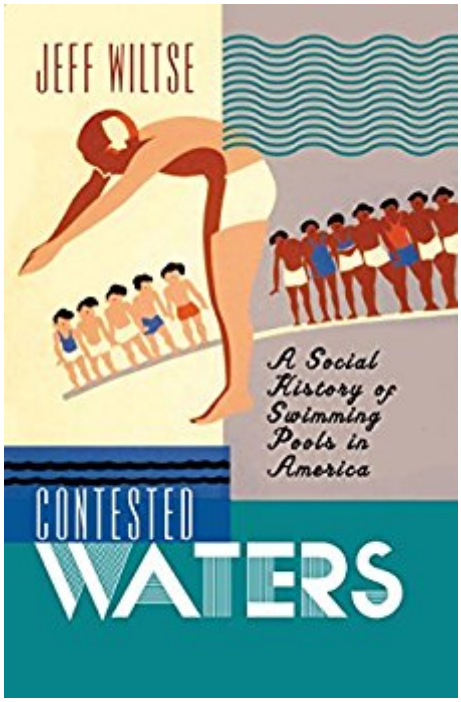
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# Contested Waters: A Social History Of Swimming Pools In America




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## Synopsis

From nineteenth-century public baths to today’s private backyard havens, swimming pools have long been a provocative symbol of American life. In this social and cultural history of swimming pools in the United States, Jeff Wiltse relates how, over the years, pools have served as asylums for the urban poor, leisure resorts for the masses, and private clubs for middle-class suburbanites. As sites of race riots, shrinking swimsuits, and conspicuous leisure, swimming pools reflect many of the tensions and transformations that have given rise to modern America.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

As a swimmer since the early 1940’s in the Washington DC area, I could relate to the segredation stories in this book. I highly recommend this unorthodox history.

This is a must read for every teen or adult that believes history is simply about boring dead white people and inconsequential dates. Can you write a "real" history book that has valid arguments about.....SWIMMING POOLS? Dr. Wiltse has caught the attention of the young people of this nation

who believed that history, real history, has to be about a President, King, or a General, and has taught us all that seemingly mundane events in the lives of common people, often overlooked, are history too!

Very informative book. Interesting and a must read--especially if you have young children who are swimmers. Important book because it provides information about the history of swimming pools --that (suprisingly) had little to do with pleasure/swimming, but rather sanitation. This book may help the parent to understand "raudy" behavior among youngsters in swimming pool settings..and may also help parents to temper that behavior in a more loving/understanding manner..given the evolution of swimming pools. ..once parents have a better understanding of the possible uses of pools and all. (a little boring in places..but overall..a great book!

Moving, shocking and inspiring. The author offers an amazing glimpse of America's historical challenges with class, gender and race through a very unusual lens. I really enjoyed how Contested Waters celebrates the innocent beauty of children of all ages playing in water while outlining the perfect storm of complex social challenges that have been a burden to this country from its beginning. This could be the catalyst of a multitude of real conversations and actions that improve American life for all its citizens. Well done.

It provides much insight into the history of pools, but this is a sad history that shows just how little progress has been made as a society.

I needed this book for school and I wanted it for personal reasons. I am glad that I finally found it. It is very informative and well written.

This was a very interesting book to read and although I initially bought it for class I think that many people would enjoy reading it.

It was sent on time and arrived in good condition - as described. When the post office seemed to have lost my book (no fault of the seller), the seller was prompt in forwarding shipping confirmation info.

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