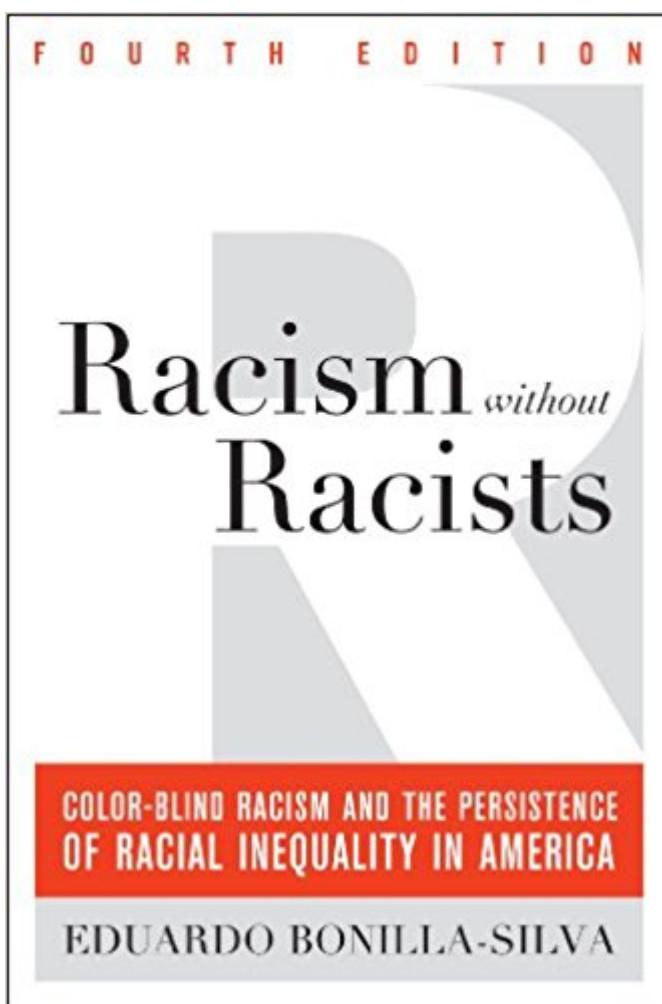


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Racism Without Racists: Color-Blind Racism And The Persistence Of Racial Inequality In America



Synopsis

Eduardo Bonilla-Silva's acclaimed *Racism without Racists* documents how, beneath our contemporary conversation about race, lies a full-blown arsenal of arguments, phrases, and stories that whites use to account for and ultimately justify racial inequalities. This provocative book explodes the belief that America is now a color-blind society. The fourth edition adds a chapter on what Bonilla-Silva calls "the new racism," which provides the essential foundation to explore issues of race and ethnicity in more depth. This edition also updates Bonilla-Silva's assessment of race in America after President Barack Obama's re-election. Obama's presidency, Bonilla-Silva argues, does not represent a sea change in race relations, but rather embodies disturbing racial trends of the past. In this fourth edition, *Racism without Racists* will continue to challenge readers and stimulate discussion about the state of race in America today.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

It was recommended by an academic friend and I was afraid it would be some kind of dry academic tome on race. Delightfully that is not the case. It is scholarly, including plenty of sources, research, and citations but it is readable and pertinent in ways that other book on the subject fall short. There are also some fresh ideas. This author posits that the very way that we view the state of affairs since the end of Jim Crow helps cover and maintain the modern way racism manifests in all of us and prevents scrutiny. Considering that we are "post racial" masks and enables a structural level of discrimination that keeps it under our own radar. An illustration might come from the recent Donald

Sterling/LA Clippers event. As Kareem Abdul Jabar and other African-Americans have pointed out: Sterling's known blatant racist behaviors have been tolerated in LA and in the NBA until this very public event caused such outrage. The public grossness of his comments allow the rest of us to feel self righteous and reassure ourselves that we are not like him. And we're not! However, we do go along ignoring people like him because it is important to believe that racism is really past and making waves cracks the denial that it is still active. Bonilla-Silva succinctly delineates the subtle (but shows it is not subtle) nature of racism such that it enables no questioning nor perception of the practices called "dog whistling" of political parties and actions by city councils or others that are influenced by racial attitudes but have real effects on decision making. I'm not doing the book justice trying to summarize the complex issues he explores and he does it so well. Lest you fear this is a polemic, complaining, victimizing work be assured that it is not.

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