

Race and Social Problems

Restructuring Inequality

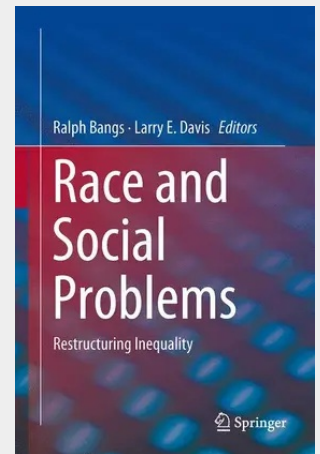
As much as Americans believe in the promise of an egalitarian, color-blind society, the reality is far from that ideal. People of color consistently lag behind their white counterparts in key quality-of-life areas. Despite many significant gains, widespread structural inequalities continue to exist and thrive.

Race and Social Problems takes the long view of this state of affairs, offering both multi-level analysis and a practical blueprint for social justice. It begins by explaining how race-related social problems have changed over the decades. This volume identifies factors contributing to their persistence in this century, most notably the central role of economic disparities in exacerbating related social problems and replicating them for future generations. The chapters expand on this knowledge by detailing innovative and successful strategies for addressing aspects of six major areas of inequality:

- Poverty: challenging standard American concepts of poverty.
- Education: approaches toward closing the achievement gap.
- Intergroup relations: enhancing race dialogues.
- Family and lifespan: programs targeting families, youth, and elderly.
- Criminal justice: reducing incarceration and increasing public safety.
- Health and mental health: promoting positive outcomes.

Race and Social Problems casts a wide net across the most pressing social issues, clarifying both the immediate and larger tasks ahead for a range of professionals in such diverse fields as social work, anthropology, communications, criminology, economics, history, law, political science, psychology, public health, and sociology.

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