across America that the mandate that would become inherent in the *Brown* decision must not be denied.

“A measured blend of personal memoir, exacting legal analysis, and brilliant insight, Ogletree’s eyewitness account of the legacy of *Brown v. Board of Education* offers a unique vantage point from which to view five decades of race relations in America.” Quoted from book jacket..

ISBN 0-393-05897-2 (Hardcover)

2. Editors of BIHE – “Since its founding in 1984, *Black Issues in Higher Education* has been America’s preeminent magazine for information on issues affecting African Americans and other minorities and under-represented groups in our nation’s colleges and universities.” From Back jacket cover.

“It is now fifty years later, and unfortunately the jury is still out. Was the promise of *Brown v. Board of Education* realized—and if not, why? What real gains have been made and what losses sustained as a result of the decision? What has been its impact socially, culturally, economically. and psychologically?

“In an attempt to find answers to these and other crucial questions concerning school integration and the legacy of *Brown v. Board of Education*, the

editors of BIHE solicited the opinions of a diverse group of activists, scholars, jurists, educators, and theorists. The result is *The Unfinished Agenda of Brown v. Board of Education*, a collection of essays offering a range of enlightening thought provoking, and, at times, highly controversial views by... civil rights activist and jurist Derrick Bell, National Public Radio senior correspondent Juan Williams, Harvard Law School professor Charles Ogletree, the internationally known educator Mary Hatwood Futrell, and others.

“*The Unfinished Agenda of Brown v. Board of Education* is enriched throughout by poignant oral histories in which many of those involved with the case—including plaintiffs, attorneys, teachers, students, and activists—share their firsthand experiences with segregation and the struggle for educational equality.”
ISBN 0-471-64926-0

3. Tough – A *New York Times Magazine* editor and one of America’s foremost writers on poverty, education, and the achievement gap. His reporting on Geoffrey Canada and the Harlem Children’s Zone originally appeared as a *Times Magazine* cover story. More information is available at www.paultough.com and www.hcz.org.

“What Would It Take? That was the question Geoffrey Canada found himself asking. What would it take to change the lives of poor children – not one by one but in big numbers, and in a way that could be replicated nationwide? The question led him to create the Harlem Children’s Zone, a ninety-seven-block laboratory in central Harlem where he is testing new and sometimes controversial ideas about poverty in America. His conclusion: if you want poor kids to be able to compete with their middle-class peers, you need to change everything in their lives – their schools, their neighborhoods, even the child-rearing practices of their parents.

“President Obama has called the Harlem Children’s Zone an “all-encompassing all-hands-on-deck antipoverty effort that is literally saving a generation of children’ and has vowed to reproduce it in twenty cities across the country. Carefully researched and deeply affecting, *Whatever It Takes* is a dispatch from inside the most daring and potentially transformative social experiment of our time.” – From Book back cover.

ISBN 978-0-547-24796-0 (pbk.)

TRUE STORIES OF DISRESPECT FOR BLACKS (2 titles)

1. Skloot – An award-winning science writer whose articles have appeared in *The New York Times Magazine*, *O, The Oprah Magazine*, *Columbia Journalism Review*, and elsewhere. She teaches creative nonfiction at the University of

Memphis. She has established a scholarship fund for the descendants of Henrietta Lacks. Donations can be made online at www.HenriettaLacksFoundation.org.

“Her name was Henrietta Lacks, but scientists know her as HeLa. She was a poor Southern tobacco farmer who worked the same land as her slave ancestors, yet her cells—taken without her knowledge—became one of the most important tools in medicine. The first ‘immortal’ human cells grown in culture, they are still alive today, though she has been dead for more than sixty years. . . . HeLa cells were vital for developing the polio vaccine; uncovered secrets of cancer, viruses, and the atom bomb’s effects; helped lead to important advances like in vitro fertilization, cloning, and gene mapping, and have been bought and sold by the billions.

