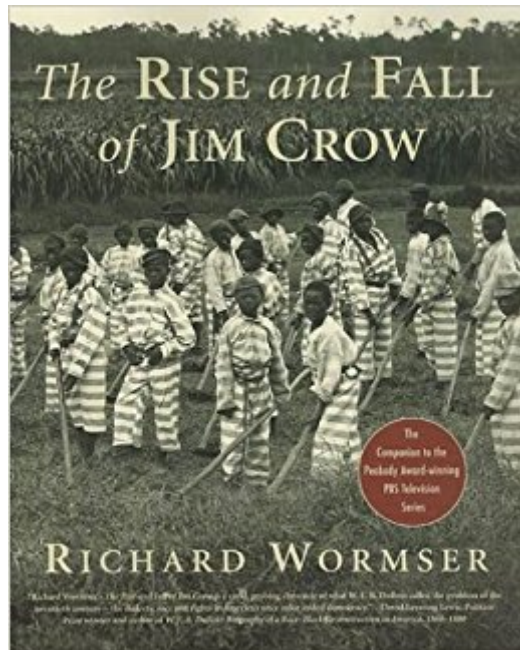


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The Rise And Fall Of Jim Crow



Synopsis

From Reconstruction to the Civil Rights Movement, African Americans fought the status quo, acquiring education and land, and building businesses, churches and communities, despite laws designed to segregate, terrorize, and disenfranchise them. White supremacy prevailed, but did not destroy the spirit of the black community. Richard Wormser has been working on this important documentary for seven years. *Worse Than Slavery* will incorporate historical commentary and oral history along with more than 100 images, bringing the brutality and courage of the African American struggle for equality to life. Beginning with the period from 1865 to 1896, the book covers the end of the Civil War and Reconstruction, periods that held so much promise for black men and women. What followed was the dramatic rise of a successful black middle class and the determination of white supremacists to destroy this fledgling black political power. The years between World Wars I and II (1918 to 1954) produced a period of black activism that ultimately resulted in the Brown vs. Board of Education decision which desegregated public schools. The book not only tells the stories of leaders like W.E.B. Du Bois and Booker T. Washington, but also portrays ordinary people who accomplished extraordinary things, bearing witness to the determination and strength of their forebears.

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Customer Reviews

In light of recent Congressional turmoil, this measured, and sometimes chilling, guide to the PBS series of the same name could not be more timely. Wormser, a television producer and writer,

provides an illuminating, succinct history of racial discrimination in the U.S., especially in the South. The book begins in 1865 at the end of the Civil War and concludes in 1954 with *Brown v. Board of Education* and the integration of public schools. To emphasize the tremendous obstacles African-Americans had to face in the U.S.-lynchings, substandard schools, chain gangs, low or no pay-Wormser uses personal narratives of slaves and freeman as well as the work of iconic African-American figures, such as Booker T. Washington, W.E.B. Du Bois, Ida B. Wells and Thurgood Marshall. Likewise, the positions of middle-class and well-known white segregationists-Strom Thurmond, the KKK, Andrew Johnson-are also documented. Wormser concludes that, "though Jim Crow is no longer codified in the laws, and the racial climate has decidedly improved, white supremacy is still a vital part of the American psyche." A stark account of race politics in America, this book provides an indispensable backdrop for understanding the present political scene, especially for younger readers. Songs and 80 b&w photos. Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Jim Crow, a minstrel caricature of a black man created to amuse whites and humiliate blacks, became the symbol of post-Civil War segregation. It also became the symbol against which blacks struggled in pursuit of full rights of citizenship. In this companion book to the PBS series of the same name, Wormer, coproducer of the series, provides text and pictorial overview of the shameful history of Jim Crow practices in the U.S. The book includes more than 100 images and graphics, with historical commentary and eyewitness accounts. The focus is on the efforts of black leaders, including W. E. B. DuBois, Booker T. Washington, and the nascent NAACP, to eliminate the discriminatory practices of law and custom in the U.S. While usually associated with the South, the North had its own Jim Crow customs, not as onerous or as heavily enforced, but as pernicious in their intent to separate the races and secure white privilege. This is a powerful look at a shameful chapter in American history and heroic efforts to end Jim Crow's career. Vernon Ford Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

The period of Reconstruction is much, much more than the story of former slaves, however one of the core themes of Reconstruction is the withdrawal of Union troops by President Hayes and the subsequent implementation of Jim Crow in the late 19th century and early 20 century South. This is a shameful, compelling story of physical violence, wilful denial of voting rights, and subjugation of former slaves to the lowest economic levels of society. Even FDR was indifferent to the lynching

problems in the South, in the greater interest of not antagonizing the Southern Democrats. But thankfully Eleanor R. had the generosity and understanding of the situation to constantly hound her husband into paying attention. This is an excellent coffee table book, and more.

Excellent insight into the Jim Crow era in the South, an important, understudied and incredibly sad chapter in America's history. The book helped me understand the cultural, economic and political aspects of a long and complex era that continues to tarnish our claim to be a nation devoted to individual freedom and dignity. I believe echoes of Jim Crow are still with us today making this work not only fascinating history, but unfortunately relevant in the present day.

Learned so much that I did not know. High School should cover some of this but they don't.

A quick read that gives a precise and concise account of Jim Crow laws. Good pictures littered across the book.

I love my history....Which is World History! Awesome book....Sam Jones

This book absolutely breaks my heart. The total disregard of human life. It astonishes me that this country is still standing with all the turmoil and violence that has filled the fields and streets of this country. I wonder, where did I grow up to not know the history of my part of the country or this nation. How could we hide such horrible secrets and act like they did not happen? I got a very narrow education growing up. I have worked to broaden my education. I have bought quite a few books to teach myself about American history. I have only begun to tap the deep secretive barrel of southern history.

received as promised

I lived in Gary when I was a child and I saw first hand how hard it was for negroes (what they were called at that time) were treated. We whites were generally bused to the better schools and the Negroes lived in the areas that had assisted living for families. When desegregation was applied to our areas, we learned a great deal about the life and history of a black person. My only contention is how little the blacks have done for themselves. They live in a reasonable area and tear it up by turning into a slum. Then they turn on the police when their children are given guns to supposedly

protect themselves. Sorry but we have police in the area to protect our citizens not to have to protect themselves. The worse part of all is whenever there's trouble Al Sharpton and his daughter turn up. Then they leave when there is no long any money to make. Why do you think they don't stay around? Because they're super rich and they wouldn't be there unless there's money for them. The African people have to wake up and smell the coffee. They have a great history, go back and be proud of where they came from and do better for themselves.

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