

“And don’t call *me* a racist!”

**A treasury of quotes
on the past, present, and future
of the color line in America**

SELECTED AND ARRANGED BY Ella Mazel

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Rose, Arnold, 17

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Rowan, Carl T., 6, 14, 20, 38, 42, 45, 68, 76, 83, 87, 129

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Rubin, Abraham, 145

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Russwurm, John B., 67

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Sealey, Kelvin Shawn, Ed., 9, 113

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Segal, George J., 145

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Sergeant, Elizabeth Shepley, 73

1927: *Fire Under the Andes: A Group of North American Portraits*

Shipler, David K., 7, 11, 133

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Silberman, Charles E., 139

1964: *Crisis in Black and White*

Smith, Lillian, 25, 26, 46, 47, 56, 69, 81, 144, 147

1949, 1961, 1994: *Killers of the Dream*

Sniderman, Paul M., 119

1993: *The Scar of Race*, with Thomas Piazza

Staples, Robert, 121, 125

1993: *The Illusion of Racial Equality: The Black American Dilemma* [in EARLY]

Stevens, Hope R., 91, 93, 94

1965: Paul Robeson—Democracy's Most Powerful Voice, *Freedomways*, Summer

Stevenson, Norma, 4

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Swaffer, Hannen, 92

1929: *Hannen Swaffer's Who's Who*

- Tatum, Beverly Daniel**, 130, 141
 1998: Speech on Martin Luther King, Jr., birthday, quoted in Art Ballou, "Dream needs diligence, not denial," *Lexington Minuteman*, Jan. 22
 1998: Quoted in Erin Burnette, "Talking openly about race thwarts racism in children," *APA Monitor*, American Psychological Association, May 3
- Terkel, Studs**, 25
 1992: *Race: How Blacks and Whites Think and Feel About the American Obsession*
- Terry, Peggy**, 18, 53
 1992: Interview in TERKEL
- Thernstrom, Abigail**, 119
 1998: Quoted in Steven A. Holmes, "For Affirmative Action, Two Improbable Foes," *New York Times*, Jan. 10
- Thomas, Alexander, M.D.**, 10, 14, 26, 31, 32, 33, 69, 77, 83, 112, 127
 1972: *Racism and Psychiatry*, with Samuel Sillen
- Thurman, Little Dovie**, 18
 1992: Interview in TERKEL
- Tucker, John**, 16, 142
 1997: Quoted in *Facing the Challenge*, Haymarket People's Fund Annual Report, 1995-1996
- Van Evrie, John H.**, 31
 1853: *Negroes and Negro "Slavery": The First an Inferior Race: The Latter Its Normal Condition* [in FELDSTEIN]
- Vivian, C. T.**, 14
 1992: Interview in TERKEL
- von Hoffman, Constantine**, 59
 1997: "Where the Toys Are," *Boston Magazine*, December
- Walton, Anthony**, 7, 70
 1993: *Patriots* [in EARLY]
- Washington, Booker T.**, 37
 1895: Address at Cotton States and International Exposition, Atlanta, Georgia, September [in BRODERICK AND MEIER]
 1899: *The Future of the American Negro* [in BRODERICK AND MEIER]
- Washington, William**, 88
 1997: "Accept It, America: There Is an 'I' in Tennis," *New York Times*, Sept. 14
- Wattleton, Faye**, 66
 1996: *Life on the Line*
- Werner, Fred**, 104
 1992: Interview in TERKEL
- West, Cornel**, 6, 14, 17, 20, 25, 38, 70, 76, 77, 79, 82, 83, 102, 112, 118, 122, 123, 135, 141, 144
 1993: *Race Matters*
 1994: Epilogue, *Race Matters*
 1997: *Restoring Hope: Conversations on the Future of Black America*, edited by Kelvin Shawn Sealey
- Wicker, Tom**, 97
 1996: *Tragic Failure: Racial Integration in America*
- Wilkins, Roger**, 25, 82, 134, 137
 1982: *A Man's Life: An Autobiography*
 1998: Race Initiative Outreach Meeting, The White House, Jan. 12
- Williams, Armstrong**, 80, 146
 1997: "Stopping the Hate," *The American Legion Magazine*, September
- Williams, Patricia**, xi, 26, 32, 33, 66, 74, 98, 104, 128, 142
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- Williams, Robert F.**, 111
 1964: U.S.A.: The Potential of a Minority Revolution [in ADOFF]
- Winfrey, Oprah**, 43, 51, 80, 81, 134, 138, 142, 146
 1998: The Oprah Winfrey Show, January 19
- Winter, William F.**, 7, 103
 1997: Quoted in Steven A. Holmes, "Scholar Takes on His Toughest Study of Race," *New York Times*, Sept. 28
- Wolfe, Alan**, 6, 8, 46, 133, 143
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- Wollstonecraft, Mary**, 10
 1792: *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman*
- Woolcott, Alexander**, 92, 93
 1934: *While Rome Burns*
- Young, Andrew**, xi, 14, 26, 51, 52, 53, 54, 57, 58, 71, 75, 81, 101, 106, 113, 116, 118, 138, 147
 1996: *An Easy Burden: The Civil Rights Movement and the Transformation of America*
- Young, Whitney M., Jr.**, 58
 1964: Statement before Ad Hoc Subcommittee on The War on Poverty Program, Committee on Education and Labor, House of Representatives, Apr. 14 [in BRODERICK AND MEIER]

