

1. **Movies, Video and DVDs**

These are just some of the critically acclaimed moves and video resources that examine issues of race. Note that each represents the era in which it was made, both in treatment of the subject of race and the technology available to the film makers.

- Crash
- Eyes on the Prize (PBS documentary)
- The Loving Story (HBO documentary)
- Place Matters (Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies)
- Race, the Power of Illusion (California Newsreel)
- Roots (ABC Television based on the book by Alex Haley)
- A Time to Kill (book or movie)
- The West (PBS documentary)

2. **Books**

See the following pages for an extensive reading list. Most are available through public libraries.

SUGGESTED READING:

Books are listed alphabetically by title within the following categories. Please note that many books could be listed under different categories. Summaries have been edited for space from the source listed. Major awards are listed. Most books are available at public libraries. Several shorter publications are published, and can be read online.

- I. African-American, Arab, Asian, Caucasian, Hispanic, Jewish & Native American Issues
- II. Autobiography/Biography
- III. Civil Rights
- IV. History & Science
- V. Literature (Includes award winning fiction)
- VI. Religion
- VII. Sociology, Class and Race Relations
- VIII. Supplementary Topics

I. African-American, Arab, Asian, Caucasian, Hispanic, Jewish, and Native-American Issues

1. ***Arab and Jew: Wounded Spirits in a Promised Land.*** Shipler, David K. 1986. **(History, Ethnic Studies)** This monumental work delves into the origins of the prejudices that have been intensified by war, terrorism, and nationalism among many Israelis and Arabs, Shipler examines the process of indoctrination in schools; the effects of socioeconomic differences, historical conflicts, attitudes about the Holocaust; and people: the Arab

woman in love with a Jew, the retired Israeli military officer, the Palestinian guerilla, the handsome actor whose father is Arab and whose mother is Jewish. – Amazon Description

2. ***Black Labor, White Wealth: The Search for Power and Economic Justice.*** Anderson, Claud. 1994. **(Social Sciences)** This book is a classic, comprehensive analysis of the issues of race. It tracks slavery and Jim Crow public policies that used black labor to construct a superpower nation. It details how black people were socially engineered into the lowest level of a real life Monopoly game, which they are neither playing nor winning. The analysis offers solutions to America's race problem. – Amazon Description
3. ***Black on White: Black Writers on What It Means to Be White.*** Roediger, David. 1998. **(African American Issues)** From folktales and slave narratives to contemporary essays, poetry, and fiction, black writers have long been among America's keenest students of white consciousness and white behavior, but until now much of this writing has been ignored. ***Black on White*** reverses this trend by presenting the work of more than fifty major figures, including James Baldwin, Derrick Bell, Ralph Ellison, W.E.B. Du Bois, bell hooks, Toni Morrison, and Alice Walker to take a closer look at the many meanings of whiteness in our society. Rich in irony, artistry, passion, and common sense, these reflections on what Langston Hughes called "the ways of white folks" illustrate how whiteness as a racial identity derives its meaning not as a biological category but as a social construct designed to uphold racial inequality. - Amazon Description
4. ***Black Rage.*** Cobbs, Prince and William Grier. 1980. **(African American Issues)** The first book to examine the full range of black life from the vantage point of psychiatry, this widely acclaimed work has established itself as the classic statement of the desperation, conflicts, and anger of black life in America today. ***Black Rage*** tells of the insidious effects of the heritage of slavery; describes love, marriage, and the family; addresses the sexual myths and fears of blacks and whites; chronicles how the schools fail the black child; examines mental illness among black people and the psychic stresses engendered by discrimination; and, finally, focuses on the racial hatred that envelops the U.S., why it exists, and what will happen if it is not soon dispelled. – Amazon Description
5. ***From Beirut to Jerusalem.*** Friedman, Thomas L. 1989. **(History, Ethnic Studies)** One of the most thought-provoking books ever written about the Middle East, this book remains vital to our understanding of this volatile region. Three-time Pulitzer Prize winner Thomas L. Friedman drew upon his ten years of experience reporting from Lebanon and Israel to write this classic work. The book is rich with anecdote, history, analysis, and autobiography. Winner, 1989 National Book Award for nonfiction – Amazon Description
6. ***Black Indians: A Hidden Heritage.*** Katz, William Loren. 1986. **(Native American, African American Issues)** The author explores the little-told story of black Indians, defined here as people with dual African and Native American ancestry or African Americans who lived primarily with Native Americans. Using fascinating biographies and detailed research, Katz creates a chronology of this hidden heritage during the settlement of the American West. This book is appropriate for young adults. – Amazon Description
7. ***Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee: An Indian History of the American West.*** Brown, Dee. 1971. **(History, Native American Issues)** Recognized as one of those rare books that forever changes the way its subject is perceived, this is an eloquent and meticulously documented account of the systematic destruction of the American Indian during the second half of the 19th century. Using council records, autobiographies, and firsthand

descriptions, Brown allows great chiefs and warriors of the Dakota, Ute, Sioux, Cheyenne, and other tribes to tell us in their own words of the series of battles, massacres, and broken treaties that left them and their people demoralized and decimated. A unique and disturbing narrative told with force and clarity, this book changed forever our vision of how the West was won, and lost. – Amazon Description

8. ***The Chicano Experience: An Alternative Perspective***. Mirande, Alfredo. 1995. **(History, Social Science)** Exposing the inadequacies of the present structure for social science research on Chicanos, Mirande demonstrates how the conventional American immigrant – assimilation model, cannot apply to Chicanos. He supports his theory with a detailed examination of Chicano social history and culture that includes studies of Chicano labor; the Mexican immigrant and the U.S.-Mexico border conflict; the evolution of Chicano criminality; the American educational system and its impact on Chicano culture; the tensions between the institutional Church and Chicanos; and the myths and misconceptions of “machismo.” – Amazon Description
9. ***Custer Died for Your Sins***. Deloria, Vine. 1970. **(Native American Issues)** Each generation of whites and Indians will have to read and reread Vine Deloria’s manifesto for some time to come, before we absorb his special, ironic Indian point of view and what he tells us, with a great deal of humor, about U.S. race relations, federal bureaucracies, Christian churches, and social scientists. This book continues to be required reading for all Americans, whatever their special interest. – Amazon Description
10. ***The Choice: The Issue of Black Survival in America***. Yett, Samuel. 1971. **(History, African American Issues)** This award-winning book is now a classic in political non-fiction, used on scores of college & universities in such diverse areas as political science, economics, education, history, psychology and literature. Unprecedented documentation includes the erosion of basic human rights in a socio-economically ailing society & highly-placed attempts to liquidate an historical victim--the African-American. This book is a work of rare courage & intellectual discipline. – Google Books Description
11. ***The Color Complex: The Politics of Skin Color in a New Millennium***. Russell, Kathy. 1993. **(African American Issues)** A provocative exploration of how Western standards of beauty influence cultures across the globe and impact personal, professional, romantic and familial relationships. Processes like skin lightening in India, hair smoothing in Black America, eyelid reconstruction in China, and plastic surgery worldwide continue to rise in popularity for men and women facing discrimination. The authors have measured the impact of recent pop culture events effecting race relations to determine whether colorism has gotten better or worse over time. – Amazon Description
12. ***The Debt: What America Owes to Blacks***. Robinson, Randall. 2000. **(History, African American Issues)** Robinson argues that reclaiming the lost history of Africa and African-Americans will help provide a much-needed springboard for solving many of today's problems-from finding new leadership within the black community to developing meaningful educational programs to helping black people empower themselves economically. Robinson also argues that the United States must be prepared to make restitution to African-Americans for 246 years of slavery, and the century of de jure racial discrimination that followed, via major educational programs and economic development. Robinson offers a solution-oriented approach to controversial issues of social justice in a style that is both personal and informative. – Amazon Description

