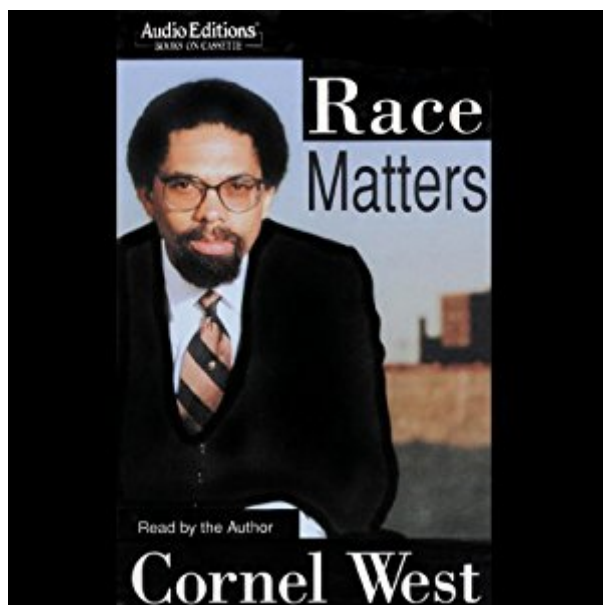


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# Race Matters



## Synopsis

The fundamental litmus test for American democracy-its economy, government, criminal justice system, education, mass media, and culture-remains: how broad and intense are the arbitrary powers used and deployed against black people. In this sense, the problem of the twenty-first century remains the problem of the color line. --from the new PrefaceFirst published in 1993 on the one-year anniversary of the L.A. riots, *Race Matters* was a national best-seller, and it has since become a groundbreaking classic on race in America. *Race Matters* contains West's most powerful essays on the issues relevant to black Americans today: despair, black conservatism, black-Jewish relations, myths about black sexuality, the crisis in leadership in the black community, and the legacy of Malcolm X. And the insights that he brings to these complicated problems remain fresh, exciting, creative, and compassionate. Now more than ever, *Race Matters* is a book for all Americans, as it helps us to build a genuine multiracial democracy in the new millennium. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

As a passenger in a car speeding toward disaster, West gives nervous but intelligent instructions as he tries to grab the steering wheel. With a voice intelligent and packed to the temples with the facts of events and markers of history, he leaves the reader feeling both the rapid exhaust of his thought and the decompression of racial futures. Maybe we have a shot at freedom without each other, but I doubt it. We can but only if we love ourselves without shame and respect each other.

My interest in this book came from a sociology class and a literature course I had in college around the time the book was published. I graduated years ago and cherish my memory of discussions and lectures in both. One of my favorite lecturers at that time was an ambassador to South Africa and I hope to someday attend a lecture by Cornel West. I hope to be prepared by reading this and his wonderful memoir. I enjoyed his memoir more as it is celebration and far less clinical.

A very interesting look at race relations and race issues from the perspective of the black person. This is certainly not the only book I have read on this topic, but West really goes into a lot of detail in a short piece. Excellent work.

Great and informative book a must read for any political science students

This is a very book to read, I highly recommend

The problem with books like this is from the time of when it was conceived because race relations between Afro-Americans and Neo-Europeans have improved greatly due to the different issues that threaten us all. Of course this country is steeped in racial hatred and bigotry for those who are not of White/European ethnicity but people of color are more accepted now more than ever, a trend that I don't see decreasing. Having said that, my issue with this book is that for me, it seems that Dr. West is talking from a political background rather than a real personal one. He talks about things more in a stats and figures term than something that is really personal. I am sure the book was a break through for its time, especially for folks at Moorehouse College but for me, with a title, "Race Matters" I expected more.

nice

Cornel West,, the Best.

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