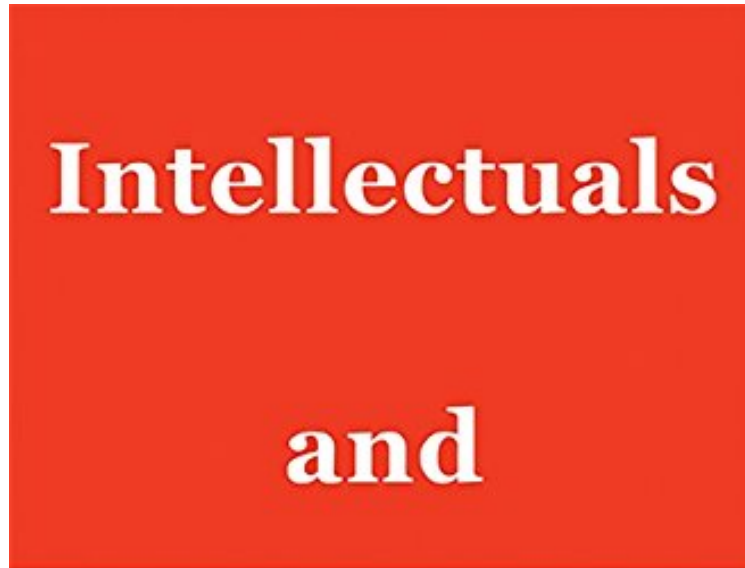


Intellectuals and Race

Thomas Sowell

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#132126 in Books Thomas Sowell 2013-03-12 2013-03-12 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.50 x .75 x 6.251, .80 #File Name: 0465058728192 pages Intellectuals and Race | File size: 76.Mb

Thomas Sowell : Intellectuals and Race before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Intellectuals and Race:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Must readBy G-MIThis book will totally change your perspective on current discussions relating to the issue of race.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Painful Diagnosis is Often Necessary to Cure the DiseaseBy Peter C StimesDr. Sowell's insights may be very challenging and painful to those who fancy themselves the "moral" or "self-certain" elites. His diagnostic scalpel lances the preconceptions of the

intelligentsia that have festered in pseudo-scientific form: in the first half of the 20th century blaming the minority and, in the second half blaming the majority. After reading this book, all I could think of is the drunk who fell off his horse and, then determined not to repeat his mistake, overreacts and falls off the other side of the horse. Such are the so-called experts on race in the USA. A conscientious reading of Dr. Sowell, and the painful duty of clear thinking to which he calls us, are the only basis for riding the horse without falling off at all. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Sowell thinks outside the box! By Suz I am enjoying Sowell's book on Intellectuals and Race very much - it stretches my mind as he regularly upsets commonly held beliefs with facts that won't budge. The same data in other locales can't mean what we have been told it means. Sowell shows how holding back certain information skews the tracking numbers, giving official info that is not accurate, which has the effect of changing our perceptions very inaccurately, I have learned.

Intellectuals and Race is a radical book in the original sense of one that goes to the root of the problem. The role of intellectuals in racial strife is explored in an international context that puts the American experience in a wholly new light. The views of individual intellectuals have spanned the spectrum, but the views of intellectuals as a whole have tended to cluster. Indeed, these views have clustered at one end of the spectrum in the early twentieth century and then clustered at the opposite end of the spectrum in the late twentieth century. Moreover, these radically different views of race in these two eras were held by intellectuals whose views on other issues were very similar in both eras. *Intellectuals and Race* is not, however, a book about history, even though it has much historical evidence, as well as demographic, geographic, economic and statistical evidence-- all of it directed toward testing the underlying assumptions about race that have prevailed at times among intellectuals in general, and especially intellectuals at the highest levels. Nor is this simply a theoretical exercise. The impact of intellectuals' ideas and crusades on the larger society, both past and present, is the ultimate concern. These ideas and crusades have ranged widely from racial theories of intelligence to eugenics to "social justice" and multiculturalism. In addition to in-depth examinations of these and other issues, *Intellectuals and Race* explores the incentives, the visions and the rationales that drive intellectuals at the highest levels to conclusions that have often turned out to be counterproductive and even disastrous, not only for particular racial or ethnic groups, but for societies as a whole.

From Booklist Lamenting the tendency toward one-dimensional analysis of race status in the U.S., Sowell explores the various perspectives that intellectuals have brought to race on how racial groups have affected and been effected by the sociopolitics of their era. He analyzes the early twentieth-century notions of genetic determination, or biology as destiny, which evolved into the eugenics movement and the foundation of Nazism, and he juxtaposes this with the late twentieth-century intellectual assessment of discrimination as the dominant cause of race status. Sowell digs beneath the intellectual arguments to offer more nuanced and complex consideration of attitudes on race and racism. For example, he notes that white project dwellers in Britain "act out" in ways similar to those of black American ghetto dwellers and that, at the turn of the twentieth century, black northerners were not segregated until the arrival of southern black migrants, whom they criticized nearly as much as whites did. Through myriad other observations, Sowell analyzes the significance of class in perspectives on race and considers how intellectuals themselves are driven to their positions. --Vernon Ford Pittsburgh Tribune- "Sowell brings an all-too-rare perspective to whatever he writes about — that of a conservative black intellectual, especially valuable for this book's topic." New American "After reading Dr. Thomas Sowell's latest book, *Intellectuals and Race*, one cannot emerge with much respect for the reasoning powers of intellectuals, particularly academics, on matters of race. There's so much faulty logic and downright dishonesty." Mona Charen, Creator's Syndicate "I plunged into Thomas Sowell's latest book, *Intellectuals and Race*, immediately upon its arrival, but soon realized that I needed to slow down. Many writers express a few ideas with a great cataract of words. Sowell is the opposite. Every sentence contains at least one insight or fascinating statistic — frequently more than one."