13. ***Faces at the Bottom of the Well: The Permanence of Racism.*** Bell, Derrick. 1992. **(History, African American Issues)** The noted civil rights activist uses allegory and historical example to present a radical vision of the persistence of racism in America. These essays shed light on some of the most perplexing and vexing issues of our day: affirmative action, the disparity between civil rights law and reality, the “racist outbursts” of some black leaders, the temptation toward violent retaliation, and more. – Amazon Description
14. ***In the Absence of the Sacred: The Failure of Technology and the Survival of the Indian Nations.*** Mander, Jerry. 1991. **(Native American Issues)** In this provocative work, Mander challenges the utopian promise of technological society and tracks its devastating impact on native cultures worldwide and the movement toward global environmental disaster and social disorder. Yet models for restoring our relationship with the Earth exist in the cultures of native peoples, whose values and skills have enabled them to survive centuries of invasion and exploitation. Far from creating paradise on Earth, technology has instead produced an unsustainable contest for resources with the major technologies shaping the “new world order” merging into a global mega-technology, with dire environmental and political results. – Amazon Description
15. ***Indian Givers; How the Indians of the Americas Transformed the World.*** Weatherford, Jack. 1988. **(History, Native American Issues)** After 500 years, the world's huge debt to the wisdom of the Indians of the Americas has finally been explored in all its vivid drama. Anthropologist Jack Weatherford traces the crucial contributions made by the Indians to our federal system of government, our democratic institutions, modern medicine, agriculture, architecture, and ecology, and in this astonishing, ground-breaking book takes a giant step toward recovering a true American history. – Amazon Description
16. ***The Isis Papers: The Keys to the Colors.*** Welsing, Francis Cress. 1991. **(African American Issues)** This collection of essays was written over an 18 year period provides a theoretical statement, a psychogenetic theory and world outlook on the origin and meaning of the global white supremacy system. This theory summarizes and clarifies the experience of non-white peoples on a planet dominated by people who classify themselves as 'white' and who are a minority of the world's people. – Amazon Description
17. ***Killers of the Dream.*** Smith, Lillian. 1949. **(Social Sciences)** A Southern white writer, educator, and activist, this was Lillian Smith's most influential book. She draws on memories of her childhood to describe the psychological and moral cost of the powerful, contradictory rules about sin, sex, and segregation—the intricate system of taboos—that undergirded Southern society. Published to wide controversy, it became the source (acknowledged or unacknowledged) of much of our thinking about race relations and was for many a catalyst for the civil rights movement. It remains the most courageous, insightful and eloquent critique of the pre-1960s South.— Amazon Description
18. ***Killing Rage.*** Hooks, Bell. 1995. **(History, African American Issues)** One of our country's premier cultural and social critics, Bell Hooks has always maintained that eradicating racism and sexism must go hand in hand. But whereas many women have been recognized for their writing on gender politics, the female voice has been all but locked out of the public discourse on race. *Killing Rage* speaks to this imbalance. These twenty-three essays are written from a black and feminist perspective, and they tackle the difficulties of racism by envisioning a world without it. They address a spectrum of topics

having to do with race and racism in the U.S., including the fierce anger of black people stung by repeated instances of everyday racism—finding in that rage a healing source of love and strength and a catalyst for positive change. – Barnes & Noble Description

19. ***Nisei: The Quiet Americans***. Hosokawa, Bill. 1969. **(History, Social Sciences)** This book remains an inspiring account of the original Japanese immigrants and their role in the development of the West. Hosokawa recounts the ordeals faced by the immigrant generation and their American-born offspring, the Nisei; the ill-advised government decisions that led to their uprooting during WWII; how they withstood harsh camp life; and their courageous efforts to prove their loyalty to the United States. – Amazon Description
20. ***The Psychology of Blacks: An African Centered Perspective***. White, Joseph L. 1984. **(Social Sciences, African American Studies)** This book highlights the limitations of traditional theories and approaches when applied to African descent people. It examines how the African Centered Perspective is defined, and how it operates in the context of the African American family with regard to identity development, education, mental health, research, and managing contemporary issues. It links the context of African American life to the traditions, values and spiritual essence of their African ancestors to acknowledge the African worldview and assist the African American community in addressing some of the challenges they will face in the 21st century – Barnes & Noble Description
21. ***Race Matters***. West, Cornel. 1993. **(Social Sciences, African American Issues)** Cornel West addresses a range of issues, from the crisis in black leadership and the myths surrounding black sexuality to affirmative action, the new black conservatism, and the strained relations between Jews and African Americans. He never hesitates to confront the prejudices of all his readers or wavers in his insistence that they share a common destiny. Bold in its thought and written with a redemptive passion grounded in the tradition of the African-American church, ***Race Matters*** is a book that is at once challenging and deeply healing. – Amazon Description
22. ***The Rage of a Privileged Class: Why Are Middle-Class Blacks Angry? Why Should America Care?*** Cose, Ellis. 1993. **(African American Issues)** A controversial and widely heralded look at the race-related pain and anger felt by the most respected, best educated, and wealthiest members of the black community. – Amazon Description
23. ***We Talk, You Listen***. Deloria, Vine. 1970. **(Social Sciences, Native American Issues)** This book interprets racial conflict, inflation, the ecological crisis, and power groups as symptoms rather than causes of the American malaise. American Indian tribalism, according to Deloria, was positioned to act as America's salvation. He proposes a uniquely Indian solution to the legacy of genocide, imperialism, capitalism, feudalism, and self-defeating liberalism: group identity and real community development, a kind of neo-tribalism. – Amazon Description
24. ***White Like Me: Reflections on Race from a Privileged Son***. Wise, Tim. 2007. **(Social Sciences)** Racial privilege shapes the lives of white Americans in every facet of life, from employment and education to housing and criminal justice. Using stories from his own life, Tim Wise shows that racism not only burdens people of color, but also benefits those who

are "white like him" — whether or not they're actively racist. Using stories instead of stale statistics, Wise weaves a compelling narrative that assesses the magnitude of racial privilege and is at once readable, scholarly, and accessible. – Amazon Description

II. Autobiography/Biography

1. ***The Autobiography of Malcolm X***. Haley, Alex. 1964. **(Biography, Civil Rights)** Malcolm X articulated the anger, struggle, and beliefs of African Americans in the 1960s. His Autobiography is now a classic of modern America, a book that expresses like none other the crucial truth about our times. "Extraordinary. A brilliant, painful, important book." New York – Barnes & Noble Description
2. ***Black Boy***. Wright, Richard. 1969. **(Autobiography, African American Issues)** This incredible classic is Richard Wright's unforgettable autobiography of growing up in the Jim Crow South. In this once sensational, now classic autobiography, Richard Wright tells with unforgettable fury and eloquence what he thought. – Barnes & Noble Description
3. ***The Color of Water: A Black Man's Tribute to His White Mother***. McBride, James. 1996. **(Autobiography, African American Issues)** Jordan, born Rachel Shilsky, a Polish Jew, immigrated to America soon after birth; as an adult she moved to New York City, leaving her family and faith behind in Virginia. Jordan met and married a black man, making her isolation even more profound. The book is a success story, a testament to one woman's heart, values, and will. Ruth Jordan battled racism and poverty to raise her children and, despite being tested, the story addresses racial identity with compassion, insight, and realism. It leaves you with a little more faith in us all. – Amazon Description
4. ***Days of Grace***. Ashe, Arthur and Arnold Rampersad. Alfred A Knopf, 1993. **(Autobiography)** *Days of Grace* is not a memoir but rather a collection of observations on sports, race, patriotism, sexual ethics, the individual's obligation to his family, and coping with terminal illness—in Arthur Ashe's case, AIDS contracted through a blood transfusion. This book reinforces the impression that Ashe's demise has deprived America of one of its most gifted and worthy citizens. ***Days of Grace*** is a strong statement about the importance of traditional values, individual achievement, and courage in the face of impending death. – Commentary Magazine
5. ***Farewell to Manzanar***. Houston, Jeanne and James D. 1974. **(Autobiography)** Jeanne Wakatsuki was seven years old in 1942 when her family was uprooted from their home and sent to live at Manzanar internment camp--with 10,000 other Japanese Americans. Along with towers and guards, Manzanar ludicrously featured cheerleaders, Boy Scouts, sock hops, baton twirling lessons and a dance band. This is the true story of one spirited Japanese-American family's attempt to survive the indignities of forced detention... and of a native-born American who discovered what it was like to grow up behind barbed wire in the US. – Barnes & Noble Description
6. ***From a Gnat to an Eagle: The Story of Nathan Rutstein***. Rutstein, Nathan. 2008. **(Autobiography)** The account of a remarkable man and his transformation through the

power of love, dedication, and personal spiritual development. Nathan Rutstein was raised in a home devoid of books and ran the streets with gangs. When he was admitted to college on a sports scholarship, the pursuit of justice and racial equality motivated him to study and aim for something nobler. He emerged with a deep thirst for personal spiritual growth rooted in the teachings of the Bahai Faith. Rutstein became an author, teacher, and advocate for racial equality - the dominating passion of his life. – Amazon Description