“Yet Henrietta Lacks remains virtually unknown, buried in an unmarked grave.

“Now Rebecca Skloot takes us on an extraordinary journey, from the ‘colored’ ward of John Hopkins Hospital in the 1950s to stark white laboratories with freezers full of HeLa cells, from Henrietta’s small, dying hometown of Clover, Virginia—a land of wooden slave quarters, faith healings, and voodoo—to East Baltimore today, where her children and grandchildren live and struggle with the legacy of her cells.

“Henrietta’s family did not learn of her ‘immortality’ until more than twenty years after her death, when scientists investigating HeLa began using her husband and children in research without informed consent. And though the cells had launched a multimillion-dollar industry that sells human biological materials, her family never saw any of the profits. As Rebecca Skloot so brilliantly shows, the story of the Lacks family—past and present—is inextricably connected to the dark history of experimentation on African Americans, the birth of bioethics, and the legal battles over whether we control the stuff we are made of.” From book jacket. **ISBN 978-1-4000-5217-2.**

2. Edelin – “a graduate of Columbia College in New York City and Meharry Medical College in Memphis, Tennessee. He received his specialty training in obstetrics and gynecology at Boston City Hospital and was the first African American to become chief resident in the history of the department.

“**Dr. Edelin** has held many respected positions over the course of his medical career: chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Boston University School of Medicine (BUSM); chair of the board of Underserved Women of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists; member of the board of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc.; and associate dean of students and minority affairs at BUSM>

“Dr. Edelin has received the lifetime achievement award from the National Medical Association and was named one of America’s leading black doctors by *Black Enterprise* magazine. [Now Professor Emeritus of obstetrics and gynecology at Boston University he resides in Brookline, MA.] For further information, contact: kedelin@bu.edu.

“*Broken Justice* is the true story of. . .a young, black doctor who arrived in Boston in 1971 to do his residency training in obstetrics and gynecology at Boston City Hospital. In April 1974, when he was three months away from completing his residency, he was indicted on a charge of manslaughter by a secret grand jury.

“The indictment concerned an abortion he had performed on a 17 year-old girl, and the alleged victim was her aborted fetus. The arraignment was sought by an overzealous, anti-abortion prosecutor and because of the racial, political and religious climate that existed in Boston, the case received international attention.

“In January 1975, his sensational, six-week trial began before a jury that was all white, predominately male and overwhelmingly Catholic... The book reveals, for the first time, the maneuverings and conflicts that went on behind the scenes during the time leading up to the trial and during the trial itself.

“The bitter determination of the prosecuting attorney to impose his personal religious views as the law of the land provides important lessons as we struggle to reach a new social compact for the 21st century—including equal rights for people of both sexes and all races.” – From book jacket.

ISBN -10: 0-9792060-0-6 (hardcover)

ISBN-13: 978-0-9792060-0-9 (pbk)

ECONOMIC/CULTURAL FORCES FOR and AGAINST CHANGE (3 titles)

1. Beatty – “a senior editor at *The Atlanta Monthly* and news analyst for *On Point*, a National Public Radio news and public affairs program.”

This is NOT easy reading. It is, however, “[a] brilliant reconsideration of the Gilded Age in America, when an oligarchy of wealth triumphed over democracy, when dreams of freedom and equality died of their impossibility. Jay Gould. . . never runs for office, but he rules. This was his time (and John D. Rockefeller’s and Andrew Carnegie’s), and this was his country.

“At the end of the Civil War, with the rebellion put down and slavery ended, America belonged to Lincoln’s ‘[l]ain people.’ But ‘government of the people’ and economic democracy were betrayed by political parties that fanned memories of the war to distract Americans from government of the corporation.

