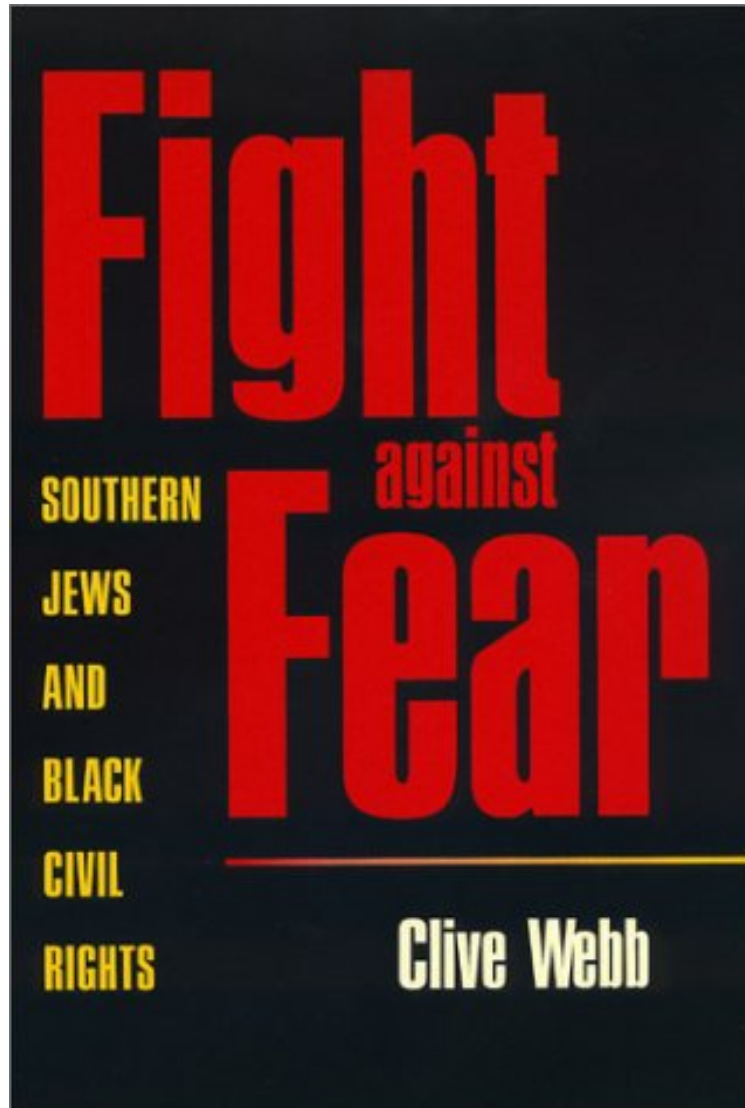


(Library ebook) Fight against Fear: Southern Jews and Black Civil Rights

## Fight against Fear: Southern Jews and Black Civil Rights

*Clive Webb*

*\*Download PDF / ePub / DOC / audiobook / ebooks*



 Download

 Read Online

#4445020 in Books University of Georgia Press 2001-04-23Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 .94 x 6.28 x 9.30l, #File Name: 0820322687328 pages | File size: 17.Mb

**Clive Webb : Fight against Fear: Southern Jews and Black Civil Rights** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Fight against Fear: Southern Jews and Black Civil Rights:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Fight Against Fear tells an important story of the various ...By Stephen HorblittFight Against Fear tells an important story of the various actions, reactions, and positions of Jewish Americans in the South. It sheds light on an important, yet neglected aspect of the Civil Rights movement. Also, it provides vivid insight into the choices people face and make when under threat , hovering between mere tolerance and exclusion and even physical danger. It is a story, in some cases of courageous activism in some cases, behind the

scenes quiet diplomacy, and in others the triumph of fear and in a few cases identification with and support of racial oppression. Students of the Civil Rights movement and those who study behavior in conflict situations should have this book in their library!4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Beyond the Black/White ParadigmBy A CustomerEvery University and college library in the United States should have a copy of this important book. Building off of the pioneering work of scholars such as Leonard Dinnerstein and Mark Bauman, Clive Webb's *Fight Against Fear* is a major contribution to our understanding of both Jewish history and race relations in the United States. His footnotes and bibliography reveal an immense amount of research. He has visited at least twenty archives in numerous states. His analysis is as impressive as his research. Throughout the text, he portrays Jews in the South in all of their complexity. Some were outright racists who defended segregation vociferously. Others were brave citizens who fought for black civil rights even in the face of terrorism and personal danger. Still others negotiated a delicate balance between both extremes because of their uncertain place within the Southern social order. Southern Jewish life during the Civil Rights movement has never been so fully and so richly portrayed. This nuanced portrait also helps expand our understanding of race in the United States. Historians of the American South have longed envisioned their region in black and white. Professor Webb reveals that ethnicity among "whites" is an important category of analysis below the Mason-Dixon line. Those interested in Jewish history, the American South, and race relations in the twentieth century will want to buy this book.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Beyond the Black/White ParadigmBy A CustomerEvery University and college library in the United States should have a copy of this important book. Building off of the pioneering work of scholars such as Leonard Dinnerstein and Mark Bauman, Clive Webb's *Fight Against Fear* is a major contribution to our understanding of both Jewish history and race relations in the United States. His footnotes and bibliography reveal an immense amount of research. He has visited at least twenty archives in numerous states. His analysis is as impressive as his research. Throughout the text, he portrays Jews in the South in all of their complexity. Some were outright racists who defended segregation vociferously. Others were brave citizens who fought for black civil rights even in the face of terrorism and personal danger. Still others negotiated a delicate balance between both extremes because of their uncertain place within the Southern social order. Southern Jewish life during the Civil Rights movement has never been so fully and so richly portrayed. This nuanced portrait also helps expand our understanding of race in the United States. Historians of the American South have longed envisioned their region in black and white. Professor Webb reveals that ethnicity among "whites" is an important category of analysis below the Mason-Dixon line. Those interested in Jewish history, the American South, and race relations in the twentieth century will want to buy this book.

In the uneasily shared history of Jews and blacks in America, the struggle for civil rights in the South may be the least understood episode. *Fight against Fear* is the first book to focus on Jews and African Americans in that remarkable place and time. Mindful of both communities' precarious and contradictory standings in the South, Clive Webb tells a complex story of resistance and complicity, conviction and apathy. Webb begins by ranging over the experiences of southern Jews up to the eve of the civil rights movement--from antebellum slaveowners to refugees who fled Hitler's Europe only to arrive in the Jim Crow South. He then shows how the historical burden of ambivalence between Jews and blacks weighed on such issues as school desegregation, the white massive resistance movement, and business boycotts and sit-ins. As many Jews grappled as never before with the ways they had become--and yet never could become--southerners, their empathy with African Americans translated into scattered, individual actions rather than any large-scale, organized alliance between the two groups. The reasons for this are clear, Webb says, once we get past the notion that the choices of the much larger, less conservative, and urban-centered Jewish populations of the North define those of all American Jews. To understand Jews in the South we must look at their particular circumstances: their small numbers and wide distribution, denominational rifts, and well-founded anxiety over defying racial and class customs set by the region's white Protestant majority. For better or worse, we continue to define the history of Jews and blacks in America by its flash points. By setting aside emotions and shallow perceptions, *Fight against Fear* takes a substantial step toward giving these two communities the more open and evenhanded consideration their shared experiences demand.

"In this volume, Webb continues the revision process with the most important book on the subject and a must read for anyone interested in multiple areas of research. . . . Webb offer[s] outstanding additions to the literature and point[s] the way for future research."--Mark K. Bauman, *American Historical*