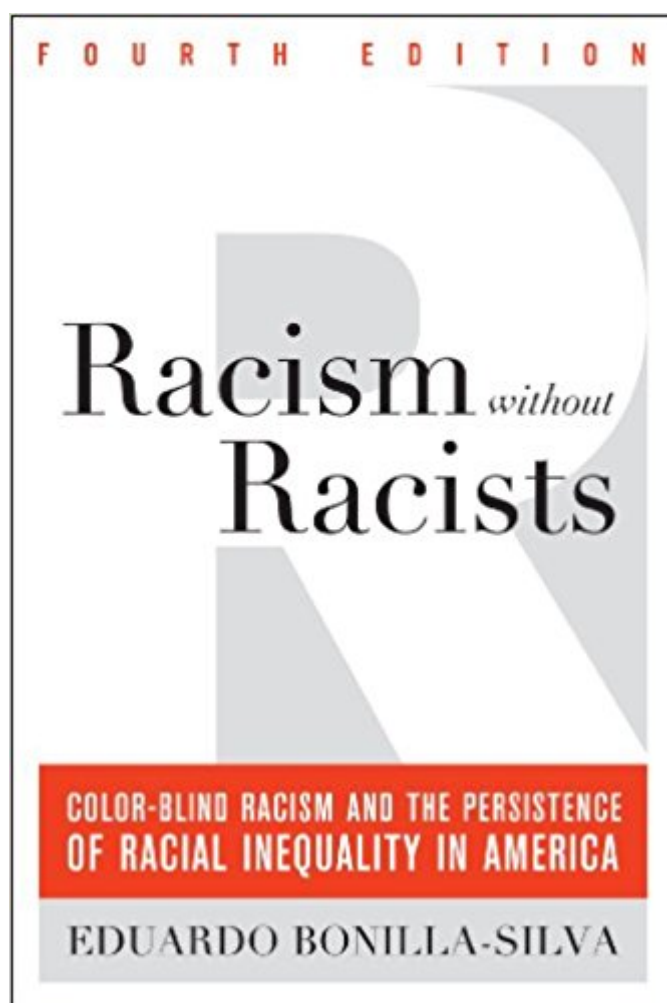


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Racism Without Racists: Color-Blind Racism And The Persistence Of Racial Inequality In America



Synopsis

The fifth edition of *Racism without Racists* is available in June 2017. The paperback ISBN for the fifth edition is 9781442276239. Eduardo Bonilla-Silva's acclaimed *Racism without Racists* documents how, beneath our contemporary conversation about race, lies a full-blown arsenal of arguments, phrases, and stories that whites use to account for—and ultimately justify—racial inequalities. This provocative book explodes the belief that America is now a color-blind society. The fourth edition adds a chapter on what Bonilla-Silva calls "the new racism," which provides the essential foundation to explore issues of race and ethnicity in more depth. This edition also updates Bonilla-Silva's assessment of race in America after President Barack Obama's re-election. Obama's presidency, Bonilla-Silva argues, does not represent a sea change in race relations, but rather embodies disturbing racial trends of the past. In this fourth edition, *Racism without Racists* will continue to challenge readers and stimulate discussion about the state of race in America today.

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Customer Reviews

Each edition of Bonilla-Silva's now classic *Racism without Racists* has brought with it updates that underline its contemporary relevance. This fourth edition is no different: it takes a sharply critical look at Obama's reelection, and is updated wherever possible with new statistics. However, what makes this edition especially useful is an additional chapter, "The New Racism: The U.S. Racial Structure since the 1960s." The preface notes that this is because *Racism without Racists* sometimes functions as the only book on race in many college classrooms. In this new

chapter, Bonilla-Silva (Texas A&M) traces the legacy of the US past into the present, exploring institutions that have helped perpetuate racial inequality and segregation in housing, education, political life, the prison system, and other areas. The author also provides a survey of various forms of contemporary economic inequality, social segmentation, and control. While no single book is likely to include enough relevant material about race, Bonilla-Silva's attempt comes very close. Displaying the author's trademark sense of humor and unflinching critique of the ideology and discourse that continue to fuel racial inequality today, this edition will be satisfying to newcomers as well to those who have already used this book for years. Summing Up: Essential. All levels/libraries. (CHOICE)

