# BEACON PRESS SPRING 2018

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Race Matters
With a New Introduction
25th Anniversary Edition
Cornel West

ON SALE 12/5/2018

SUMMARY
First published in 1993 on the one-year anniversary of the L.A. riots, Race Matters was a national best-seller that has gone on to sell more than half a million copies, and become a classic on race in America. Cornel West addresses a range of issues, from the crisis in black leadership and the myths surrounding black sexuality to affirmative action, the new black conservatism, and the strained relations between Jews and African Americans. He never hesitates to confront the prejudices of all his readers or wavers in his insistence that they share a common destiny. Bold in its thought and written with a redemptive passion grounded in the tradition of the African-American church, Race Matters is a book that is at once challenging and deeply healing.

KEY POINTS
- 25th ANNIVERSARY EDITION
- NEW INTRODUCTION FROM THE AUTHOR
- WELL-KNOWN AND RESPECTED. West appears frequently on Real Time with Bill Maher, The Colbert Report, CNN and C-SPAN, and has appeared in over twenty-five documentaries and films, including Examined Life, Call & Response, Sidewalk, and Stand.
- LIFELONG POLITICAL ACTIVIST. West has been deeply involved in the Black Lives Matter protests and was among those arrested in Ferguson in 2015.

PRAISE
"One can only applaud the ferocious moral vision and astute intellect on display in these pages."
--Michiko Kakutani, The New York Times

"Cornel West is one of the most authentic, brilliant, prophetic and healing voices in America today. We ignore his truth in Race Matters at our peril."
--Marian Wright Edelman

AUTHOR BIO
Cornel West is a prominent and provocative democratic intellectual. He graduated magnum cum laude from Harvard and obtained his MA and PhD in philosophy at Princeton. He has taught at Union Theological Seminary, Yale, Harvard, Princeton, and the University of Paris. He has written nineteen books and edited thirteen books including Black Prophetic Fire and The Radical King, a collection of MLK’s writings curated and introduced by Prof. West to reclaim Dr. King’s prophetic and radical vision as both a civil rights leader and--more broadly--as a human right activist. He has also made three spoken-word albums, including Never Forget, collaborating with Prince, Jill Scott, Andre 3000, Talib Kweli, KRS-One, and the late Gerald Levert. His recent spoken-word interludes were featured on Terence Blanchard’s Choices (which won the Grand Prix in France for the best jazz album of the year for 2009).

Residence: Cambridge, MA
“You Can’t Fire the Bad Ones!”
And 18 Other Myths about Teachers, Teachers Unions, and Public Education
William Ayers, Crystal Laura, and Rick Ayers

ON SALE 1/16/2018

SUMMARY

Teachers have always been devalued in the United States, but in recent years the pace and intensity of attacks by politicians, the media, and so-called education reformers have escalated sharply. Indeed, the "bad teacher" figure has come to dominate public discourse, obscuring the structural inequities that teachers and students face everyday. This book flips the script on enduring and popular myths about teachers, teachers unions, and education that inform policy discussions and choices. Some of these myths, such as "student scores on standardized tests should be used to evaluate teachers," have ushered in an era of high-stakes exam-centric classrooms. Other myths, such as "unions are good for teachers but bad for kids," have led to reduced protection and rights for teachers in public schools, making it harder for educators to serve their students. By unpacking these myths, and underscoring the necessity of strong and vital public schools as a common good, Ayers and Laura challenge readers - whether parents, community members, or policymakers - to rethink their own assumptions about teaching and education.

KEY POINTS

- ACCESSIBLE: William Ayers, Crystal Laura, and Rick Ayers are award-winning educators, well-known activists, and incisive analysts who use these myths to expose systemic inequities in public education.
- TIMELY: Education, as always, will be a hot-button topic in the new Trump and DeVos administration.
- COMPREHENSIVE, CRITICAL: Authors showcase myths that, for decades now, have informed discussions of public education in the U.S. The book provides a trenchant overview of topics - including charter schools, teacher education, high-stakes testing, and "workforce readiness" - that are crucial to parents, community members at large, and policymakers.

AUTHOR BIO

Author Residence: Chicago, IL; Oakland, CA

William Ayers, was a distinguished Professor of Education and Senior University Scholar at the University of Illinois at Chicago (retired), member of the executive committee of the Faculty Senate and founder of both the Small Schools Workshop and the Center for Youth and Society. Ayers has written extensively about education. He is the author of To Teach: The Journey of a Teacher and Teaching Toward Freedom: Moral Commitment and Ethical Action in the Classroom. Crystal Laura is an assistant professor of education at Chicago State University (CSU) and codirector of CSU’s Center of Urban Research and Education, where she provides training to Chicago Public Schools teachers. She is the author of Being Bad: My Baby Brother and the School-to-Prison Pipeline. Rick Ayers is an Associate Professor of Education at the University of San Francisco in the Urban Education and Social Justice cohort, and USF coordinator of the San Francisco Teacher Residency. He is the author of An Empty Seat in Class: Teaching and Learning After the Death of a Student, Great Books for High School Kids; and Teaching the Taboo: Courage and Imagination in the Classroom.
Infinite Hope
How Wrongful Conviction, Solitary Confinement, and 12 Years on Death Row Failed to Kill My Soul
Anthony Graves

ON SALE 1/16/2018

SUMMARY
Infinite Hope is an argument against the death penalty through one man's personal story. It is about a man enduring a life on death row year after year, when he knows that he is one hundred percent innocent and that his exoneration is unlikely.