The VOICES: About the people who are quoted

PLEASE NOTE: Individuals are identified as of the time they wrote or spoke the quoted material.

- Abdul-Jabbar, Kareem**, formerly Lew Alcindor, UCLA honor student, basketball star
- Ali, Muhammad**, formerly Cassius Clay, champion boxer, world peace activist
- Allport, Gordon**, psychology professor, Harvard U.
- Alter, Jonathan**, senior editor and columnist, *Newsweek*
- Anderson, Marian**, renowned contralto, first black to sing at Metropolitan Opera [1897-1993]
- Anderson, Michael**, editor at *The New York Times Book Review*
- Angelou, Maya**, dancer, actress, poet
- Asante, Molefi Kete**, Professor and Chairperson, Department of African American Studies, Temple U., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- Ashe, Arthur**, tennis champion and activist, died of transfusion-related AIDS [1943-1993]
- Axelrod, Alan**, writer, editor, public historian
- Baldwin, James**, award-winning author of fiction and non-fiction [1924-1987]
- Ball, Edward**, author, *Slaves in the Family*
- Bancroft, Hubert Howe**, New England historian
- Beals, Melba Patillo**, communications consultant
- Beatty, D. J.**, student, U. of Akron
- Belafonte, Harry**, singer, social activist
- Bell, Derrick**, Visiting Professor, New York U. Law School
- Benét, Stephen Vincent**, poet, author of *John Brown's Body*, Pulitzer Prize-winning narrative poem [1898-1943]
- Bennett, Lerone, Jr.**, social historian, managing editor, *Ebony Magazine*
- Bierce, Ambrose**, author, journalist, satirist, disappeared in Mexico [1842-ca.1914]
- Bloom, Julius** (no information available)
- Bloustein, Edward J.**, president, Rutgers U.
- Bond, Julian**, civil rights activist, history professor at U. of Virginia and American U., Chairman, NAACP National Board of Directors
- Boyle, Sarah Patton**, Virginian, activist for integration
- Brishen, Quinn**, retired high-school teacher
- Brown, Ivor**, London theater critic
- Brown, Lloyd L.**, journalist, editor, author, close friend and associate of Paul Robeson
- Bruce, Henry Clay**, former slave
- Bullard, Sara**, editor, *Teaching Tolerance*, Southern Poverty Law Center
- Burnette, Erin**, staff reporter, *APA Monitor*
- Burnham, Margaret**, civil rights attorney, former judge
- Campbell, Will D.**, self-styled "bootleg preacher," graduate of Yale Divinity School
- Capraro, Jim**, executive director, Greater Southwest Development Corporation, Chicago
- Carmichael, Stokeley**, active in Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee and "Black Power" movement, later changed name to Kwame Ture [1941-1998]
- Carnesale, Albert**, Chancellor, U. of California, Los Angeles
- Carter, Stephen L.**, William Nelson Cromwell Professor of Law at Yale U.
- Cartwright, Samuel**, physician
- Chavez-Thompson, Linda**, executive vice-president A.F.L.-C.I.O., member President Clinton's Initiative on Race and Reconciliation
- Chisholm, Shirley**, first black Congresswoman, served seven terms, from 1968 to 1982 [1924-2005]
- Clark, Kenneth B.**, psychologist and social scientist, director, Social Dynamics Research Institute, City College of New York
- Cleaver, Eldridge**, reformed criminal, Black Panther leader, radical activist [1935-1998]
- Clinton, Bill [William Jefferson]**, President of the United States
- Clinton, Hillary Rodham**, First Lady of the United States
- Coleman, Wanda**, poet and novelist
- Connerly, Ward**, member, Board of Regents, U. of California
- Cose, Ellis**, contributing editor, *Newsweek*
- Cowley, W. H.**, president, Hamilton College
- Crockett, George W.**, Congressman from Michigan
- Cuney-Hare, Maud**, writer, musicologist [1874-1936]
- Cuomo, Andrew**, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development
- Dalton, Harlon L.**, Professor, Yale Law School
- Davis, Ossie**, actor, playwright, activist, married to actor/activist Ruby Dee [1917-2005]