We expect racists to be closely associated with gun racks in pickups, shirts cut off at the shoulder, and scowls, but in fact many whites in contemporary society have learned to mask their prejudice by responding to racially-charged questions and situations in veiled language. Bonilla-Silva updates this fourth edition with more examples and further exploration of what passes as normal. He examines what he calls "the strange enigma of race in contemporary America," and looks at the reasons why several generations of racists have prospered. He looks into the racial structure in the United States since the 1960s, central frames of color-blind racism, how people make disparaging remarks about race without sounding racist, the subtleties of racial stories, the significance of white segregation, white racial progressiveness, black color-blindness, the future of racial stratification, the enchantment of color blindness since President Obama's election, and exposes the irrevocable certainty of white color-blindness. (Book News, Inc.)

Racism Without Racists is a provocative look at the "new" kinder, gentler and smiling racism. Bonilla-Silva uses research, current events, and professional ideological position to support the presence of this new racism. . . . The book is readable, and the content is accessible, theoretically sound, and research-driven. It provides content that is essential for social workers committed to social justice and advocacy. Dr. Bonilla-Silva is an original thinker and presents a theoretical framework for understanding the "new" color blind racism and the potential changes for the future. As a professor with extensive experience teaching courses on diversity and racism, I would definitely recommend this book as a text to be used by professors in a course on racism or diversity. This book will challenge students to reflect on their internal processes and become anti-racist professionals. Naturally, because Dr. Bonilla-Silva is a provocateur, students will find many of his theoretical approaches uncomfortable, but it is important to challenge the existing paradigm of students and encourage personal and professional growth and development. (The New Social Worker)

As the "color-blind," "post-racial" consensus hardens, Eduardo Bonilla-Silva remains one of the few voices courageous enough to tell the unpalatable truth: that a

black man in the White House does not make the United States any less a house divided. Updated to include a discussion of the significance of Obama's first term and 2012 reelection, this fourth edition of Bonilla-Silva's now-classic *Racism without Racists* documents in remorseless (and often hilarious) detail the white evasions that enable white denial of the reality of ongoing illicit structural racial advantage. (Charles W. Mills, CUNY Graduate Center) *Racism without Racists* is a provocative challenge to color-blind thinking in America. The fourth edition of Eduardo Bonilla-Silva's acclaimed book adds a chapter on what he calls "the new racism" to provide students with the essential foundation to explore race in more depth. This edition also updates Bonilla-Silva's assessment on race in America after President Barack Obama's re-election.

Every white American should have the privilege to have that eureka moment: "Ah! Now I understand what being white means, in the most profound sense." The entire world looks different from then on. *Racism without Racists* leads white Americans to that very moment of discovery. (Judith Blau, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill) *Racism without Racists* will make many readers uncomfortable, as it should. With care and a wicked sense of humor, Eduardo Bonilla-Silva explores the kind of subtle, everyday racism that some of our best friends unconsciously perpetuate. (Robin D. G. Kelley, author of *Freedom Dreams: The Black Radical Imagination*) In the new chapter Bonilla-Silva provides a stinging critique of Obama and the very notion that the election of a black man has a positive impact on the state of racial inequality in America. This is a powerful chapter for a very powerful book. (Hayward Derrick Horton, SUNY - Albany)

If you wonder how he got elected ... read this book

I'm still reading it, but I would recommend it highly.

Excellent book. Very informative.

It was recommended by an academic friend and I was afraid it would be some kind of dry academic tome on race. Delightfully that is not the case. It is scholarly, including plenty of sources, research, and citations but it is readable and pertinent in ways that other book on the subject fall short. There are also some fresh ideas. This author posits that the very way that we view the state of affairs since the end of Jim Crow helps cover and maintain the modern way racism manifests in all of us