Anthony Graves' unbelievable saga started in 1992 when, at 26 years old, he was arrested for killing six people in Somerville, Texas. Despite his air-tight alibi, his unwavering insistence that he had no knowledge of the crime, and a lack of physical evidence linking him to the scene, Graves was arrested, charged with capital murder, and eventually sentenced to death. He spent nearly two decades defending his innocence from behind bars. With the help of a hard-charging journalist, Graves' story of injustice and the astounding malfeasance he encountered at every turn was published in Texas Monthly. In 2011, eighteen years after his nightmare began, Graves was finally exonerated. The prosecutor in his case was later disbarred.

Poignant and skilfully wrought, Graves writes about fighting for his dignity, trying to maintain his sanity, the excruciating reality of being innocent behind bars, and how he endured one setback after another as he and his lawyers chipped away at the state's case against him. Infinite Hope exposes an extreme version of when the judicial system is wrong and, as Graves describes it, "what people go through when they're treated as disposable."

KEY POINTS
• TIE-IN TO DISCUSSIONS OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE for audiences of Ava DuVernay's documentary, 13th, and Shaka Senghor's Writing My Wrongs, Infinite Hope unpacks the psychology of solitary confinement, mishandled prosecutions, and capital punishment
• RARE BOOK BY FORMER DEATH ROW EXONEREES fills the void of stories meant to be told by Troy Davis, Cameron Todd Willingham, or Glenn Ford, had they survived their time on death row in Georgia, Texas, or Louisiana
• TIE-IN TO THE ANTHONY GRAVES FOUNDATION since the organization was originally conceived while Graves was behind bars, Graves has grown his platform as an expert on wrongful convictions, exonerations, and reforms for solitary confinement, and he continues to help other innocent men in prison

AUTHOR BIO
Author Residence: Houston, TX
Author Hometown: Brenham, TX
Anthony Graves was wrongfully incarcerated on Texas's death row for almost twenty years after being falsely accused of a brutal murder. Upon his exoneration in 2011, he went on to head the Anthony Graves Foundation, an organization he began while imprisoned to draw attention to the many injustices of the American criminal justice system. He is on the Board of Directors of the Houston Forensic Science Center, where he works to make sure that scientists are providing unbiased science in criminal cases. He lives in Houston, TX.
A More Beautiful and Terrible History
Beyond the Fables of the Civil Rights Movement
Jeanne Theoharis

ON SALE 1/30/2018

SUMMARY
The civil rights movement has become national legend, lauded by presidents from Reagan to Obama to Trump, as proof of the power of American democracy. This national fable has shuttered the movement firmly in the past, obscured the work it took and the diversity of people who lead it, papered over the forces that stood in its way, and used it to chastise present-day movements. In this book, historian Jeanne Theoharis examines and challenges this national myth-making, taking on many of the accepted stories of the movement to show them in a much different light. Theoharis challenges eight key aspects of the fable to show us the much broader vision the movement had, the work it took, the diversity of people who lead it the North and South, and the immense and persistent barriers and repression the activists faced.

KEY POINTS

• STRONG AUTHOR PROFILE. Theoharis is author of NAACP Image Award-winning book, The Rebellious Life of Mrs. Rosa Parks, and her work has appeared in the New York Times, the Washington Post, MSNBC, The Nation, the Intercept, and the Chronicle of Higher Education. FOR FANS OF James Loewen's Lies My Teacher Told Me, this book provides a robust corrective to key fables about American history

• A TIMELY LOOK AT RACIAL POLITICS, Theoharis explores what we can learn from the history of Black liberation struggles of the past.

• PROVOCATIVE AND REVEALING. Theoharis looks at the centrality of the civil rights history to American politics and national identity-- and the fable that has been created about the movement, offering new insights about Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King Jr., Coretta Scott King, and others.

PRAISE FOR THE REBELLIOUS LIFE OF ROSA PARKS
"The Rosa Parks in this book is as much Malcolm X as she is Martin Luther King Jr."

"Richly informative, calmly passionate and much needed."

AUTHOR BIO

Jeanne Theoharis is Distinguished Professor of Political Science at Brooklyn College of City University of New York and the author or co-author of seven books and numerous articles on the civil rights and Black Power movements, the politics of race and education, social welfare and civil rights in post-9/11 America. Her widely-acclaimed biography The Rebellious Life of Mrs. Rosa Parks won a 2014 NAACP Image Award and the Letitia Woods Brown Award from the Association of Black Women Historians.
Invisible
How Young Women with Serious Health Issues Navigate Work, Relationships, and the Pressure to Seem Just Fine
Michele Lent Hirsch
ON SALE 2/27/2018

SUMMARY

When we meet a young woman with a serious illness, we tend to label her an outlier. Although we think of young female patients as anomalies, they are, statistically, the primary demographic for many major illnesses. And they are also one of the most overlooked populations in our healthcare system.

Studies show that doctors are more familiar with the way symptoms manifest in men, and don’t recognize when their female patients come in with equally dangerous ones. At the same time, women worry that they’re just overreacting, and don’t seek medical help. They may also have doctors who talk down to them, or even sexually harass them. In their personal lives, many women scramble to hide their symptoms and scars to avoid making friends and partners uncomfortable.