7. ***Hunger for Memory: The Education of Richard Rodriguez***. Rodriguez, Richard. 1982. **(Autobiography)** Mexican-American Richard Rodriguez, begins his schooling in Sacramento, California, knowing just 50 words of English, and concludes his university studies in the quiet of the British Museum. Here is the poignant journey of a “minority student” who pays the cost of his social assimilation and academic success with a painful alienation — from his past, his parents, his culture — and so describes the high price of “making it” in middle-class America. - Amazon/Publisher
8. ***I May Not Get There With You: The True Martin Luther King, Jr.*** Dyson, Michael. 2001. **(Biography)** King returns to us a man as radical in his view of social injustice as Malcolm X, who still won the support of the white establishment; a man dedicated to the common good, who gave in to his own appetites; a master of language and rhetoric, who "sampled" the words and ideas of others; a man who despised the unjust distribution of wealth and used its fruits to feed his own people. Dyson rescues from history a Martin Luther King, Jr. who matters today. - Barnes & Noble Description
9. ***Kaffir Boy: An Autobiography***. Mathabane, Mark. 1986. **(Autobiography)** Mark Mathabane was weaned on poverty and schooled in the streets of a South Africa's ghetto, where bloody gang wars and midnight police raids were his rites of passage. Like other children born under apartheid, he learned to measure his life in days, not years. Armed only with the courage of his family and a hard-won education, he won a scholarship to an American university. This extraordinary memoir is a triumph of the human spirit over hatred and unspeakable degradation. – Amazon Description
10. ***Latinos: A Biography of the People***. Shorris, Earl. 1992. **(Biography)** They are sometimes called the people who died twice, once at the hands of the Spaniards and their brutality, then at the hands of Anglos, practicing a subtler exploitation. They are Latinos, the fastest-growing minority in the U.S. This deeply moving narrative—enlivened by biographical sketches of Mexican Americans, Cuban Americans, Puerto Ricans, and many others struggling with the burden of a rich and terrible history—illuminates every aspect of the Latino experience in America. – Amazon Description
11. ***Life on the Color Line***. Williams, Gregory Howard. 1995. **(Autobiography, African American Issues)** The dean of the Ohio State University College of Law, tells his unusual story. Born to a white mother and a black father who passed for white, Williams was raised as white in Virginia until he was 10, when his mother left. His father brought his two sons back home to Indiana in 1954. Williams's anecdotes are a mix of pain, struggle and triumph, including a clandestine romance with a white girl whom he eventually married. Along the way the author decided, despite his appearance, he would proudly claim the black identity that white Muncie wouldn't let him forget. - Publishers Weekly
12. ***Makes Me Wanna Holler: A Young Black Man in America***. McCall, Nathan. 1994. **(Autobiography)** McCall details his violent youth in Portsmouth, Virginia, his prison

sentence, life in college and as a respected reporter for the Washington Post. To quote *Newsweek* this book provides "a riveting, first-person account of how even a bright young black man ... can be lured into a life of crime." The book underscores the power of envy, frustration, and rage in the making of a criminal--and the way those same emotions can be turned into positive, motivating forces for self-improvement. – Answers.com Description

13. ***There Are No Children Here: The Story of Two Boys Growing Up in The Other America.*** Kotlowitz, Alex. 1991. **(Biography, Social Sciences)** The devastating story of brothers Lafayette and Pharoah Rivers, children of the Chicago ghetto, is powerfully told. The author, a Wall Street Journal reporter first met the boys in 1985 when they were 10 and 7, respectively. Their family witnesses the horrors of an ill-maintained housing project tyrannized by drug gangs where murders and shootings frequently occur. The boys cope in different ways. Kotlowitz's affecting report does not have a "neat and tidy ending... It is, instead, about a beginning, the dawning of two lives." These are lives at a crossroads, not totally without hope of triumphing over their origin. – Publishers Weekly
14. ***When Chickenheads Come Home to Roost: My Life as A Hip Hop Feminist.*** Morgan, Joan. 1999. **(Autobiography, African American Issues)** This book examines the life of the modern black woman: a complex world where feminists often have not-so-clandestine affairs; where women who treasure their independence often prefer men who pick up the tab; where the deluge of baby mothers and baby fathers reminds black women, who long for marriage, that traditional nuclear families are a reality for less than 40 percent of the African-Americans; and where they are forced to make sense of a world where "truth is no longer black and white but subtle, intriguing shades of gray." – Amazon Description
15. ***White Lies: Race and the Myths of Whiteness.*** Berger, Maurice. 1999. **(Autobiography, Social Sciences)** The acclaimed work that debunks our myths and false assumptions about race in America. The author grew up hyposensitized to race in the charged environment of New York City in the sixties. His father was a Jewish liberal who worshiped Martin Luther King, Jr.; his mother a dark-skinned Sephardic Jew who hated black people. Berger himself was one of the few white kids in his Lower East Side housing project. He has become a passionate observer of race matters, searching out the subtle and not-so-subtle manifestations of racial meaning in everyday life. In *White Lies*, he encourages us to reckon with our own complex and often troubling opinions about race. The result is an uncommonly honest and affecting look at race in America today--free of cant, surprisingly entertaining, unsettled and unsettling. – Amazon Description

III. Civil Rights

Note: The subject of civil rights spans many categories. For this reason, many books dealing with civil rights are listed under other sections that reflect that books primary theme.

1. ***The Black Man and the Promise of America.*** Austin, Lettie J., Lewis H. Frederson, Sophie P. Nelson. Scott, Foresman and Company, 1970. **(History, Civil Rights)** A historical, social, and literary perspective that reveals a significant interaction of many forces in black and white human relationships. This book traces the long road of a racist

society from the ill-wrought compromises on slavery to civil disorders today. – AbeBooks.com Description

2. ***The End of Racism: Principles for a Multiracial Society.*** D'Souza, Dinesh. 1995. **(Civil Rights)** The author of the best-selling *Illiberal Education* offers a controversial challenge to the ubiquitous crusade against racism, arguing that race should not serve as the basis for public policy making. – Amazon Description
3. ***Eyes on the Prize: America's Civil Rights Years.*** Williams, Juan. 1987. **(Civil Rights, African American Issues)** This companion book to the acclaimed PBS series traces the movement from the landmark *Brown v. the Board of Education* case in 1954 to the march on Selma and the passage of the 1965 Voting Rights Act. – Amazon Description
4. ***Parting the Waters: America in the King Years, Part I 1954-63.*** Branch, Taylor. 1988. **(History, Civil Rights)** Hailed as the most masterful story ever told of the American civil rights movement, *Parting the Waters* is destined to endure. From the fiery political baptism of Martin Luther King, Jr., to the Kennedy brothers weighing demands for justice against the deceptions of J. Edgar Hoover, here is a vivid tapestry of America, torn and finally transformed by a revolutionary struggle unequalled since the Civil War. It provides an unsurpassed portrait of King's rise to greatness and illuminates the stunning courage and private conflict, the deals, maneuvers, betrayals, and rivalries that determined history behind closed doors, at boycotts and sit-ins, on bloody freedom rides, and through siege and murder. Epic in scope and impact, Branch's chronicle definitively captures one of the nation's most crucial passages. – Barnes & Noble Description

