

[PDF] Race Matters: Unabridged (Audio Editions)

Cornel West - pdf download free book



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Description:

From Publishers Weekly In eight brief but powerful essays, West, director of Afro-American Studies at Princeton, delivers innovative analyses of our nation's racial dilemmas. West is insistently moral, criticizing racial hierarchy and black leaders who cannot transcend race to fight for "fundamental social change." Though he does not spare black liberals, he more harshly criticizes "new black conservatives" who in his view ignore the damaging cultural force of black sexual and military images as employed in advertisements and mass media. Exploring black-Jewish relations, he suggests that the moral voices in black America have been drowned out, and in "Black Sexuality,"

takes on what has long been considered a taboo subject. These essays, none written in the first person, can have an air of detachment: when West calls for a "politics of conversion" to fight black nihilism, his best example comes from Toni Morrison's novel *Beloved*; when he criticizes Malcolm X for having ignored the culturally hybrid character of black life, he proposes the figure of "jazz freedom fighter" as one who could "promote critical exchange and broad reflection." But West is more healing visionary than historian. These essays, most of which first appeared in such magazines as *Dissent* and *Z*, solidify his position as one of the nation's leading public intellectuals. 40,000 first printing; paperback rights to Vintage; BOMC selection; QPB featured selection; author tour. Copyright 1993 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

From School Library Journal YA-Thought-provoking essays that address a number of controversial issues of concern to African Americans. West analyzes such subjects as nihilism in black America, the crisis of black leadership, affirmative action, black-Jewish relations, sexuality, and the legacy of Malcolm X. His writing style is scholarly and sparse—he does not waste words, and his prose is easy to read. Yet his viewpoints are radical and passionately felt. He is not afraid to speak frankly and, while he presents many criticisms, he also offers many solutions. Not everyone will agree with his point of view, but if one of his objectives is to make readers at least think about the problems he has dissected, then he has succeeded admirably.

Pat Royal, Crossland High School, Camp Springs, MD

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