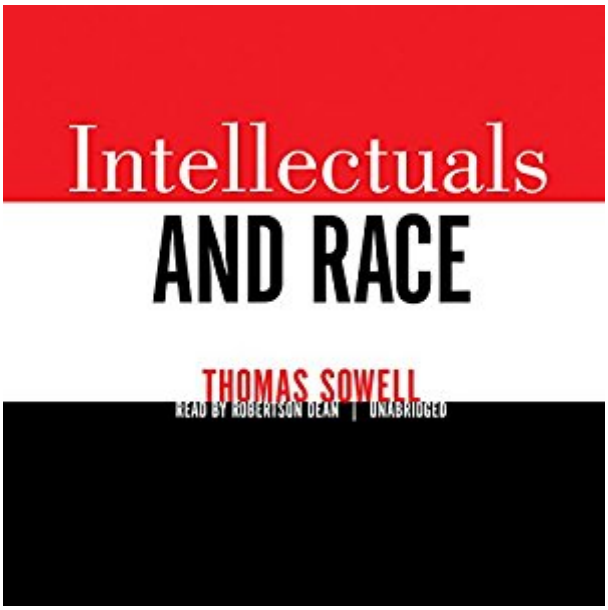
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Intellectuals And Race



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Synopsis

Intellectuals and Race is a radical book in the original sense - one that goes to the root of the problem. The role of intellectuals in racial strife is explored in an international context that puts the American experience in a wholly new light. Intellectuals have played a major role in racial issues throughout the centuries. Though their individual views may differ, as a whole their views tend to group, and just over the course of the twentieth century, they have shifted from one end of the spectrum to the other. Surprisingly, these radically different views of race were held by intellectuals whose views on other issues were often very similar. Intellectuals and Race is not, however, a book about history, even though it has much historical evidence, as well as demographic, geographic, and economic evidence - all of it directed toward testing the underlying assumptions about race that have prevailed at times among intellectuals in general, and especially at their highest levels. Nor is this simply a theoretical exercise. Sowell’s ultimate concern is the impact of intellectual movements on the larger society, both past and present. These ideas and crusades have ranged widely from racial theories of intelligence to eugenics to "social justice" and multiculturalism. In addition to in-depth examinations of these and other issues, Intellectuals and Race explores the incentives, the visions, and the rationales that drive intellectuals at the highest levels to conclusions that have often turned out to be counterproductive and even disastrous, not only for particular racial or ethnic groups but for societies as a whole.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

An excellent read. Had I known that a good portion of this book was inside "Intellectuals and

Society" then I wouldn't have bought them both at the same time. Great book nonetheless....

I purchased this out of curiosity, being a longtime Sowell reader. It more than met my expectations. Sowell, as a clear conservative and black man, has caught exactly the motivations of a lot of the actors in what he calls the "race industry" and explains how it happened and why it is a sriously negative thing for America's emerging black middle class. I especially focus on Sowell's straight from the shoulder analysis and anecdotal descriptions from his own experience about how "intellectuals" love to "lead their audiences to where angels fear to tread" and then, finding the destination disagreeable, abandon them wherever they may be at any moment. We should all remember that many of the personalities who pontificate from the "leftmedia" outlets often have little more than name recognition, and not always in the areas of expertise they pretend to represent.

Thomas Sowell always well researches his books and his arguments care clear and concise. He gives and backs up a completely logical reason to why some people are under privileged in society and provides many brief comparisons on why it has nothing to do with race (both past and present). We have to get past this BS about race and realize the truth is that culture and environment affect the adults that we become. Sowell takes what are common sense arguments and proves on an academic level why they are sound.Plus destroying the liberal/progressive agenda is always fun :D

Bad input, bad output, or so the saying goes. In this easy-to-read essay, Thomas Sowell exposes the dominant idea systems of the esteemed teachers in our colleges and universities, and lays bare their major fallacies. Essential reading for everyone who wants to examine the ideas in his or her own head regarding society and the world around us. In an era where the social contract of our forebears is being challenged and turned on its head, Sowell provides an essential head check for all of us.

Professor Thomas SOWELL, Ph.D. (AFRICAN-AMERICAN) is willing and able to write TRUTHFULLY about the INFLATED ROLE of many INTELLECTUALS, WORLD-WIDE !!!

The conventional wisdom is that minority underachievement in this country is due to racism. Thomas Sowell, a very wise Black man, discredits that belief, suggesting instead that underachievement has several other more likely causes. Because of Africa's large deserts and shallow ports, her population has had little commercial engagement, exposure to which educates to

the modern world.. In the presence of commercial life, that same population learns and achieves quite well. Indeed, African-Americans aren't the only group benefitting from commerce. Southern Italian immigrants anf those from Eastern Europe had lower IQ scores when entering this country than now, apparently due to America's commerce, demonstrating that IQ scores are highly dependent on experience, and are improvable.. .

Whether it is in studying the history and causes of disparities between racial and ethnic groups (across the world and over the course of hundreds of years), or in tracing the variously productive and counterproductive responses of intellectuals to these disparities, or in demolishing the demonstrably wrong assumptions held by American intellectuals on the subject of race (both the pre 1945 racist intellectuals and the current crop of anti racist intellectuals), every sentence of this book makes the reader better informed. I intend to obtain the larger work from which this was taken, Sowell's "Intellectuals and Society" and see what more there is to learn.

This is another deep effort to clarify "race"...and to correct the impulsive "differences" between groups as intrinsic to "race." I was greatly comforted that his book confirms my own "The Races and Solution" in Social Justice Review July/August 1998, pp 111-115. There is no projected bigoty as he analyzes study after study to clarify the bewildering variablilities which make dogmatic statements unjustifiable. His description of slavery outside the US was informative and defusing of Black Americans' fashionable victimhood. His concept of "cosmic justice" is brilliant even though it really is "social justice" accurately explained. Emphatically, the "Race Industry" is targeted with negative results as outcomes rather than increased self-responsibility, independence and freedom. The book is a kick in the seats to stop the moaning, groaning, whimpering, whining, cry baby routine and get on with Truth, Oneness, Good and Beauty. Unfortunately, from this observer's belief, Sowell, as everyone else, has not analyzed the impact of intrauterine stimuli transferred from the mothers' pregnancy experiences...which to my mind will finally explain group differences in the most pristine way. Excellent book. Compliments well, "The Victim's Revolution" by Bruce Bawer.

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