Weaving together interviews with chronically ill women, recent studies of the relationship between gender and illness, and her own harrowing story of coming of age with serious medical problems, Lent Hirsch exposes just how much our gender norms hurt women who are already suffering, and how sexism prevails both in the dating world and at the doctor’s office.

KEY POINTS

- USING ENGAGING PERSONAL STORIES AND THE LATEST MEDICAL RESEARCH, Lent Hirsch explores the landscape that young women with serious illnesses must navigate in their treatment and personal lives.
- A FREQUENT CONTRIBUTOR SMITHSONIAN AND FORMER EDITOR AT PSYCHOLOGY TODAY, Lent Hirsch’s work focuses on the intersection of science, health, and gender.
- COVERS A WIDE RANGE OF MEDICAL CONDITIONS: MS, Cancer (Thyroid, Breast, Brain), Heart disease & transplant, Autoimmune disorders, Crohn’s, Fibromyalgia, COP, Lyme, Joint disease, endometriosis, HIV, Neurological diseases, ME, Diabetes

AUTHOR BIO

Michele Lent Hirsch is a weekly online contributor to Smithsonian magazine, a former editor at Psychology Today, and a founding editor at Women Under Siege. She specializes in science, gender, and health. Her work has appeared in the Atlantic, Feministing, and the Belivue Literary Review. She is currently an adjunct lecturer at Manhattanville College, where she teaches an undergraduate course in journalism.

"We Are All Fast-Food Workers Now"
The Global Uprising Against Poverty Wages
Annelise Orleck
ON SALE 2/27/2018

SUMMARY

"We Are All Fast-Food Workers Now" traces the rise and evolution of a new global labor movement comprising low-wage workers from Manila to Manhattan, from Baja California to Bangladesh, from Capetown to Cambodia. This is an up close and personal look at globalization and its costs, told not through economic data or theory but through the eyes and in the words of low-wage workers themselves - the berry pickers, fast food servers, retail cashiers, garment workers, hotel housekeepers, home health care aides, airport workers and adjunct professors who, in the second decade of the 21st century, are fighting for respect, safety and a living wage.

KEY POINTS

• GLOBAL AND INTERSECTIONAL. Worker-activists from across the U.S. and world including African-American, Latinx, Asian, and indigenous workers, Americans, Filipinas, Bangladeshis, Cambodians, Dominicans and people from many other nations.
• STRONG PROFILE AS HISTORIAN. Author is an award-winning historian with past blurbs by Dorothy Allison and Nell Irvin Painter, and the recipient of the Myers Outstanding Book Award.
• COMPELLING PERSONAL NARRATIVES. Drawing from 140 interviews with worker-activists, the author tells the story through the eyes of those on the ground.
• CONNECTS GLOBAL STRUGGLE TO US HISTORY. Author reveals how workers see themselves as inheritors of the struggle and legacy of radicalized immigrant women workers in the U.S.

AUTHOR BIO

Annelise Orleck is Professor of History at Dartmouth College. She is the author of four previous books including Storming Caesars Palace: How Black Mothers Fought Their Own War on Poverty. She lives in Thetford Center, Vermont.
A Court of Refuge
Stories from the Bench of America's First Mental Health Court
Ginger Lerner-Wren

ON SALE 3/6/2018

SUMMARY
As a young lawyer, Judge Ginger Lerner-Wren bore witness to the consequences of an underdeveloped mental health care infrastructure. Unable to do more than offer guidance, she watched families being torn apart as client after client was ensnared in the criminal justice system for crimes committed as a result of addiction, homelessness, and severe mental illness. She soon learned that this was not an isolated issue--The Treatment Advocacy Center estimates that in 44 states, jails and prisons house ten times as many people with serious mental illnesses than state psychiatric hospitals.

In Mental Health Courts, Judge Lerner-Wren tells the story of how the court grew from an offshoot of her criminal division held during lunch hour without the aid of any federal funding, to a revolutionary institution that has successfully diverted more than 17,000 people with serious mental illness from jail and into treatment facilities and other community resources. Working under the theoretical framework of therapeutic jurisprudence, Judge Wren and her growing network of fierce, determined advocates, families, and supporters sparked a national movement of using courts as a place of healing.

Poignant and sharp, Lerner-Wren demonstrates that though mental health courts offer some relief in underserved communities, they can only serve as a single piece of a new focus on the vast overhaul of the policies that got us here. Lerner-Wren crafts a refreshing possibility for a future where our legal system and mental health infrastructure work in step to decriminalize rather than stigmatize.

KEY POINTS
- NATIONALLY KNOWN EXPERT whose innovative work has been implemented in 250 similar mental health courts, and featured on NPR, Good Morning America, CNN, and at the White House Conference on Mental Health
- AUTHOR WITH ROBUST SPEAKING SCHEDULE on issues of mental health law, therapeutic jurisprudence, and mental health courts
- RELEVANT TO CURRENT BATTLE OVER HEALTHCARE as the new administration reforms the ACA, potentially further reducing access to mental health services for millions of citizens

AUTHOR BIO
Judge Ginger Lerner-Wren is a humanitarian and mental health advocate who pioneered the first therapeutic Mental Health Court in the U.S. dedicated to the safe decriminalization of persons with mental illness and neurological disorders, with the goals of breaking arrest cycles and promoting recovery and public safety. Judge Lerner-Wren is also an adjunct Professor for Nova Southeastern University, College of Psychology. Rebecca A. Eckland is a freelance journalist; her work has appeared in Go Magazine, Weber: The Contemporary West, and The Barnstormers.

