

# White Rage: The Unspoken Truth of Our Racial Divide

By Carol Anderson



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National Book Critics Circle Award Winner

New York Times Bestseller

A New York Times Notable Book of the Year

A Washington Post Notable Nonfiction Book of the Year

A Boston Globe Best Book of 2016

A Chicago Review of Books Best Nonfiction Book of 2016

From the Civil War to our combustible present, acclaimed historian Carol Anderson reframes our continuing conversation about race, chronicling the powerful forces opposed to black progress in America.

As Ferguson, Missouri, erupted in August 2014, and media commentators across the ideological spectrum referred to the angry response of African Americans as "black rage," historian Carol Anderson wrote a remarkable op-ed in *The Washington Post* suggesting that this was, instead, "white rage at work. With so much attention on the flames," she argued, "everyone had ignored the kindling."

Since 1865 and the passage of the Thirteenth Amendment, every time African Americans have made advances towards full participation in our democracy, white reaction has fueled a deliberate and relentless rollback of their gains. The end of the Civil War and Reconstruction was greeted with the Black Codes and Jim Crow; the Supreme Court's landmark 1954 *Brown v. Board of Education* decision was met with the shutting down of public schools throughout the South while taxpayer dollars financed segregated white private schools; the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Voting Rights Act of 1965 triggered a coded but powerful response, the so-called Southern Strategy and the War on Drugs that disenfranchised millions of African Americans while propelling presidents Nixon and Reagan into the White House, and then the election of America's first black President, led to the expression of white rage that has been as relentless as it has been brutal.

Carefully linking these and other historical flashpoints when social progress for African Americans was countered by deliberate and cleverly crafted opposition, Anderson pulls back the veil that has long covered actions made in the name of protecting democracy, fiscal responsibility, or protection against fraud, rendering visible the long lineage of white rage. Compelling and dramatic in the unimpeachable history it relates, *White Rage* will add an important new dimension to the national conversation about race in America.

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### **Editorial Review**

#### Review

"[White Rage] is an extraordinarily timely and urgent call to confront the legacy of structural racism bequeathed by white anger and resentment, and to show its continuing threat to the promise of American democracy." - Editor's Choice, New York Times Book Review

"[A] slim but persuasive volume . . . A sobering primer on the myriad ways African American resilience and triumph over enslavement, Jim Crow and intolerance have been relentlessly defied by the very institutions entrusted to uphold our democracy." - *Washington Post* 

"[A] powerful survey of American history as seen in the violent white reactions to black progress, from Reconstruction to the great migration to the current political landscape." - *Boston Globe* 

"Anderson has shown, with her well-sourced (she has several hundred detailed footnotes) and readable book, why the fights over race and access to the perquisites of American citizenship grind on . . . White Rage lends perspective and insight for those of us who are willing to confront, study and learn from the present situation in this country." - St. Louis Dispatch

"In every episode of *White Rage* Anderson amplifies and elongates this initial claim [white America's seething resistance to African Americans' sociopolitical advancements] into a striking argument about the nation's failure to recognize African Americans as full members the citizenry. Though stretching a standalone essay into an extended study doesn't work very often, *White Rage* operates efficiently and elegantly, offering readers new intelligence about American experience. Following Anderson, one gains insight by accrual." - *Lit Hub* 

"It's shocking, beautifully written, and, with white supremacy knocking on the White House door, more important than ever. Some books are great, some books are essential. *White Rage* is the latter." - Ed Yong, *The Millions* 

"Powerful . . . Like a meticulous prosecutor assembling her case, Anderson lays out a profoundly upsetting vision of an America driven to waves of reactionary white anger whenever it's confronted with black achievement." - *Bookforum* 

"Bracing . . . It might all seem very conspiratorial and cloak-and-dagger, were it not also true. Reading through all the frightfully inventive ways in which America makes racial inequality a matter of law (and order) has a dizzying effect: like watching a quick-cut montage of social injustice spanning nearly half a millennium." - *The Globe and Mail* 