IV. History & Science

1. ***Before the Mayflower: A History of Black America.*** 5th Edition. Bennett, Lerone Fr., 1982. **(History, African-American Issues)** Traces black history from its origins in western Africa, through the transatlantic journey and slavery, the Reconstruction period, the Jim Crow era, and the civil rights movement, to life in the 1990s. – Amazon Description
Justly celebrated by readers and scholars, the Black history classic, ***Before The Mayflower***, has been called "one of the most popular single-volume histories of blacks ever written." The "Landmarks and Milestones" section consists of significant dates and events from the fourteenth century to the twenty-first century. The new section is an outline of Black history and is a handy and invaluable reference tool for students, teachers, and readers of all races and colors. – Barnes & Noble Description
2. ***Einstein on Race and Racism.*** Jerome, F & Taylor, R. 2005. **(History, African American Issues)** Primarily known for his breakthroughs in physics, and his efforts for international peace and scientific cooperation, Einstein's connection with the African American community is less well known. He spoke out vigorously against racism both in the US and around the world. Combining the scientist's letters, speeches, and articles with an engaging narrative that places his public statements in the context of his life and times, this important collection not only brings attention to Einstein's antiracist public activities, but also provides insight into antiracist struggles in America. – Amazon Description

3. ***Founding Brothers: The Revolutionary Generation.*** Ellis, Joseph. 2000. **(History/ Social Sciences)** In this landmark book, the author explores how a group of gifted but flawed individuals—Hamilton, Burr, Jefferson, Franklin, Washington, Adams, and Madison—confronted the challenges before them to set the course for our nation. The U.S. was more a fragile hope than a reality in 1790. During the decade that followed, the Founding Fathers combined the ideals of the Declaration of Independence with the content of the Constitution to create the practical workings of our government. – Amazon Description

4. ***Guns, Germs, and Steel: The Fates of Human Societies.*** Diamond, Jared. 1997 **(History, Social Sciences)** In this Pulitzer Prize winning book, Jared Diamond argues that geographical and environmental factors shaped the modern world. Societies that had had a head start in food production advanced, developed religion - as well as nasty germs and potent weapons of war - and adventured on sea and land to conquer and decimate preliterate cultures. A major advance in our understanding of human societies, *Guns, Germs, and Steel* chronicles the way that the modern world came to be and stunningly dismantles racially based theories of human history. – Amazon Description

5. ***An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States.*** Dunbar-Ortiz, Roxanne. 2014 (History) Today in the United States, there are more than five hundred federally recognized Indigenous nations comprising nearly three million people, descendants of the fifteen million Native people who once inhabited this land. The centuries-long genocidal program of the US settler-colonial regimen has largely been omitted from history. Now, for the first time, acclaimed historian and activist Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz **offers a history of the United States told from the perspective of Indigenous peoples and reveals** how Native Americans, for centuries, actively resisted expansion of the US empire. – Amazon Description

6. ***The Journey of Man: A Genetic Odyssey.*** Wells, Spencer. 2002. **(History, Social Sciences)** Around 60,000 years ago, a man-identical to us in all important respects-lived in Africa. Every person alive today is descended from him. How did this real-life Adam wind up father of us all? Why, if modern humans share a single ancestor, do we come in so many sizes, shapes, and races? Developments in the cutting-edge science of population genetics have made it possible to create a family tree for all humanity. Informed by this new science, we can trace our origins back to a single Adam and Eve, but that Eve came first by some 80,000 years. We hear how the male Y-chromosome has been used to trace the spread of humanity from Africa into Eurasia, why differing racial types emerged when mountain ranges split populations, and with absolute certainty, that Neanderthals are not our ancestors. - Princeton Press Description

7. ***Lies My Teacher Told Me: Everything Your American History Text Book Got Wrong.*** Loewen, James W. 1995. **(History)** This book explains why Americans have lost touch with their history. After surveying eighteen leading American history texts, the author concluded that none made history interesting or memorable. Marred by an embarrassing combination of blind patriotism, mindless optimism, and misinformation, these books omit almost all the ambiguity, passion, and drama from our past. Loewen explores how historical myths continue in today's climate and adds an eye-opening chapter on the lies surrounding 9/11 and the Iraq War. From the truth about Columbus's historic voyages to an honest evaluation of our national leaders, Loewen revives our history, restoring the vitality and relevance it truly possesses. Thought provoking, nonpartisan, and often shocking, Loewen unveils the real America in this classic. – Amazon Description

8. ***Martin and Malcom and America: A Dream or a Nightmare.*** Cone, James H. **(History, African American Issues)** This groundbreaking and acclaimed work examines the two most influential African-American leaders Martin Luther King, Jr., who saw America as "a dream... as yet unfulfilled," and Malcolm X who viewed America as a realized nightmare. Cone cuts through superficial assessments of King and Malcolm as polar opposites to reveal two men whose visions were moving toward convergence. – Amazon Description

9. ***The Mismeasure of Man.*** Gould, Steven Jay. W. W. Norton & Co. 2nd Edition 1996. **(Social Sciences)** When published in 1981, *The Mismeasure of Man* was immediately hailed as a masterwork, the ringing answer to those who would classify people, rank them according to their supposed genetic gifts and limits. Yet the idea of biology as destiny dies hard, as witness the attention devoted to *The Bell Curve*, whose arguments are here so effectively anticipated and thoroughly undermined. In this edition, the author has written a new introduction telling how and why he wrote the book and tracing the subsequent history of the controversy on innateness right through *The Bell Curve*. Further, he has added five essays on questions of *The Bell Curve* in particular and on race, racism, and biological determinism in general. – Amazon Description

10. ***A People's History of the United States.*** Zinn, Howard. 1980. **(History)** Known for its lively, clear prose as well as its scholarly research, *A People's History of the United States* is the only volume to tell America's story from the point of view of -- and in the words of -- America's women, factory workers, African-Americans, Native Americans, working poor, and immigrant laborers. – Amazon Description

11. ***Racism and Research: The Case of the Tuskegee Syphilis Study.*** Brandt, Allan. The Hastings Center Report, 1978. **(Science, Psychology)** In 1932 the U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS) initiated an experiment in Alabama, to determine the course of untreated syphilis in black males. The test comprised 400 syphilitic men and 200 uninfected men who served as controls. The first published report of the study appeared in 1936 with subsequent papers issued every four to six years. Penicillin was withheld once it became the preferred treatment for syphilis in the 1950s. In fact on several occasions, the USPHS actually sought to prevent treatment. Moreover, the Center for Disease Control decided in 1969 that the study should continue. Only in 1972, when accounts of the study first appeared in the national press, did the Department of Health, Education and Welfare halt the experiment. – Abstract. The Minority Health and Health Equity Archive

12. ***Rosewood: Like Judgment Day.*** D'Orso, Michael. 1996. **(History)** On New Year's Day, 1923, a white mob descended on Rosewood, Florida, burning houses, killing uncounted numbers of black men and women and driving the rest of the inhabitants away forever. For over seventy years the events in Rosewood remained buried. This book - which contains the complete text of *Like Judgment Day* as well as commentary and illustrations from the making of the Warner Bros. film by John Singleton - reveals the real story of the ruined lives, the shattered dreams, the haunting aftermath...and the ultimate hope and resilience of Rosewood's survivors. – Barnes & Noble Description

13. ***Slave-Trading in the Old South.*** Bancroft, Fredrick. J.H. Furst Company, 1931. **(History, Slavery)** Bancroft's college-level study was first published in 1931, challenging common myths about antebellum slavery. Today this classic reappears to involve new

generations of historians and students in the examination of slavery in both northern and southern states. His approach still holds much food for thought. - Midwest Book Review