Residence: Broward County, FL/Reno, NV
Despair and mourning after the election of a hostile President is part of the push-pull of American politics. But resistance to presidential administrations has led to positive change and defeat of outrageous proposals even in perilous times. Even progressive presidents sometimes require massive protest to induce policy decisions, for example, Obama and the Indigenous protests against the Dakota pipeline, one modern example of resistance built on earlier actions on specific issues. Resistance sometimes fails but it often works even if it does not achieve all of the movement's goals.

KEY POINTS

• HIGH PROFILE, CONNECTED AUTHOR WHO IS HISTORIAN & LEGAL SCHOLAR: Berry was Chair of US Commission on Civil Rights, is known for her participation in the civil rights movement, and has political and media connections.
• FOR CRITICS OF TRUMP: Berry argues that resistance to presidential administrations has led to positive change and provides historical examples

PRAISE FOR FIVE DOLLARS AND A PORKCHOP SANDWICH

• "Dr. Berry’s work instructs us to be vigilant: if we are to have our democracy live up to its potential, it is up to us to stop restrictive laws and work to expand the franchise fairly at the local, state, and federal levels."
  --Donna Brazile, veteran Democratic strategist
• "Thank goodness for Mary Frances Berry. At 78, [she] shows no signs of slowing down."
  --Essence Magazine

AUTHOR BIO

Dr. Mary Frances Berry is the Geraldine R. Segal Professor of American Social Thought and professor of history at the University of Pennsylvania. She is the former chairwoman of the US Commission on Civil Rights, the author of eleven books, and the recipient of thirty-five honorary degrees. Dr. Berry has appeared on Real Time with Bill Maher, The Daily Show, Tavis Smiley, PBS NewsHour, CBS Evening News, Al Jazeera America News, and various MSNBC and CNN shows.
Redemption
The Last Journey of Martin Luther King Jr.
Joseph Rosenbloom

ON SALE 3/27/2018

SUMMARY
This is a close up and intimate book about the last fateful hours of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s life. It draws on dozens of interviews by the author with people who were immersed in the Memphis events, as well as on recently released documents from archives in Atlanta. The fresh material yields a wealth of illuminating detail, including a lapse, never before reported, by the Memphis Police Department to provide security for King. It unveils the financial and logistical predicament presented by the Poor People's Campaign. It recounts the emotional and marital pressures that were bedeviling King in the spring of 1968. Juxtaposed next to the narrative describing King's hours in Memphis is an account of what his assassin, James Earl Ray, was doing in Memphis during the same time. The book discloses how a series of uncannily lucky breaks enabled Ray, a bumbling convict on the lam, to construct a sniper’s nest and shoot King.

KEY POINTS
• REVELATORY AND GROUNDBREAKING. Features never-before-used interviews and a wealth of new material drawn from recently opened archives including new information about the lapse in police security for King
• ACCOMPLISHED AUTHOR. Rosenbloom has been a reporter and editorial writer for the Boston Globe and Frontline and has received Emmy and Peabody awards for his work.
• ANNIVERSARY TIE-IN. Will publish in April 2018 to coincide with the 50th anniversary of King’s death.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR
Author Residence: West Newton, MA  Author Hometown: New York, NY
Joseph Rosenbloom is an award-winning investigative journalist. He has been a staff reporter and editorial writer for The Boston Globe; an investigative reporter for Frontline; and a senior editor and features writer for Inc. magazine. He’s written for magazines and newspapers, including The Boston Globe Magazine, International Herald-Tribune, The Wall Street Journal, The New York Times, The American Lawyer and The American Prospect. Rosenbloom has a B.A. in history from Stanford University and a J.D. from Columbia University Law School. He lives in West Newton, Mass.
The Way of Jesus
Living a Spiritual and Ethical Life
Jay Parini

ON SALE 3/27/2018

SUMMARY

Part guide to Christian living, part spiritual autobiography, The Way of Jesus is Jay Parini’s exploration of what Jesus really meant, his effort to put love first and foremost in our daily lives. A lifelong Christian who has at times wavered in his belief, Parini recounts his own efforts to follow Jesus’s example, examines the contours of Christian thinking, and describes the solace and structure one can find in the rhythms of the Church calendar. Parini’s refreshingly non-dogmatic approach to Christian thinking incorporates teachings from other religions as well as poets who have helped Parini along his path to understanding.

KEY POINTS

• WELL-KNOWN AUTHOR: Parini is a well-known man of letters, author of novels, poetry, criticism, and a previous book about the historical Jesus.
• OFFERS SUSTENANCE IN TRYING TIMES: Parini’s look at how one can find meaning and structure by aligning one’s life with the rhythms of the Church calendar offers solace in a time of political and social turmoil.
• CHRISTIANITY FOR THE NON-DOGMATIC: Parini is an intellectual Christian whose religious vision encompasses ideas from other religions as well. His Christianity offers a model of open-mindedness that is badly needed in an age of intolerance.