- Davis, Sammy, Jr.**, all-around entertainer [1925-1990]
- Delany, Bessie**, second black woman dentist in New York [1891-1995]
- Delany, Sadie**, first black to teach domestic science in New York high schools [1889-1999]
- Delphin, Renee**, Yale undergraduate
- DeMott, Benjamin**, writer, teacher, cultural critic
- Devillers, Chester**, retired mayor pro tem, Darien, McIntosh County, Georgia
- Douglas, James**, music critic, London Daily Express
- Douglass, Frederick**, escaped slave and self-taught reader and orator, powerful force in abolitionist movement [1817-1895]
- Du Bois, W.E.B.**, Harvard graduate, writer, activist, professor of sociology, economics and history, a founder of NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) and editor of *Crisis* [1868-1963]
- Dunford, Judith**, freelance writer, reviewer
- Dyson, Michael Eric**, professor, Communication Studies, U. of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
- Early, Gerald**, author, Director, Department of African-American Studies, Washington U.
- Edelman, Rob**, writer on film and baseball
- Edley, Christopher, Jr.**, Professor, Harvard Law School
- Edwards, Audrey**, editor, *Essence* magazine
- Eliot, T. S.**, poet, critic, playwright, 1948 Nobel Prize for Literature [1888-1965]
- Falkner, David**, author, *The Last Yankee*
- Farmer, James**, civil rights activist, founder of CORE (Congress of Racial Equality)
- Fitzhugh, George**, Virginia lawyer, writer and lecturer in defense of slavery [1804-1881]
- Flood, Curt**, All-Star baseball player, broke trading system, [1938-1997]
- Foner, Philip S.**, teacher, historian, author and editor of numerous books on American, African-American, women's, and labor history [1910-1994]
- Ford, Clyde W.**, press secretary and executive board member, Northern Puget Sound branch, NAACP
- Forman, James**, former Executive Secretary, Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), former official, Black Panther Party [1928-2005]
- Fowler, Pastor Ronald**, minister in Akron, Ohio
- Franklin, John Hope**, James B. Duke Professor Emeritus of History and former Professor of Legal History, Law School at Duke U., chairman, President Clinton's Initiative on Race and Reconciliation
- Freeman, Carol**, executive secretary to chancellor, City College of Chicago
- Gates, Henry Louis, Jr.**, W.E.B. Du Bois Professor of the Humanities and chairman, Afro-American Studies Department, Harvard U.
- Gibara, Samir**, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company
- Gibson, Althea**, first black tennis champion at U.S. Open and Wimbledon
- Gilman, Sander L.**, Professor of German Literature, Cornell U., Professor of Psychiatry, Cornell Medical College
- Giovanni, Nikki**, poet, professor of English, Virginia Technical College
- Glasser, Ira**, executive director, American Civil Liberties Union
- Gore, Al**, Vice President of the United States
- Graham, Lawrence Otis**, president, Progressive Management Associates, White Plains, N.Y.
- Greene, Melissa Faye**, Atlanta journalist, author, *The Temple Bombing*
- Greenhouse, Linda**, reporter, *New York Times*
- Griffey, Ken Sr.**, long-time major league baseball player, seeking managerial position
- Griffin, John Howard**, student of literature, medicine, music, philosophy, and intercultural communication, author of *Black Like Me*, and many other works of fiction and non-fiction
- Guinier, Lani**, law professor, U. of Pennsylvania
- Gutierrez, Joe**, union representative, former steel worker
- Hacker, Andrew**, professor of political science at Queens College, New York City
- Halsey, Margaret**, best-selling humorous author in the 1930s (*With Malice Toward Some*), became concerned about black/white relations when working in canteen for servicemen during World War II
- Hamilton, Charles V.**, expert on civil rights and constitutional law, writer and activist
- Hammerstein, Oscar, II**, librettist and lyricist [1895-1960]
- Hammond, James Henry**, South Carolina lawyer, manager of ten-thousand-acre plantation and 147 slaves, later Congressman, Governor, Senator [1807-1864]
- Haring, Keith**, internationally popular, prolific artist, died of AIDS [1958-1990]
- Harper, William**, South Carolina lawyer, legislator, chancellor, judge, powerful advocate for states' rights [1790-1847]