14. ***Strangers From a Different Shore: A History of Asian Americans.*** Takaki, Ron. 1989. **(History)** In an extraordinary blend of narrative history, personal recollection, & oral testimony, the author presents a sweeping history of Asian Americans. He writes of the Chinese who laid tracks for the transcontinental railroad, of plantation laborers Hawaii's cane fields, of "picture brides" marrying strangers in the hope of becoming part of the American dream. He tells stories of Japanese Americans held in U.S. internment camps during World War II, Hmong refugees tragically unable to adjust to Wisconsin's alien climate & culture, & Asian American students stigmatized by the stereotype of the "model minority." This is a powerful & moving work that will resonate for all Americans, who together make up a nation of immigrants from other shores. – Amazon Description
15. ***What Every American Should Know about American History.*** Axelrod, Alan and Phillips, Charles. 2008. **(History)** This "anti-textbook" presents 225 of the most significant events in U.S. history in a refreshingly objective approach, easily browsed for short or long periods, with icons delineating every entry. A unique, accessible, enjoyable volume which explains how things turned out the way they did--in a nation forever reinventing itself. – Amazon Description
16. ***The Warmth of Other Suns.*** Wilkerson, Isabel. 2010 (History) In this epic masterwork, Pulitzer Prize-winning author Isabel Wilkerson chronicles the migration of black citizens who fled the South for northern and western cities, in search of a better life. From 1915 to 1970, this exodus of almost six million people changed the face of America. Wilkerson brilliantly captures their first treacherous and exhausting cross-country trips by car and train and their new lives in colonies that grew into ghettos, as well as how they changed these cities with southern food, faith, and culture and improved them with discipline, drive, and hard work. - Amazon Description

V. Literature (Includes award winning fiction)

1. ***The Bluest Eye.*** Morrison, Toni. 1972. Pecola Breedlove, a young black girl, prays for beauty. Mocked by other children for the dark skin, curly hair, and brown eyes that set her apart, she yearns for normalcy, for the blond hair and blue eyes that she believes will allow her to finally fit in. Yet as her dream grows more fervent, her life slowly disintegrates in the face of adversity and strife. A powerful examination of our obsession with beauty and conformity, this virtuosic novel asks powerful questions about race, class, and gender with the subtlety and grace that have always characterized Morrison's writing. (The author's first book was controversial. Her later books won National Book Critics Circle Award, the Pulitzer Prize, and the Nobel Prize) – Amazon Description
2. ***The Color Purple.*** Walker, Alice. 1982. Celie is a poor black woman whose letters tell the story of 20 years of her life, beginning at age 14 when she is being abused and raped by her father and attempting to protect her sister from the same fate, and continuing over the course of her marriage to "Mister," a brutal man who terrorizes her. Celie eventually learns that her abusive husband has been keeping her sister's letters from her and the rage she feels, combined with an example of love and independence provided by her close friend,

and awakens her creative and loving self. (Pulitzer Prize, National Book Award, the movie received 11 Oscar nominations.) – Amazon Description

3. ***Eat a Bowl of Tea***. Chu, Louis. 1961. **(Inspired the 1989 movie)** The compelling story of life in the Chinese-American community of New York City. It's pages come alive with the maneuvers of the Tong leaders, the colorful visitors to the mah-jong club house, the gossip of closely-knit Chinatown. Mei Oi's girlish dreams were of the day she might marry and go to the Golden Mountain to live. It was the dream-come true when Ben Loy arrived in her native village from the United States to take a bride. Neither seemed to care that their marriage had been arranged in advanced of their meetings by their parents. It was a marriage of tension, turmoil and frustration. – Amazon Description
4. ***To Kill a Mockingbird***. Lee, Harper. 1960. The unforgettable novel of a childhood in a sleepy Southern town and the crisis of conscience that rocked it. Compassionate, dramatic, and deeply moving, *To Kill A Mockingbird* takes readers to the roots of human behavior - to innocence and experience, kindness and cruelty, love and hatred, humor and pathos. Now with over 18 million copies in print and translated into forty languages, this story claims universal appeal and regarded as a masterpiece of American literature. (Pulitzer Prize, the movie version won two Oscars) – Amazon Description
5. ***The Kitchen God's Wife***. Tan, Amy. 1991. Winnie and Helen have kept each other's worst secrets for decades. Now, because she believes she is dying, Helen wants to tell everything. And Winnie angrily determines that she must be the one to tell her daughter, Pearl, about the past—including the terrible truth even Helen does not know. So begins Winnie's story of her life on an island near Shanghai in the 1920s, other places in China during World War II, and the happy and desperate events that led to Winnie's coming to America in 1949. (Tan has been nominated for the National Book Award, the National Book Critics Award, and received the Commonwealth Gold Award.) - Amazon Description
6. ***Mules and Men***. Hurston, Zora Neale. 1990. **(African American Issues, Social Sciences)** *Mules and Men* is the first great collection of black America's folk world. In the 1930's, Zora Neale Hurston returned to her "native village" of Eatonville, Florida to record the oral histories, sermons and songs, dating back to the time of slavery, which she remembered hearing as a child. In her quest, she found herself and her history throughout these highly metaphorical folk-tales, "big old lies," and the lyrical language of song. With this collection, Zora Neale Hurston has come to reveal and preserve a beautiful and important part of American culture. - ZoraNealHurston.com
7. ***The People Could Fly***. Hamilton, Virginia. 1985. The well-known author retells 24 black American folk tales in sure storytelling voice: animal tales, supernatural tales, fanciful and cautionary tales, and slave tales of freedom. All are beautifully readable. (Multi-award winner including ALA Notable Children's Book, Coretta Scott King Award. And School Library Journal Best Book of the Year.) – Amazon Description
8. ***So Far From God***. Castillo, Ana. 1993 *Tome* is a small, New Mexico hamlet. In Ana Castillo's hands, it stands wondrously revealed as a place of marvels, teeming with life and collisions: the past with the present, the real with the supernatural, the comic with the horrific, the Native American with the Hispano with the Anglo, the women with the men. The author relates the story of two decades in the life of a Chicana family. The mother, Sofia, holds things together in the years following the disappearance of her husband. Then there are the daughters: Esperanza, Chicana radical turned career woman; Caridad, a

nurse who dulls her pain with alcohol and anonymous sex; Fe, the prim bank employee in search of the good life; and la Loca, whose "death" and subsequent resurrection at age three have left her strange and saintly and attuned to higher spirits. The triumph is the weaving of the mundane and miraculous, the modern and archaic, and the tragic and humorous into one rich novel. It is leavened with sly commentary, controlled anger, and a distinct feminist point of view of the world and the cosmos.— Google Books Description

9. ***Their Eyes Were Watching God***. Hurston, Zora Neale. 1937. One of the most important works of 20th-century American literature, Zora Neale Hurston's classic, *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, is an enduring Southern love story sparkling with wit, beauty, and heartfelt wisdom. Told in the captivating voice of a woman who refuses to live in sorrow, bitterness, fear, or foolish romantic dreams, it is the story of fair-skinned, fiercely independent Janie Crawford, and her evolving selfhood through three marriages and a life marked by poverty, trials, and purpose. A true literary wonder, Hurston's masterwork remains as relevant and affecting today as when it was first published — perhaps the most widely read and highly regarded novel in the entire canon of African American literature. (TIME 100 Best English-language Novels from 1923 to 2005) - Barnes & Noble Description
10. ***Things Fall Apart***. Achebe, Chinua. 1959. ***Things Fall Apart*** tells two intertwining stories, both centering on Okonkwo, a "strong man" of an Ibo village in Nigeria. The first, a powerful fable of the immemorial conflict between the individual and society, traces Okonkwo's fall from grace with the tribal world. The second, as modern as the first is ancient, concerns the clash of cultures and the destruction of Okonkwo's world with the arrival of aggressive European missionaries. These perfectly harmonized dramas are informed by an awareness capable of encompassing at once the life of nature, human history, and the mysteries of the soul. (The author is a winner of the Man Booker Prize and The Medal of Honor for Literature from the National Arts Club.) – Random House Inc.

