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White Like Me: Reflections On Race From A Privileged Son



Synopsis

With a new preface and updated chapters, *White Like Me* is one-part memoir, one-part polemical essay collection. It is a personal examination of the way in which racial privilege shapes the daily lives of white Americans in every realm: employment, education, housing, criminal justice, and elsewhere. Using stories from his own life, Tim Wise demonstrates the ways in which racism not only burdens people of color, but also benefits, in relative terms, those who are "white like him." He discusses how racial privilege can harm whites in the long run and make progressive social change less likely. He explores the ways in which whites can challenge their unjust privileges, and explains in clear and convincing language why it is in the best interest of whites themselves to do so. Using anecdotes instead of stale statistics, Wise weaves a narrative that is at once readable and yet scholarly, analytical and yet accessible.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Activist, lecturer and director of the new Association for White Anti-Racist Education (AWARE), Wise works from anecdote rather than academic argument to recount his path to greater cultural awareness in a colloquial, matter-of-fact quasi-memoir that urges white people to fight racism "for our own sake." Sparing neither family nor self, Wise recalls a racist rant his antiracist mother once delivered, racial epithets uttered by his Alzheimer's-afflicted grandmother and the "conditioning" that leads him to wonder, for a split-second, if people of color are truly qualified for their jobs. He considers how the deck has always been stacked in his and other white people's favor: his

grandmother's house, which served as collateral for a loan he needed for college, for instance, was in a neighborhood that had formerly barred blacks. Resistance to racism, Wise declares, requires support (it's better for a group to speak out against racial tracking than for one "crazy radical" to do it), and that's presumably part of what this volume means to provide. And while Wise sometimes falls victim to sweeping judgments—the act of debating racial profiling, he declares, is "white-identified," because only whites have the luxury to look at life or death issues as a battle of wits—his candor is invigorating. Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to the Audio CD edition.

"[Wise's] candor is invigorating." --Publishers Weekly "After reading Wise, white readers are energized to join the fray and reduce racism in our society." --James Loewen, bestselling author of Lies My Teacher Told Me --This text refers to the Audio CD edition.

Mr. Wise does n excellent job in shining a light on the allyship of white people in order to end racism in America.

Very imformative , gives good insight !!

Awesome book!!

Great read and very timely!

this is a great book to have on my kindle. It was for a class I was taking but I have suggested it to other people and they love it. If you are using it for a class I would be careful because the page numbers are not the same from a kindle to a paper copy. That cause some confusion with my professor. But the price was just so much better for ebook compared to paper back.

A very though provoking book. Wise brings up institutionalized racism that many whites simply do not think of.

Excellent and informative book. A must read for all races. If you care about the state of race relations in this country, this is the book for you.

Tim Wise has written an excellent book on white privilege and has done it in a way that doesn't produce existential guilt that one might expect. He is a consummate storyteller!

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