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The Idea Of Race (Hackett Publishing Co.)



Synopsis

A survey of the historical development of the idea of race, this anthology offers pre-twentieth century theories about the concept of race, classic twentieth century sources reiterating and contesting ideas of race as scientific, and several philosophically relevant essays that discuss the issues presented. A general Introduction gives an overview of the readings. Headnotes introduce each selection. Includes suggested further readings.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Robert Bernasconi is Moss Professor of Philosophy, University of Memphis. Tommy L. Lott is Professor of Philosophy, San Jose State University.

Shipping was good, but not the best, but overall amazing sellwr, as well as, great priduxtion that matched to the definition. I will be buying from this seller again, thus I recommend buying from this seller.

This book was nice, it was used for a college course, but it provides some insight to race.

I was so pleased with the book, and it got here just in time for my class. I recommend it to anyone who wants to read a mind stimulating book.

Whew. There are some truly life changing, mind-blowing, and revolutionary essays in the book. I bought it for a Philosophy of Race class, and I will keep it forever. I continuously refer back to it in conversations, and in my writing. Everyone should buy this book, and read from it. It has a great selection of foundational race thinkers, writers, and philosophers. This book contains essays spanning the race spectrum, and coming from many different view points. This is a fantastic starting point for those just entering the race discussion, and an excellent reference for anyone wishing to remain in the discussion. Can't recommend it highly enough.

Co-editor Robert L. Bernasconi (born 1950) is Professor of Philosophy at Pennsylvania State University, and was formerly at the University of Memphis. Tommy Lee Lott (born 1946) is Professor Philosophy at San Jose State University. They state in the Introduction to this 2000 collection of writings, "This anthology brings together some of the texts important for a critical study of the historical formation of the concept of race... The focus of this volume is the theorizing of race, not racism, but the two cannot readily be separated." Here are some quotations from the book: "The fact that Herder rejected Kant's notion of race suggests that the frequent tendency to identify Herder as one of the main sources for the racial ideology of National Socialism at the same time that Kant's cosmopolitanism is proposed as the antidote needs further scrutiny." (Pg. ix) VOLTAIRE: "(N)egro men and women, being transported into the coldest countries, constantly produce animals of their own species; and that mulattoes are only a bastard race of black men and white women, or white men and black women, as asses, specifically different from horses, produce mules by copulating with mares." (Pg. 5-6) KANT: "In short, all of these factors account for the origin of the Negro, who is well-suited to his climate, namely strong, fleshy, and agile. However, because he is so amply supplied by his motherland, he is also lazy, indolent, and dawdling." (Pg. 17) HEGEL: "Negroes are to be regarded as a race of children who remain immersed in their state of uninterested naivete... They do not quite attain to the feeling of human personality, their mentality is quite dormant, remaining sunk within itself and making no progress, and thus corresponding to the compact, defenceless mass of the African continent." (Pg. 40-41)

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