VI. Religion

1. ***America's Original Sin: A Study Guide on White Racism***. Sojourners Resource Center. 1992 (**Religion, History**) This study guide offers 53 essays and articles in 9 study sessions on the causes and consequences of racism and a vision for change from a Christian perspective. The guide is updated to include articles addressing issues raised by the riots in Los Angeles, the 25th anniversary of the legislative victories of the Civil Rights Movement, and the Columbus quincentenary. The guide argues that the founding racial crimes of the nation, extermination of the indigenous populations and slavery of Africans, are the nation's "original sins," which have theological as well as historical meanings that must be faced. The resource is structured to facilitate a study-action-reflection process for group settings with time for discussion. – Educational Resources Information Center
2. ***Black Christians - The Untold Lutheran Story***. Johnson, Eric. 1991 (**Religion, African American Issues**) The author has produced an excellent study of the myths and realities of Lutheran outreach to black communities in the New World from the mid-17th century to the present. He identifies, examines, and evaluates the various outreach methods within their own historic, economic, and social contexts. The results are well documented, thoughtfully presented, and accessible to nonhistorians. While bluntly describing the personalities and policies which failed, Johnson heartily praises the individuals and policies which succeeded. He does not encourage white guilt, but rather encourages institutional self-analyses and sensitivity. – Amazon Description from Library Journal

3. ***Black Theology, Black Power.*** Cone, James H. 1969 **(African American Issues)**
This book provided the first systematic presentation of black theology. Relating the militant struggle for liberation with the gospel message of salvation, James Cone laid the foundation for an original interpretation of Christianity that retains its urgency and challenge today. – Amazon Description
4. ***Dismantling Racism: The Continuing Challenge to White America.*** Barndt, Joseph. 1991. **(Religious, Social Sciences)** Racism has reemerged, dramatically and forcefully. All of us -- people of color and white people alike - are damaged by its debilitating effects. In this book, the author addresses the "majority," the white race in the U.S. Racism permeates the individual attitudes and behavior of white people, but even more seriously, it permeates public systems, institutions, and culture. This book does not intend to attack or to produce guilt, but its message is tough and demanding. It analyzes racism today and the ways it has changed or not changed over recent decades. Most important, the book focuses on the task of dismantling racism, how we can work to bring it to an end and build a racially just, multiracial, and multicultural society. It calls us to begin our next assault on the evil of racism and seeks freedom for all races, all people. – Amazon Description
5. ***Forgiveness: Breaking the Chain of Hate.*** Henderson, Michael. 2003. **(Social Sciences, Race Relations)** How could survivors of the Burma Road, the Siberian Gulag, or Nazi atrocities forgive those who harmed them? How can representatives of entire populations--Australian Aborigines, African Americans, and black South Africans--be reconciled with whites who exploited them? And how can the offenders find the grace to apologize? Michael Henderson writes about dozens of remarkable people of many nations and faiths who have, by repentance and forgiveness, been able to break the chain of hate through repentance and forgiveness. – Amazon Description
6. ***For My People, Black Theology and the Black Church.*** Cone, James H. **(Religious, Social Sciences)** Primarily addressing the black church and black community, Cone seeks to provide a theological interpretation of the Civil Rights movement and of other race-related issues stemming from it. –Amazon Description
7. ***God is Red.*** Deloria, Vine. 1972. **(Religious, Social Sciences)** This book remains the seminal work on Native religious views, asking new questions about our species and our ultimate fate. – Amazon Description

It details the origin, history and doctrine involved in the Indian tribal culture. These beliefs are also compared and contrasted against the beliefs of other cultures, especially those of Western Europeans and Americans. – Book Rags Summary
8. ***God of the Oppressed.*** Cone, James H. 1975. **(Religious, African American Issues)**
In his reflections on God, Jesus, suffering, and liberation, James H. Cone relates the gospel message to the experience of the black community. But a wider theme of the book is the role that social and historical context plays in framing the questions we address to God as well as the mode of the answers provided. – Amazon Description
9. ***Hidden Words.*** Bah'u'llah. U.S. BahaT Publishing Trust, 1979 (Reprint). **(Religious)** An exquisite collection of meditational verses written by Baha'u'llah, the prophet-founder of the Baha'i Faith. Baha'u'llah was born in Iran, in 1817. Like the founders of other religions, he suffered relentless persecution. In 1853 he was exiled to Iraq, and from there the penal

colony in Palestine where he died in 1892, still a prisoner. Despite almost forty years of imprisonment and exile, Baha'u'llah wrote extensively on a range of subjects, from theological and philosophical themes to social and ethical issues such as equality of the sexes, harmony of science and religion and the need for unity and a global order. The hidden words', his greatest ethical work, is perhaps best known. – Amazon Description

10. ***Just a Sister Away: A Womanist Vision of Woman's Relationships in the Bible.*** Weems, Renita. 1988. **(African American Issues, Women Studies)** Writing with African American women in mind, Renita Weems probes beneath the surface to find out how the women of Scripture felt about themselves-by looking at how they treated other women. Believing that a common thread of sacred female experiences continues to bind centuries of women, Weems offers the hope that "we are just a sister away from our healing." Each chapter includes study questions for group discussion. - Amazon Description
11. ***Racial Healing: The Institute of the Healing of Racism.*** Newkirk, Reginald & Rutstein, Nathan. 2000. **(Religious)** Ever since 1988, the grassroots movement called the Institutes for the Healing of Racism has been spreading, working to heal the scourge of racism. This book sets forth the philosophy, psychology, and format on which the Institutes are based. A must-read for those who are tired of platitudes and placation, who want to find a real and lasting solution to the problem of racism. – Amazon Description
12. ***A Return to Love.*** Williamson, Marianne. 1992. **(Religious, Psychology)** Williamson reveals how we each can become a miracle worker by accepting God and by the expression of love in our daily lives. Whether psychic pain is in the area of relationships, career, or health, she shows us how love is a potent force, the key to inner peace, and how by practicing love we can make our own lives more fulfilling while creating a more peaceful and loving world for our children. – Amazon Description
13. ***Strength to Love.*** King, Jr., Martin Luther. 1963. **(Religious, Civil Rights)** In these short meditative and sermonic pieces, some of them composed in jails and all of them crafted during the tumultuous years of the Civil Rights struggle, Dr. King articulated and espoused in a deeply personal compelling way his commitment to justice and to the intellectual, moral, and spiritual conversion that makes his work as much a blueprint today for Christian discipleship as it was then. Coretta Scott King has written, "If there is one book Martin Luther King, Jr. has written that people consistently tell me has changed their lives, it is ***Strength to Love.*** - Amazon Description
14. ***Troubling Biblical Waters: Race, Class and Family.*** Felder, Cain Hope. 1995. **(Religious, Social Sciences)** A comprehensive and challenging look at the significance of the Bible for blacks, and the importance of blacks in the Bible. "Timely... serious and creative." - The Catholic Journal.
15. ***White Woman's Christ, Black Woman's Jesus.*** Grant. Jacqueline. 1989. **(Religious, Social Sciences)** Christology is especially problematic for feminists. Because Jesus was undeniably male and because the Christian church claims him as the unique God-bearer, feminist Christology confronts the dual tasks of explaining the significance of a male God-bearer for women and creating a Christological model adequate to feminist experience. Jacquelyn Grant rehearses the development and challenges of feminist Christology and argues that, because it has reflected the experience of White women predominantly, it fails to speak to the concerns of non-white and non-western women. In response to this failure,

Grant proposes a womanist theology and Christology that emerge from and are adequate to the reality of contemporary Black women. – Amazon Description

16. ***The Wolf Shall Dwell with the Lamb.*** Law, Eric. 1993. **(Religious)** "Uses a combination of theology and cultural anthropology to explore why people of certain cultures--most notably whites of Northern European origin--tend to dominate in multicultural situations, driving those of other races and ethnic groups to silent rage or outright rebellion" - Google Books, From publisher's description.