PRAISE

• "Jay Parini is one of those writers who can do anything."
  --Stacy Schiff, New York Times Book Review

AUTHOR BIO

Author Residence: Weybridge, VT  Author Hometown: Pittston, PA
Jay Parini is a poet, novelist, biographer, and critic. His five books of poetry include Anthracite Country and House of Days. He has written eight novels, including Benjamin’s Crossing, The Apprentice Lover, The Passages of H.M., and The Last Station—the last was made into an Academy Award-nominated film starring Helen Mirren and Christopher Plummer. Parini has written biographies of John Steinbeck, Robert Frost, William Faulkner, and, most recently, Gore Vidal. His nonfiction works include Jesus: The Human Face of God, Why Poetry Matters, and Promised Land: Thirteen Books That Changed America.
Twenty-First-Century Jim Crow Schools
The Impact of Charters and Vouchers on Public Education
Raynard Sanders, David Stovall, Terrenda White with Thomas Pedroni

ON SALE 4/3/2018

SUMMARY

How charter schools have taken hold in three cities - and why parents, teachers, and community members are fighting back

With the NAACP calling for a moratorium on the establishment of charter schools, and a Massachusetts ballot initiative generating national attention before the last election, school privatization is in the news. Critics of charter schools decry their uneven performance, use of public funds, and practice of excluding challenging students.

This concise yet powerful volume examines their rise in New Orleans, Chicago, and New York, exploring the specific conditions that spurred their proliferation. Jim Crow Schools also chronicles the efforts of national and local activists advocating free, high-quality, and equitably-funded public education.

Raynard Sanders (New Orleans), David Stovall (Chicago), and Terrenda White (New York City) show how charter schools - private institutions, usually established in poor or working-class African American and Latinx communities - promote competition instead of collaboration, and are chiefly driven by financial interests.

Sanders, Stovall, and White also reveal how charters position themselves as "public" to secure tax money, but use their private status to hide data about enrollment and salaries. Furthermore, they document the lasting consequences of charter school expansion, including the displacement of experienced African American teachers; the popularization of a rigid, militarized pedagogy; and the destabilization of other community resources.

KEY POINTS

- SCHOLAR-ACTIVISTS WITH CONNECTIONS TO THREE CITIES including two professors of Education with knowledge of Chicago and New York, and a veteran educator and expert on the New Orleans education system
- INTRODUCTION BY Karen Lewis, President of the Chicago Teachers Union
- MEANINGFUL SETTINGS each city has been referred to as "Ground Zero" for school privatization and other controversial reforms

AUTHOR BIOS

RAYNARD SANDERS has more than thirty years of experience in teaching, educational administration, and economic and community organizing and development. He has served as a New Orleans high school principal, Executive Director of the National Faculty at New Orleans, and Director of the Urban Education Graduate Program at Southern University at New Orleans. DAVID STOVALL is Professor of Educational Policy Studies and African-American Studies at the University of Illinois at Chicago. TERRENDA WHITE is an assistant professor of Sociology and Education at the University of Colorado-Boulder, and former elementary school teacher and Prison Education Initiative coordinator. KAREN LEWIS is president of Chicago Teachers Union. The only National Board Certified Teacher to lead a U.S. labor union, she also serves as executive vice president to the Illinois Federation of Teachers and as vice president of the American Federation of Teachers. THOMAS PEDRONI is Associate Professor of Curriculum Studies and Policy Sociology at Wayne State University and Director of the Detroit Data and Democracy Project. His first book, Market Movements: African American Involvement in School Voucher Reform received the 2009 Critics' Choice Book Award from the American Educational Studies Association.

Residence: New Orleans, LA; Chicago, IL; Boulder, CO Hometown: New Orleans, LA; Chicago, IL; Atlanta, GA
Unplanned pregnancy and abortion are a normal part of women’s reproductive lives: roughly one-third of US women will have an abortion by age forty-five, and fifty to sixty percent of the women who have abortions were using birth control during the month that they got pregnant. Yet women who have abortions are shamed and judged for their actions, and safe access to abortion is under relentless assault.

In this carefully reasoned and powerful book, Christian ethicist Rebecca Todd Peters argues that abortion is not the problem. The problem is our inability to trust women to act as rational, capable, responsible moral agents who must weigh the concrete moral question of how to respond to a particular unplanned pregnancy. When we move away from a debate requiring women to justify ending a pregnancy, Peters writes, and toward a debate that considers the broader social problems and questions that shape women’s reproductive lives, and the lives of their children, we will have created a public policy debate that is asking the right questions.

In an age in which women’s reproductive rights are increasingly under attack, Peter’s stirring defense of abortion as an ethical choice is necessary reading.

**KEY POINTS**

- OFFERS A CHRISTIAN DEFENSE OF ABORTION: Peters, a Presbyterian minister who has had personal experience with abortions, is making a moral argument for abortion at a time when conservative Christians’ framing of the issue has made it hard even for secular women to defend their reproductive decisions.

- WOMEN’S RIGHTS UNDER ATTACK: In Trump’s America, women’s access to a safe abortion is under attack. With the Supreme Court nomination of staunch abortion foe Neil Gorsuch, and the looming retirement of several liberal justices, religious conservatives have the opportunity to put an anti-abortion stamp on the highest court for a generation, with the very real possibility of overturning Roe v. Wade.

- ROE V. WADE ANNIVERSARY: January 2018 is the 45th anniversary of Roe v. Wade.

