



Revealing Whiteness: The Unconscious Habits of Racial Privilege

Shannon Sullivan

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"[A] lucid discussion of race that does not sell out the black experience." --Tommy Lott, author of The Invention of Race

Revealing Whiteness explores how white privilege operates as an unseen, invisible, and unquestioned norm in society today. In this personal and selfsearching book, Shannon Sullivan interrogates her own whiteness and how being white has affected her. By looking closely at the subtleties of white domination, she issues a call for other white people to own up to their unspoken privilege and confront environments that condone or perpetuate it. Sullivan's theorizing about race and privilege draws on American pragmatism, psychology, race theory, and feminist thought. As it articulates a way to live beyond the barriers that white privilege has created, this book offers readers a clear and honest confrontation with a trenchant and vexing concern.

Revealing Whiteness: The Unconscious Habits of Racial Privilege Details

Date : Published March 1st 2006 by Indiana University Press (first published January 1st 2006)

ISBN : 9780253218483

Author : Shannon Sullivan

Format : Paperback 264 pages

Genre : Race, Nonfiction, Philosophy, Sociology, Politics



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Douglas says

As the author of a book on race and racism, I am very happy to say that Sullivan's work here is the first book on "white privilege" that takes the critical exploration of this phenomenon to new depths. Most treatments of white privilege remain at the level of the advantages white people have by virtue of their membership in the dominant cultural and racial group. Sullivan moves in an entirely different direction, eschewing this surface approach and focusing on white privilege as both sociocultural and individual habit whose roots are buried deep in personal and group consciousness. One particular strength of her analysis is the engagement with the subterranean geography of consciousness, i.e., the subconscious and unconscious moorings of white privilege. Readers of this book will find the discussion of the ontology of racial privilege to be rich and deeply suggestive for assessment of the relationships and cultural spaces white people inhabit.

Liz says

A little heavy on the philosophy side but every dominant culture person (wasp) should read this... great.