VII. Sociology, Class and Race Relations

1. ***All Rise: Somebodies, Nobodies, and the Politics of Dignity.*** Fuller, Robert. Berrett-Koehler Publishers; Annotated edition. 2006 **(Social Science)** This is the sequel to *Somebodies and Nobodies*. The author further explores the costs of this problem and counters it with the vision of a "dignitarian" society. Drawing on his experiences as a scientist, college president, and public diplomat, Fuller identifies rankism as the chief obstacle to achieving the American vision of liberty and justice for all -- and he spells out the steps required to eradicate it. Beginning with a call to action, the author exposes what is at stake by demonstrating rankism's poisonous presence in politics, business, and personal relationships. He offers alternative dignitarian models for parts of society, including education, healthcare, politics, and religion. – Amazon Description
2. ***Amazing Grace: The Lives of Children and the Conscience of a Nation.*** Kozol, Jonathan. 1991. **(Social Science/ African American Issues)** The classic book on life and death in the South Bronx—the poorest urban neighborhood of the U.S. with overcrowded schools, dysfunctional hospitals, and rat-infested homes where families have been ravaged by depression, anxiety, drug-related violence, and the spread of AIDS. Kozol also introduces us to devoted teachers, dedicated ministers, and—at the heart and center of the book—courageous and delightful children – who defy the stereotypes of urban youth too often shown by the media. Tender, generous, and often religiously devout, they speak with eloquence and honesty about the poverty and racial isolation that have wounded but not hardened them. Amidst all of the despair, it is the very young whose luminous capacity for love and transcendent sense of faith in human decency give reason for hope. – Barnes and Noble Description
3. ***Black and White Styles in Conflict.*** Kochman, Thomas. 1981. **(Social Sciences, Anthropology)** This book explores and reconstructs the cultural factors that shape the patterns and attitudes that blacks and whites bring to the communications situation. Ramifications of black and white conflict arising from differences in style are suggested, especially in the context of the schoolroom and workplace, where the consequences of different cultural patterns, perspectives, and values determine not only the quality of black and white social interaction but black social and economic success. – Educational Resources Information Center Abstract
4. ***Blaming the Victim.*** Ryan, William. 1972. **(Social Sciences)** The classic work that refutes the lies we tell ourselves about race, poverty and the poor. Here are three myths about poverty in America:– Minority children perform poorly in school because they are “culturally deprived.”– African-Americans are handicapped by a family structure that is typically unstable and matriarchal. – Poor people suffer from bad health because of ignorance and lack of interest in proper health care. **Blaming the Victim** was the first

book to identify these truisms as part of the system of denial that Americans have constructed around the unpalatable realities of race and class. Originally published in 1970, William Ryan's groundbreaking and exhaustively researched work challenges both liberal and conservative assumptions, serving up a devastating critique of the mindset that causes us to blame the poor for their poverty and the powerless for their powerlessness. More than twenty years later, it is even more meaningful for its diagnosis of the psychic underpinnings of racial and social injustice. – Amazon Description

5. ***Blind Spot: Hidden Biases of Good People.*** Banaji, Mahzarin and Greenwald, Anthony. 2013. **(Social Sciences)** These leading psychologists challenge our self-perceptions as they explore the hidden biases we all carry from a lifetime of exposure to cultural attitudes about age, gender, race, ethnicity, religion, social class, sexuality, disability status, and nationality. The authors reveal hidden biases based on their experience with the Implicit Association Test, a method that has revolutionized the way scientists learn about the human mind and that gives us a glimpse into what lies within the metaphoric blindspot. The aim of *Blindspot* is to explain the science in plain enough language to help well-intentioned people gain awareness, so we can adapt beliefs and behavior so we can be fairer to those around us. Venturing into this book is an invitation to understand our own minds. Brilliant, authoritative, and utterly accessible, *Blindspot* is a book that will challenge and change readers for years to come. – Amazon Description
6. ***A Class Divided: Then and Now.*** Peters, William. 1970. **(History, Social Sciences)** The classic work that refutes the lies we tell ourselves about race, poverty and the poor. Here are three myths about poverty in America:— Minority children perform poorly in school because they are “culturally deprived.”— African-Americans are handicapped by a family structure that is typically unstable and matriarchal. — Poor people suffer from bad health because of ignorance and lack of interest in proper health care. **Blaming the Victim** was the first book to identify these truisms as part of the system of denial that even the best-intentioned Americans have constructed around the unpalatable realities of race and class. Ryan's groundbreaking and exhaustively researched work challenges both liberal and conservative assumptions, serving up a devastating critique of the mindset that causes us to blame the poor for their poverty and the powerless for their powerlessness. More than twenty years later, it is even more meaningful for its diagnosis of the psychic underpinnings of racial and social injustice. – Amazon Description
7. ***Confederacy of Silence: A True Tale of the New Old South.*** Rubin, Richard. 2002. **(Social Sciences)** When Richard Rubin, fresh out of the Ivy League, accepts a job at a newspaper in Greenwood, Mississippi, he is thrust into a place as different from his hometown of New York as any in the country. Yet to his surprise, he is warmly welcomed by the townspeople and soon finds his first great scoop in Handy Campbell, a poor, black teen and gifted high school quarterback who goes on to win a spot on Mississippi State's team -- a training ground for the NFL. Six years later, Rubin, back in New York, learns that Handy is locked up in Greenwood, accused of capital murder. Returning south to cover the trial, Rubin follows the trail that took Handy from the football field to jail. As the best and worst elements of Mississippi rise up to do battle over one man's fate, Rubin must confront his own unresolved feelings about the confederacy of silence that enabled him to thrive in Greenwood but ultimately forced him to leave it. – Google Books Description
8. ***Crisis in Black and White.*** Siberman, Charles. 1964. **(Social Sciences)** This book explores the nation's long history of racial oppression and its dire effects on the economic, social and educational prospects of 20th-century blacks. The book spent nine weeks on

the New York Times best-seller list. Reviewing it, Time magazine wrote that Mr. Silberman “marches in no-nonsense fashion to a number of hard truths that are not meant to comfort or console.” Mr. Silberman was a writer and editor at Fortune magazine, and went on to publish two other books that took on some of the most highly charged issues of the day: “Crisis in the Classroom: The Remaking of American Education” (1970) and “Criminal Violence, Criminal Justice” (1978). – New York Times

9. ***Dog Whistle Politics***. Lopez, Ian Haney. 2014. **(Social Sciences)** The author offers a sweeping account of how politicians and plutocrats deploy veiled racial appeals to persuade white voters to support policies that favor the extremely rich yet threaten their own interests. Dog whistle appeals generate middle-class enthusiasm for political candidates who promise to crack down on crime, curb undocumented immigration, and protect the heartland against Islamic infiltration, but ultimately vote to slash taxes for the rich, give corporations regulatory control over industry and financial markets, and aggressively curtail social services. White voters, convinced by powerful interests that minorities are their true enemies, fail to see the connection between the political agendas they support and the surging wealth inequality that takes an increasing toll on their lives. – Amazon Description
10. ***Enter the River: Healing Steps from White Privilege Toward Racial Reconciliation***. Shearer, Jody Miller. 1994. **(Religious, Social Sciences)** Jody Miller Shearer explores definitions of prejudice and racism, the different effects of racism on white people and people of color, affirmative action, and many other issues. – Amazon Description
11. ***The First R - How Children Learn Race and Racism***. Van Ausdale, Debra, & Feagin. 2001. **(Social Sciences)** This book examines how young children learn about race and racism, using data from a study of children in a racially/ethnically diverse day care. It explores child development theories and how they relate to racial/ethnic concepts, defining negative identities and the social significance of skin color, using racial/ethnic ideas to exclude and include, ideas about others' racial/ethnic origins, producing learning social rules and identity roles, and contexts of racism and what teachers, parents, and researchers can do – Educational Research Information Center
12. ***Ghettoside: A True Story of Murder in America***. Leovy, Jill. 2015. Here is the kaleidoscopic story of the quintessential, but mostly ignored, American murder—a “ghettoside” killing, one young black man slaying another—and a brilliant and driven cadre of detectives whose creed is to pursue justice for forgotten victims at all costs. *Ghettoside* is a fast-paced narrative of a devastating crime, an intimate portrait of detectives and a community bonded in tragedy, and a surprising new lens into the great subject of why murder happens in our cities—and how the epidemic of killings might yet be stopped. – Amazon Description
13. ***Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption***. Stephenson, Bryan. 2014. Bryan Stevenson was a young lawyer when he founded the Equal Justice Initiative, a legal practice dedicated to defending those most desperate and in need: the poor, the wrongly condemned, and women and children trapped in the farthest reaches of our criminal justice system. One of his first cases was that of Walter McMillian, a young man who was sentenced to die for a notorious murder he insisted he didn't commit. The case drew Bryan into a tangle of conspiracy, political machination, and legal brinkmanship—and transformed his understanding of mercy and justice forever. *Just Mercy* is at once an unforgettable account of an idealistic, gifted young lawyer's coming of age, a moving

window into the lives of those he has defended, and an inspiring argument for compassion in the pursuit of true justice. – Amazon Description