**AUTHOR BIO**

Rebecca Todd Peters is Professor of Religious Studies at Elon University. Her work as a feminist social ethicist is focused on globalization, economic, environmental, and reproductive justice. Her books include *In Search of the Good Life: The Ethics of Globalization* and *Solidarity Ethics: Transformation in a Globalized World*. Ordained in the Presbyterian Church (USA), she has been active denominationally and ecumenically for more than twenty-five years and currently represents the PC(USA) as a member of the Faith and Order Standing Commission of the World Council of Churches.
The War on Neighborhoods
Policing, Prison, and Punishment in a Divided City
Ryan Lugalia-Hollon and Dan Cooper

ON SALE 4/17/2018

SUMMARY
The Chicago Police Department is infamous for high-profile cases of overt corruption, violence and racism. For example, between March 2011 and September 2015, citizens across the city filed more than 28,000 allegations of police misconduct, with 2,000 charges coming from a single neighborhood.

In War on Neighborhoods, Ryan Lugalia-Hollon and Dan Cooper interview residents, police officers, community activists, judges, businesspeople, and those who have been in and out of the penal system in Austin, a majority black neighborhood on Chicago's West Side, where the incarceration rate is forty-two times higher than the highest ranked white community. Robert Sampson, a sociologist and expert on U.S. cities, calls this disparity "staggering...a difference in kind, not degree." Through first-hand reporting and careful analysis, Lugalia-Hollon and Cooper show how punitive sanctions have systematically maintained a perpetual state of disorder and disenfranchisement in the community rather than a sense of public safety and security.

Incisive and informative, War on Neighborhoods makes the case for a revolutionary reformation to our policing model that shifts focus from punishment and police-mandated arrest quotas, and lifts up the power of residents, shores up neighborhood structures, and addresses the effects of trauma and poverty.

KEY POINTS
1. WELL-RESPECTED COMMUNITY ORGANIZERS with over thirty collective years of experience working in the field of youth development
2. RARELY STUDIED connections between poverty, predatory policing, and the effects of the neighborhood disempowerment cycle
3. LOCAL NEWS CONNECTION to Chicago, a city under intense judicial and media scrutiny in the nationwide movement for police accountability after the Laquan McDonald shooting

AUTHOR BIO
Author Residence: San Antonio, TX; Author Hometown: Louisville, KY; Sterling, IL
Chicago, IL
Ryan Lugalia-Hollon is is the Network Director for Excel Beyond the Bell - San Antonio. Before moving to Texas, he developed the YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago's Youth Safety and Violence Prevention programs, and was a Justice Fellow for the Institute on Public Safety and Social Justice at Adler University. He has worked in the youth development field for over twenty years. Daniel Cooper is the Co-Executive Director of the Institute on Social Exclusion at Adler University in Chicago. For the past fifteen years, he has been engaged in a range of community-based research projects both in Chicago and nationwide.
"They Take Our Jobs!" (Revised Edition)
and 20 Other Myths about Immigration, expanded edition
Aviva Chomsky

ON SALE 4/24/2018

SUMMARY
In "They Take Our Jobs!" Aviva Chomsky challenges the underlying assumptions that fuel misinformed claims about immigrants, radically altering our notions of citizenship, discrimination, and U.S. history. Since it was first published, many of the same myths about immigration such as "immigrants take American jobs," "immigrants don't pay taxes," and "immigrants increase crime" continue to be perpetuated and used to promote aggressive anti-immigration policies. In a new introduction, Chomsky reflects on the events of the past ten years. She analyzes declining Mexican immigration patterns, illuminates Mexico's little-known Southern Border Program, and assesses Obama's complicated legacy as "deporter-in-chief" which, Chomsky argues, inadvertently laid the groundwork for Trump's anti-immigrant racism.

KEY POINTS
WITH NEW MATERIAL including a new introduction, expanded timeline, and updated terminology section.
TIMELY: Immigration has become a constant topic of media attention and many of the myths raised in the book are perpetuated today and used to push anti-immigration policies. USER FRIENDLY AND ACCESSIBLE: Distinguished, award-winning scholar and activist provides historical background and examine the social and political factors that gave rise to and inform each myth in lively prose.

PRAISE
"A must-read for anyone who wants to understand immigration in the US."
--Eva Longoria, actress, businesswoman, producer, and philanthropist

AUTHOR BIO
Aviva Chomsky is professor of history and coordinator of Latin American Studies at Salem State University. The author of several books, Chomsky has been active in Latin American solidarity and immigrants' rights issues for over twenty-five years. She lives in Salem, Massachusetts.

Residence: Salem, Massachusetts
The Heritage
Black Athletes, a Divided America, and the Politics of Patriotism
Howard Bryant

ON SALE 5/8/2018

SUMMARY
For most of the twentieth century, "No News on the Sports Page" governed how sports were played and perceived in America. The ballfield was a sanctuary from real-world problems. No matter how up-and-down the markets or fraught an election or segregated a town, rooting for the home team was the ultimate unifier. Today, that is a naive notion.

The reasons are complex. But among them, post 9/11, sports arenas transformed into staging grounds for American patriotism and pride. As America dealt with terrorism at home, hero-worship of law enforcement took center stage. Police officers threw out first pitches; soldiers’ surprise homecomings became a staple at half time; and teams wore camouflage jerseys to honor those who served. Any critique of police or military authority looked unpatriotic, even when the authority deserved criticism.