and prevents scrutiny. Considering that we are "post racial" masks and enables a structural level of discrimination that keeps it under our own radar. An illustration might come from the recent Donald Sterling/LA Clippers event. As Kareem Abdul Jabbar and other African-Americans have pointed out: Sterling's known blatant racist behaviors have been tolerated in LA and in the NBA until this very public event caused such outrage. The public grossness of his comments allow the rest of us to feel self righteous and reassure ourselves that we are not like him. And we're not! However, we do go along ignoring people like him because it is important to believe that racism is really past and making waves cracks the denial that it is still active. Bonilla-Silva succinctly delineates the subtle (but shows it is not subtle) nature of racism such that it enables no questioning nor perception of the practices called "dog whistling" of political parties and actions by city councils or others that are influenced by racial attitudes but have real effects on decision making. I'm not doing the book justice trying to summarize the complex issues he explores and he does it so well. Lest you fear this is a polemic, complaining, victimizing work be assured that it is not. If you are a person of honesty and good will who has the maturity to explore your own influences you will benefit from reading this and by doing so, perhaps live a bit more enlightened and beneficial life. I have one criticism of his approach to narrating these issues: In the preface he summarizes points then tells us that he will address various ones in chapters ahead. Then in chapter one as he starts developing his premises, he keeps telling me what he's going to do and he keeps on doing this foreshadowing from time to time. There's the old saw about the sergeant who's training method was: "First, I tell them what I'm going to tell them, then I tell them, then I tell them what I told them." I sometimes feel like I reading that sergeant's book. Don't let that stop you, this might be the best and most practically useful discourse on modern race in America that everyone needs to know.

Racism Without Racists explores the type of racism that exists in contemporary America. Eduardo Bonilla-Silva labels this new racism as "color-blind racism" because it involves the perpetuation of white dominance and privilege in a more passive way than racism was carried out in the past, and often those who display color-blind racism think they are not racist. He sheds light on the subtle methods by which white people subconsciously subdue minorities, and that the effects of this passive racism are very real. The color-blind techniques are outlined very explicitly, including fable-like stories meant to explain a stereotype, abstract liberalism in which people ignore the fact that minorities are underrepresented, and diminutive language. Bonilla-Silva is very thorough in his examination of modern racism in America, which makes it very acceptable and easy to understand for the target audience: the white majority. I greatly appreciated Bonilla-Silva's organization

throughout this book. Each chapter starts with a brief outline of the points he will be making, and he elaborates on each point in turn, then finishes the chapter by tying the new information he has presented into the larger theme of the book. His ideas were easy to follow and insightful, with the statistical backing to make them quite convincing. That being said, many of his studies are from the mid to late nineties, and in our ever changing world and culture I found myself questioning the relevance of some of these studies that were done almost 20 years ago. I found *Racism Without Racists* to be an enlightening book in many ways. As a part of the racial majority I find that race is not a subject that demands my attention because it is not something I have to face and deal with every day. I recognize that I have played the part of the color-blind racist in my life, and would not be able to acknowledge or understand that without this book. I found Bonilla-Silva's forecast of a Latin American-like racial stratification system in America to be very interesting. I hadn't noticed this trend previously, but it seems very apparent to me now. I also enjoyed the new chapter on Obama, mainly because I was one of the many who perceived a black president to signal the end of racism in America. Obama's lack of focus on racial issues, his lack of activism in social movements, and his avoidance of anything that makes him seem too black, as outlined by Bonilla-Silva, have convinced me that Obama is just another political puppet who is not as change-savvy as we all hoped. Ultimately I would recommend this book to other white people because it shows racism today for what it is, and systematically eliminates the justifications for color-blindness in a country where minorities are still very much under-privileged.

This book, along with a few others on the subject, have really touched the depths of the systemic and personal racial bias and inequality in today's America. You don't have to look far these days to witness a "racial incident." I won't name them all here, but suffice it to say that the research and information in this book is hard to refute if you are even slightly open to the idea that one could have racial bias without being an outright racist. In fact, one could feel strongly about racial equality and still have some lurking racial bias. It would be foolish to think our entire country somehow just shook off the systemic inequality of the last few centuries and without any policy changes managed to "erase" color from our view. Worth a read. It may be tough on the psyche at times, but the value lies in the payoff of improved racial relations and policies in the US.

Eduardo Bonilla makes you see racism though young and older people's eyes now days and it is scary to see how some people are that selfish and closed minded

This book gave a very different view on racism .I believe that many people would enjoy this book, it open my eyes up to the political structures surrounding race.

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