"[F]or readers who want to understand the sense of grievance and pain that many African Americans feel today, *White Rage* offers a clearly written and well-thought-out overview of an aspect of U.S. history with which the country is still struggling to come to terms." - *Foreign Affairs* 

"Prescient . . . provides necessary perspective on the racial conflagrations in the U.S." - Kirkus Reviews

"Anderson's mosaic of white outrage deserves contemplation by anyone interested in understanding U.S.

race relations, past and present." - Library Journal

"[An] engaging, thought-provoking work . . . Anderson's clear, ardent prose detailing the undermining of America's stated ideals and democratic norms is required reading for anyone interested in the state of American social discourse." - *Booklist* 

"Few historians write with the grace, clarity, and intellectual verve Carol Anderson summons in this book. We are tethered to history, and with *White Rage*, Anderson adeptly highlights both that past and the tenacious grip race holds on the present. There is a handful of writers whose work I consider indispensable. Professor Anderson is high up on that list." - William Jelani Cobb, author of THE SUBSTANCE OF HOPE

"White Rage is a harrowing account of our national history during the century and a half since the Civil War-even more troubling for what it exposes about our present, our deep and abiding racial divide. This is necessary reading for anyone interested in understanding--and perfecting--our union." - Natasha Trethewey, Winner of the Pulitzer Prize for NATIVE GUARD and Two-term Poet Laureate of the United States

"To overcome our racial history, Americans must first learn our racial history--as it truly and painfully happened. This powerful book is the place to start." - David Von Drehle, author of RISE TO GREATNESS: ABRAHAM LINCOLN AND AMERICA'S MOST PERILOUS YEAR

#### About the Author

Carol Anderson is the Charles Howard Candler Professor and Chair of African American Studies at Emory University. She is the author of many books and articles, including *Bourgeois Radicals: The NAACP and the Struggle for Colonial Liberation, 1941-1960* and *Eyes Off the Prize: The United Nations and the African American Struggle for Human Rights: 1944-1955*. She lives in Atlanta, Georgia.

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#### Agnes Higa:

Do you have favorite book? If you have, what is your favorite's book? Guide is very important thing for us to find out everything in the world. Each book has different aim or perhaps goal; it means that reserve has different type. Some people sense enjoy to spend their time for you to read a book. They are reading whatever they take because their hobby is actually reading a book. Why not the person who don't like examining a book? Sometime, person feel need book if they found difficult problem as well as exercise. Well, probably you'll have this White Rage: The Unspoken Truth of Our Racial Divide.

## **Cindy Grant:**

In this 21st centuries, people become competitive in every way. By being competitive currently, people have do something to make all of them survives, being in the middle of typically the crowded place and notice simply by surrounding. One thing that often many people have underestimated the idea for a while is reading. Sure, by reading a book your ability to survive improve then having chance to endure than other is high. To suit your needs who want to start reading some sort of book, we give you that White Rage: The Unspoken Truth of Our Racial Divide book as basic and daily reading book. Why, because this book is more than just a book.

### Jennifer Phinney:

As people who live in typically the modest era should be update about what going on or data even knowledge to make all of them keep up with the era which can be always change and advance. Some of you maybe will certainly update themselves by examining books. It is a good choice for you personally but the problems coming to a person is you don't know what type you should start with. This White Rage: The Unspoken Truth of Our Racial Divide is our recommendation to help you keep up with the world. Why, as this book serves what you want and need in this era.

### Marilyn Vance:

A lot of people always spent all their free time to vacation or even go to the outside with them loved ones or their friend. Were you aware? Many a lot of people spent they will free time just watching TV, or even playing video games all day long. In order to try to find a new activity this is look different you can read some sort of book. It is really fun in your case. If you enjoy the book which you read you can spent 24 hours a day to reading a publication. The book White Rage: The Unspoken Truth of Our Racial Divide it is rather good to read. There are a lot of folks that recommended this book. These people were enjoying reading this book. In case you did not have enough space to bring this book you can buy the particular e-book. You can m0ore very easily to read this book from the smart phone. The price is not too costly but this book possesses high quality.

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