This paradigm shift activated a long-dormant force not seen in several decades: the black athlete as a figure of resistance. In The Heritage, sports journalist Howard Bryant observes how the tradition of neutrality on the pitch has given way to a new generation of activist-athletes. It is the story of the rise, fall, and return of "athlevisists" who refuse to "shut up and play." It is a heritage built by the superstardom and radical politics of Jackie Robinson, Muhammad Ali, Tommie Smith, and John Carlos in the 1960s; undermined by apolitical, corporation-friendly "transcenders of race" O.J. Simpson, Michael Jordan, and Tiger Woods, in the following decades; and reclaimed today by the likes of LeBron James, Colin Kaepernick, and Carmelo Anthony in the wake of Ferguson and Freddie Gray. Revealing and incisive, Bryant deftly shows how sports is colliding with political culture, and how athletes, teams and leagues are melding the two.

KEY POINTS
- FIRST TRADE BOOK to trace the political heritage of black athletes from the early days of the Civil Rights movement to today's Black Lives Matter movement.
- RESPECTED, WELL-CONNECTED AUTHOR with a committed following of fans, a sprawling network of media contacts through his work at ESPN and NPR.
- PROMINENT FIGURES INTERVIEWED include: DAVID ORTIZ, CC SABATHIA, TERRY FRANCONA, DUSTY BAKER, CHARLES BARKLEY, CHRIS WEBBER, CHUCK D, AVA DUVERNAY, COLIN KAEPERNICK & BILLIE JEAN KING
- BROAD APPEAL TO sports fans, political junkies, journalists, academics in the field of cultural studies, and history buffs.

AUTHOR BIO

Residence: Northampton, MA
The Trials of Nina McCall
Sex, Surveillance, and the Decades-Long Government Plan to Imprison "Promiscuous" Women
Scott Stern

ON SALE 5/15/2018

SUMMARY
In 1918, just one day after her eighteenth birthday, Nina McCall was told to report to the local health officer for an STD examination. Confused and humiliated, McCall did as she was told, and the health officer performed a hasty (and invasive) examination and quickly diagnosed her with gonorrhea. Though McCall insisted she could not possibly have an STD, she was coerced into committing herself to the Bay City Detention Hospital—a facility in which she would spend almost three miserable months subjected to humiliation, experimentation, and isolation.

Nina McCall was one of many women unfairly imprisoned by the United States government throughout the twentieth century. The government imprisoned tens, probably hundreds, of thousands of women and girls—usually without due process—simply because officials suspected these women were prostitutes, infected with STIs, or simply "promiscuous." This discriminatory program, dubbed the "American Plan," lasted from the 1910s through World War II.

Scott Stern tells the story of this almost forgotten program through the life of Nina McCall. Her story provides crucial insight into the lives of countless other women incarcerated under the American Plan. Stern demonstrates the pain and humiliation felt by these women, and details the multitude of mortifications they endured, both during and after their internment. Thousands of incarcerated women rioted, fought back against their oppressors, or burned their detention facilities to the ground; they jumped out of windows or scaled barbed-wire fences in order to escape. And, as Nina McCall did, they sued their captors. In an age of renewed activism surrounding healthcare, prisons, women's rights, and the power of the state, The Trials of Nina McCall is crucial reading.

KEY POINTS
• THE FIRST BOOK TO TELL THE STORY OF THE AMERICAN PLAN and detail the account of one of its survivors, as well as the plan's affects on the thousands of women wrongfully imprisoned through the 20th century.
• WILL APPEAL TO READERS OF REBECCA SKLOOT'S THE IMMORTAL LIFE OF HENRIETTA LACKS. In the same vein, Stern tells an untold history through the narrative life of Nina McCall.
• A FRESH AND NEW VOICE, budding historian and law student, Scott Stern, delves into a forgotten story with youthful insight.

AUTHOR BIO
Author Residence: Pittsburgh, PA  Author Hometown: Pittsburgh, PA
Scott Stern is a graduate of Yale University, with a BA and MA in American Studies, summa cum laude. His thesis, on the American Plan, won Yale's Norman Holmes Pearson Prize. A native of Pittsburgh, Scott is currently attending Yale Law School.

THE TRIALS OF NINA MCALL
Sex, Surveillance, and the Decades-Long Government Plan to Imprison "Promiscuous" Women
SCOTT W. STERN

BEACON PRESS
HARDCOVER
978-0-8070-4275-5
$26.95/$35.95
The Beauty Suit
How My Year of Religious Modesty Made Me a Better Feminist
Lauren Shields

ON SALE 5/15/2018

SUMMARY
In a perfect storm of capitalist consumption, appropriation of feminist ideology, and misogyny, modern Western women are compelled to look a certain way--sexy--in order to be taken seriously. They must wear what Shields calls "The Beauty Suit," and wear it perfectly, just to be seen.

But is hotness a good substitute for equal wages, being heard in the boardroom, and safety from assault? Why is pleasing the male gaze a prerequisite--or even an acceptable stand-in--for empowerment? In The Beauty Suit, Shields exposes this phenomenon for the bait-and-switch that it is and looks for alternatives. Using stories about her "modesty experiment"--for nine months, she stopped wearing make-up, donned a headscarf, and covered her arms and legs--and delving into ideas and practices of modesty in Islam, Judaism and Christianity, Shields extracts the empowering aspects of each. While fully aware that religious modesty laws are often used to constrain women, so, she demonstrates, does the contemporary Western beauty suit.