14. ***La Vida: A Puerto Rican Family in the Culture of Poverty--San Juan and New York.*** Lewis, Oscar. 1966. **(National Book Award Non-fiction)** Oscar Lewis was a cultural anthropologist whose work documented the lives of the world's poor. He developed a hypothesis called the "culture of poverty" which held that the poor in modern nations live within a distinct subculture that transcends national boundaries and separates the poor from the broader societies in which they live. ***La Vida*** examined an extended Puerto Rican family living in San Juan and New York City. The book was a landmark work in the War on Poverty debates, as well as the debate about the relationship of Puerto Rico to the United States. The culture of poverty, in vogue in the late 1950s and most of the 1960s, was by 1968 under attack. Scholars and the public retreated from it. Although the culture of poverty may be flawed, Lewis's work remains vital to understanding poverty in modern societies. – Udini Proquest (Abstract by Steven Dike)

15. ***Money: Who Has How Much and Why.*** Hacker, Andrew. 1997. **(Social Sciences)** Described by Newsweek as "a political scientist doing with statistics what Fred Astaire did with hats, canes, and chairs...he makes them live and breathe," Andrew Hacker provides a comprehensive portrayal of income and wealth in American society. Combining keen insight with a flair for bringing a human dimension to facts and figures, Hacker shows how the changing economy affects our lives. His clear-eyed analysis illuminates the real results of women's fight for salary parity, the impact of affirmative action on the income of minorities; the effect immigration has on the job market, and more. - Amazon.com Review

16. ***The Nature of Prejudice.*** Allport, Gordon. 1979. **(Social Sciences)** Harvard psychologist Gordon Allport organized a mass of research to produce a landmark study on the nature of prejudice. First published in 1954, *The Nature of Prejudice* remains the standard work on discrimination. This edition has a new introduction by Kenneth Clark of Columbia University and a new preface by Thomas Pettigrew of Harvard University. Allport's comprehensive work examines all aspects of this problem: its roots in individual and social psychology, its varieties of expression, its impact on the individuals and communities. He explores all kinds of prejudice-racial, religious, ethnic, economic and sexual-and offers suggestions for reducing the effects of discrimination. – Amazon Description

17. ***The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness.*** Alexander, Michelle. 2012 ed. Once in a great while a book comes along that changes the way we see the world and helps to fuel a nationwide social movement. *The New Jim Crow* is such a book. Praised by Harvard Law professor Lani Guinier as "brave and bold," this book directly challenges the notion that the election of Barack Obama signals a new era of colorblindness. With dazzling candor, legal scholar Michelle Alexander argues that "we have not ended racial caste in America; we have merely redesigned it." By targeting black men through the War on Drugs and decimating communities of color, the U.S. criminal justice system functions as a contemporary system of racial control—relegating millions to a permanent second-class status—even as it formally adheres to the principle of colorblindness. In the words of Benjamin Todd Jealous, president and CEO of the NAACP, this book is a "call to action." – Amazon Description

18. ***Prejudice and Your Child.*** Clark, Kenneth. 1986. **(Social Sciences, Psychology)** The first section of this book analyzes factors which contribute to white and negro children's

racial attitudes. A second section discusses how parents, schools, churches, and social agencies can thwart racial prejudices in the child. An appendix discusses the legal background of various school desegregation cases, the role of the social sciences in desegregation, and the consequences of segregation and desegregation. The 1954 Supreme Court School Desegregation Opinion is also appended. – Educational Resources Information Center Abstract

19. ***Race: How Blacks and Whites Think and Feel About the American Obsession.*** Terkel, Studs. 1992. **(History, Ethnic Studies)** In a rare and revealing look how at how people in America truly feel about race, Terkel brings out the full complexity of the thoughts and emotions of both blacks and whites, uncovering a fascinating narrative of changing opinions. Preachers and street punks, college students and Klansmen, interracial couples, the nephew of the founder of apartheid, and Emmett Till's mother are among those whose voices appear in *Race*. Nearly one hundred Americans talk openly about attitudes that few are willing to admit in public: feelings about affirmative action, gentrification, secret prejudices, and dashed hopes. The result is a riveting and deeply moving - and frequently provocative - look at our country. – Amazon Description
20. ***Racing to Justice: Transforming our Conceptions of Self and Other to Build an Inclusive Society.*** powell, john (sic). 2014. **(Civil Rights, Religion, Social Sciences)** Renowned social justice advocate john a. powell (sic) persuasively argues that we have not achieved a post-racial society and that there is much work to do to redeem the American promise of inclusive democracy. Culled from a decade of writing about social justice and spirituality, these meditations on race, identity, and social policy provide an outline for laying claim to our shared humanity and a way toward healing ourselves and securing our future. *Racing to Justice* challenges us to replace attitudes and institutions that promote and perpetuate social suffering with those that foster relationships and a way of being that transcends disconnection and separation. – Amazon Description
21. ***Somebodies and Nobodies: Overcoming the Abuse of Rank.*** Fuller, Robert. 2004. **(Social Sciences)** When discrimination is race-based, we call it racism; when it's gender-based, we call it sexism. *Somebodies and Nobodies* introduces rank-based discrimination - or "rankism" - a form of injustice that everyone knows, but no one sees. It explains our reluctance to confront rankism, shows where analyses based on identity fall short and, using dozens of examples, traces many forms of injustice and unfairness to rankism. – Amazon Description
22. ***Two Nations: Black and White, Separate Hostile, Unequal.*** Hacker, Andrew. 1992. **(Social Sciences, Race Relations)** Why, despite continued efforts to increase understanding and expand opportunities, do black and white Americans still lead separate lives, continually marked by tension and hostility? In his much-lauded classic, newly updated to reflect the changing realities of race in our nation, Hacker explains the origins and meaning of racism and clarifies the conflicting theories of equality and inferiority. He paints a stark picture of racial inequality in America -- focusing on family life, education, income, and employment -- and explores the current controversies over politics, crime, and the causes of the gap between the races. – Amazon Description
23. ***Why Are All The Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?*** Tatum, Beverly Daniel. 1997. **(Social Sciences)** Walk into any racially mixed high school and you will see black youth seated together in the cafeteria. Of course, it's not just the black kids sitting together-the white, Latino, Asian Pacific, and, in some regions, American Indian youth are

clustered in their own groups, too. The same phenomenon can be observed in colleges, faculty lounges, and corporate cafeterias. Is this self-segregation a problem we should try to fix, or a coping strategy we should support? How can we get past our reluctance to talk about racial issues to even discuss it? And what about all the other questions we and our children have about race? Beverly Daniel Tatum, a renowned authority on the psychology of racism, asserts that we do not know how to talk about our racial differences. Using real-life examples and the latest research, Tatum presents strong evidence that straight talk about our racial identities - whatever they may be - is essential if we are serious about facilitating communication across racial and ethnic divides. This remarkable book, infused with great wisdom and humanity, has already helped hundreds of thousands of readers figure out where to start. – Amazon Description

24. ***Women, Race and Class***. Davis, Angela. 1983. **(Women Studies)** A powerful study of the women's movement in the U.S. from abolitionist days to the present that demonstrates how it has always been hampered by the racist and classist biases of its leaders. - Amazon Description

VIII. RELATED ISSUES:

1. ***Dialogue: The Art of Thinking Together***. Isaacs, William. 1999. **(Leadership, Communication)** This book provides practical guidelines for one of the essential elements of true partnership--learning how to talk together in honest and effective ways. It reveals how problems between managers and employees, and between companies or divisions within a larger corporation, stem from an inability to conduct a successful dialogue. - Amazon Description.