“Synthesizing the research of a new generation of scholars, Jack Beatty gives us a fresh look at the ‘revolution from above’ of industrialization that forged modern America. In *Age of Betrayal* Supreme Court justices turn the Fourteenth Amendment’s promise to the freed slave of ‘equal protection of the laws’ into the shield of the corporate ‘person.’ The presidents of the Pennsylvania and Southern Pacific railroads engage in a bidding war for congressmen. A depression brought on by railroad speculation throw millions out of work, the hungry riot for bread in Buffalo, the homeless sleep on Chicago’s streets, ‘tramps’ are arrested, strikers are shot, and the nation’s presidents avert their eyes.

“In the 1890s the Populist revolt from below challenges the revolution from above. Entrepreneurial capitalism ends in the early 1900s, as 1,800 giant firms are compacted into 157 behemoths. God instructs President McKinley to invade Cuba and seize the Philippines from Spain; turning from liberators to occupiers, U.S. troops slaughter and starve the (Roman Catholic) Filipinos in the name of ‘Christianizing’ them. In perpetrating this ‘infamy’ William James cries out, “We have puked up our traditions’ – revealing how these sordid decades had remade us.

“A passionate, gripping, often shocking history of wealth over commonwealth—thirty-five years of America history in which we see the reflection of today’s gilded age.” - From book jacket.

ISBN: 978-1-4000-4028-5 (alk. Paper)

2. Korten – “president and founder of the People-Centered Development Forum, chair of the board of *YES!* magazine, and a board member of the Business Alliance for Local Living Economics. He is the author of *The Great Turning*, *The Post-Corporate World*, and *When Corporations Rule the World*.

“Today’s economic crisis is the worst since the Great Depression. However, as David Korten shows, the steps being taken to address it—including pouring trillions of dollars into bailouts for the Wall Street institutions that created the mess—do nothing to deal with the reality of a failed economic system. It’s like treating cancer with a bandage. Korten identifies the deeper sources of the failure: Wall street institutions that have perfected the art of creating ‘[wealth]’ without producing anything of real value: phantom wealth.

Our hope lies not with Wall Street, Korten argues, but with Main Street, which creates real wealth from real resources to meet real needs. He outlines an agenda to bring into being a new economy—locally based, community oriented, and devoted to creating a better life for all, not simply increasing profits. It will require courageous and imaginative changes to how we measure economic success, organize our financial system, even the very way we create money, an agenda Korten summarizes in his version of the economic address to the nation he wishes Barack Obama were able to deliver. – From back cover of book.

ISBN 978-1-60509-289-8 (PBK); ISBN 978-1-60509-290-4 (PDF e-book)
Available through Amazon.com.

3. Rougeau – former Associate Professor of Law at the University of Notre Dame, who effective July 1, 2011 became the first African American to be Dean of Boston College Law School.

“The United States has entered a new period in its history. Once the preeminent military and economic power in the world, the nation has now reached its political breaking point. As America politics has become bitterly polarized, the religious right has increasingly dominated the public role of America Christianity.

.....

“In this book, Vincent Rougeau argues that it is unwise for Christians to think that focusing on hot-button issues is an appropriate way to actualize faith commitments in the public realm. He rejects the idea that ‘freedom’ means simply individual empowerment and asserts instead that the Christian premise of the God-given dignity of the human being can be realized only in community with others...

“Ultimately, Rougeau calls on American Christians to reject the vision of faith and nation proffered by the religious right in favor of a Christian cosmopolitanism. *Christians in the American Empire* offers concerned Christians new tools for a critical assessment of legal, political, and social questions and provides a new model of public engagement for Christians in America.” From book jacket.

ISBN 978-0-19-518809-7; available through Amazon.com beginning at \$4.99.

FILMS

Selma – depicts the march from Selma to Montgomery

Just Mercy- innocent black man convicted and sentenced for murder

13th -Filmmaker Ava DuVernay explores the history of racial inequality in the United States, focusing on the fact that the nation's prisons are disproportionately filled with African-Americans. It's on Netflix.

CONTRIBUTIONS BY:

Marian Howe-Taylor and Dr. Brenda Burrell