Provocative, witty, and strongly feminist, Lauren Shields encourages readers to reconsider narrow Western conceptions of what "feminism" means. She particularly holds her own tradition, Christianity, accountable for changing the conversation, encouraging the church to lead the way into a progressive future. The Beauty Suit shows us that religious modesty has much to teach us about the next stage of feminism.

KEY POINTS
• PROVOCATIVE ARGUMENT: Many feminists are deeply suspicious of arguments in favor of modesty, viewing it as a reversion to a more patriarchal era. While Shields' intent is not to condemn women for their clothing and makeup choices, her case for the feminist benefits of modesty is sure to draw condemnation and stir conversation.

• UNIQUE PLATFORM AND MESSAGE: Shields is a minister in the United Church of Christ, yet her experiment was inspired by Islam. She is a Christian and a feminist with a refreshingly unorthodox point of view.

AUTHOR BIO
Author Residence: Mountain View, CA Author Hometown: Chicago, IL
Lauren Shields is a Licensed Minister in the United Church of Christ, currently serving at Campbell United Church of Christ in Silicon Valley. A former Chaplaincy Resident at the California Pacific Medical Center, Shields studies the practical applications of faith. This is her first book.
SUMMARY

While concern about climate change has led some environmentalists to embrace renewable energy sources like wind and solar, others have expressed a renewed interest in nuclear power as an alternative source of carbon-neutral energy. But can humanity handle the risks involved?

In *Fallout*, Fred Pearce uncovers the environmental and psychological landscapes created since the dropping of the first atomic bomb. Traveling from Nevada to Japan to India to secret sites of the old Soviet Union, he explores first the landscapes transformed by uranium and by nuclear accidents (sites both well-known and little known), and then examines in detail the toxic legacies of nuclear technology, the emerging dilemmas over handling its waste, the decommissioning of the great radioactive structures of the nuclear age, and the fearful doublethink over our growing stockpiles of plutonium, the most lethal and ubiquitous product of nuclear technologies. How, Pearce asks, has the nuclear experience changed us? Is nuclear technology indeed the existential threat it sometimes appears? Should we be burdening future generations with radioactive waste that will be deadly for thousands of years?

*Fallout* is the definitive look at humanity's nuclear adventure, for any reader who craves a clear-headed examination of its risks, potential, and the tangled relationship between a powerful technology and human politics, fears, and arrogance.

KEY POINTS

- **AUTHOR IS A RENOWNED AND PROLIFIC ENVIRONMENTAL WRITER:** Pearce has written extensively on global environmental issues and was named UK Environmental Journalist of the Year in 2001, CGIAR agricultural research journalist of the year in 2002, and won a lifetime achievement award from the Association of British Science Writers in 2011
- **ILLUMINATES TRAGICALLY UNKNOWN SITES OF NUCLEAR DISASTER:** Pearce takes readers to nuclear sites that will be unfamiliar to many like Myak, Chelyabinsk, Russia; Kazakhstan; and Maralinga, South Australia
- **AN EVEN-HANDED TAKE ON THE NUCLEAR AGE:** Writers on nuclear energy are often strongly pro or con. While Pearce is highly critical of how humanity of has handled nuclear weapons and nuclear power to date, and doubts our ability to handle it safely, he also critiques the dubious claims of some anti-nuclear activists.

AUTHOR BIO

**Author Residence:** London, UK
Fred Pearce has reported on environmental, science, and development issues from eighty-five countries over the past twenty years. Environment consultant at New Scientist since 1992, he also writes regularly for the *Guardian* newspaper and Yale University’s prestigious e360 website. His many books include *The New Wild, When the Rivers Run Dry, With Speed and Violence, Confessions of an Eco-Sinner, The Coming Population Crash,* and *The Land Grabbers.*
White Fragility
Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism
Robin DiAngelo

ON SALE 6/26/2018

SUMMARY
Anti-racist educator Robin DiAngelo first coined the term "white fragility" in 2011 and since then it's been invoked by critics from Samantha Bee to Charles Blow. "White fragility" refers to the defensive moves that white people enact when challenged on race. These include emotions like anger, fear, and guilt, and behaviors such as argumentation and silence. In this book, DiAngelo will unpack white fragility, explaining the underlying sociological ideas and phenomena. She'll draw on and include examples from her work and scholarship, along with cultural examples, to address the fundamental questions: What does white fragility look like? How is it triggered? What can we do to acknowledge and move beyond it?

KEY POINTS
- FOREWORD by Michael Eric Dyson
- HOT TOPIC: After the recent presidential election, which exposed deep racial divides in the US, many are eager to understand white supremacy and racism.
- STRONG AUTHOR PROFILE: DiAngelo is a sought after speaker and consultant who has lead diversity and anti-racist training workshops for high profile organizations such as the Naval Academy, the Gates Foundation, Amazon, the YMCA, Seattle Public Schools, the City of Seattle, and MIT.
- EXPECTING BLURBS from Carol Anderson, Tim Wise, Mica Pollock, and Glen Singleton among others.

AUTHOR BIO
Robin DiAngelo is an academic, lecturer, and author working in the fields of critical discourse analysis and whiteness studies. She is a part-time lecturer at the University of Washington, and formerly served as a tenured professor of multicultural education at Westfield State University. DiAngelo has been a consultant and trainer for over 20 years on issues of racial and social justice, and her work has been cited in The New York Times, Colorlines, Salon, The Atlantic, and NPR.
Residence: Seattle, WA