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Race, Crime, And The Law

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In this powerfully reasoned, lucidly written work, Harvard Law Professor Randall Kennedy takes on the highly complex issues of race, crime, and the legal system, uncovering the long-standing failure of the justice system to protect blacks from criminals and revealing difficult truths about these factors in the United States.

**Book Information**

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**Customer Reviews**

As a graduate student in criminal justice - I find it enjoyable to read subjects that directly impact my course of studies and my profession. Race, Crime and the Law is one of the few books that I would STRONGLY recommend to every criminal justice, sociology and law student. In fact, I would recommend this book to anyone concerned with the current state of race relations within the United States. Kennedy’s style and in your face writing is powerful and persuasive. This book is not written in the typical, arrogant style of many professors. Instead Kennedy writes this book for the masses.

There is a reason why Kennedy’s book has become a "must read" among law professors. Kennedy’s impeccable personal and academic credentials bring terrific power to his very original work. The most remarkable part: Kennedy’s arguments are principled and balanced. No one will (or should) be able to write about these issues again without having to grapple with Kennedy’s arguments.
Kennedy does an amazing job describing the disparities that exist and existed throughout legal history. Kennedy provides specific cases for each point and makes the reader think analytically. Bought the book for my criminal justice course but I kept it because I enjoyed it so much! Highly recommend this book for people interested in historical and legal literature!

This lucid work of Kennedy’s is a comprehensive and beautifully written examination of race and its relation to the criminal justice system and the law. Kennedy’s arguments are superb, and he supports everything that he says with hard evidence, leaving his sound biases and premises the only things left to be considered. Kennedy is, even in this last matter, careful to make this book an exploration rather than a persuasion, and while he does make arguments and try to persuade the reader, he does not condemn his opposition and he certainly does not limit the scope of his thinking in any way possibly detrimental to the flow of ideas.

1st & foremost, this is the BEST book i’ve read in a long time. Kennedy achieves what Gates & West do NOT ... an intelligent discourse on important issues currently facing racial minorities that is rooted in fact. he offers facts & precedent to support his opinions, views & hypothesis ... as opposed to rhetoric supported by rhetoric. the book dissect the historical perversion of criminal justice/law enforcement to perpetuate the oppression of racial minorities. then it uses this historical context/premise to draw a picture of the current state of the relationship/role of the criminal justice system & law enforcement in minority communities. The book has brilliant sections on racial profiling, the war on drugs and the death penalty. each of these issues are dissected from a viewpoint of the critical legal issues ... and Kennedy finds time to interject his own opinion, SUPPORTED BY FACTS. Kennedy presents his material in a logical & organized manner ... but not always concise. although i’m not a lawyer, it felt very much like a legal brief at times ... but it was still easy to read.... highly, highly recommended, although it is a bit thick.

Great read! Mr. Kennedy has done a wonderful job of teaching how the criminal justice system works against black people. It has been a gem for my Blacks and Criminal Justice class.

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