- Harrington, Sara**, chairperson, Lexington [Mass.] Coalition for Racial Equality
- Harris, Gloria**, United Parcel Service striker
- Herbert, Anita**, criminal investigator for the IRS
- Herbert, Bob**, op ed columnist, *New York Times*
- Hicks, Noah**, 11-year-old brother of coxswain for Mandela, losing team in Boston's elite Head of the Charles Regatta
- HIP-HOP, Project**, ACLU of Mass., Nancy Murray, Director. High school students tour South, visiting key sites and meeting veterans of civil rights movement, then report on their experiences to students at local schools. (For information, call 617-482-3170.)
- Hohri, Bill**, computer programmer, first generation Japanese-American
- Huckabee, Mike**, Governor of Arkansas
- Hughes, Langston**, poet, playwright, novelist, columnist, activist [1902-1967]
- Isaacs, Harold R.**, senior research associate, Center for International Studies at Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Jackson, Reverend Jesse**, long-time civil rights leader
- Jefferson, Julian**, Chicago resident
- Jefferson, Margo**, Pulitzer Prize-winning cultural critic, book reviewer and theater critic, *The New York Times*
- John Paul II**, Pope since 1978
- Johnson, Charles**, teacher of American literature at U. of Washington, author, *Middle Passage*
- Johnson, James Weldon**, writer, civil rights leader, lawyer, diplomat, founded first black U.S. newspaper, lyricist, "Lift Every Voice and Sing" [1871-1938]
- Jones, LeRoi**, poet, playwright, social essayist (now Amiri Baraka)
- Kean, Thomas H.**, former Governor of New Jersey, president of Drew U.
- Kelly, Dawn**, junior, U. of Illinois, Chicago, student government president, member, board of trustees
- Killens, John Oliver**, novelist, lecturer, writer for television and motion pictures
- Killian, Lewis M.**, professor of sociology, Florida State U.
- King, Reverend Bernice Albertine**, a daughter of Martin Luther King, Jr.
- King, Charles H., Jr.**, president, Urban Crisis Center, Atlanta, Georgia [deceased]
- King, Coretta Scott**, singer, founding president of the Martin Luther King, Jr., Center for Nonviolent Social Change, Atlanta, Georgia
- King, Reverend Martin Luther, Jr.**, scholar, theologian, charismatic civil rights organizer, 1964 recipient of Nobel Peace Prize, assassinated [1929-1968]
- Kish, Jim**, manager of a shop
- Kivel, Paul**, nonviolence activist, co-founder Oakland [Cal.] Men's Project
- Knight, Tasha**, writer of software documentation
- Kotlowitz, Alex**, author, *The Other Side of the River: A Story of Two Towns, a Death and America's Dilemma*
- Kranz, Rachel**, author of books for young children
- Langford, Keili**, Yale University undergraduate
- Latouche, John**, poet, lyricist, librettist [deceased]
- Lattimore, Joseph**, insurance broker
- Lawrence, Charles R., III**, law professor, Georgetown U., married to Mari J. Matsuda, co-author, *Words That Wound*
- Lee, Bill Lann**, son of Chinese immigrants, civil liberties lawyer, appointed Acting Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights and Counselor to the Attorney General for Civil Rights Enforcement
- Lewis, John**, National Chairman, Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee
- Lipsyte, Robert**, sports columnist, *New York Times*
- Lorde, Audre**, poet, essayist, librarian, professor of creative writing [1934-1992]
- Loury, Glenn C.**, director, Institute on Race and Social Division at Boston University
- Lumpkin, Frank**, retired steel worker
- Lyles, Charlise**, columnist, *Norfolk Pilot*, Virginia
- Malcolm X**, born Malcolm Little, former prisoner, convert to Nation of Islam, assassinated after breaking with Elijah Mohammad [1925-1965]
- Maltin, Sam**, sportswriter
- Mann, Jean Tucker**, Director of Social Work Services for U. of Maryland Medical System
- Marable, Manning**, Director, Institute for Research in African-American Studies, Columbia U.
- Massery, Hazel Bryan**, protester at Central High School integration
- Massey, Douglas**, Professor of Sociology, U. of Chicago
- Matsuda, Mari J.**, law professor, Georgetown U., married to Charles R. Lawrence III, co-author, *Words That Wound*
- Matsui, Robert T.**, Democratic Congressman from California
- McIntosh, Peggy**, Associate Director, Wellesley College Center for Research on Women

- McNair, Ronald**, physicist, astronaut, killed in Shuttle Challenger explosion [1950-1986]
- Mobley, Mamie**, teacher, mother of Emmett Till, 14-year-old murdered in Mississippi (see p. 161)
- Morehouse, Ward**, regent, U. of California
- Morganthau, Tom**, letters correspondent, *Newsweek*
- Morrison, Toni**, teacher, editor, author of *The Bluest Eye*, *Sula*, *Song of Solomon*, *Beloved*, *Paradise*
- Muwakkil, Salim**, staff journalist, *In These Times*, alternative Chicago newspaper
- Myrdal, Gunnar**, Swedish lawyer, social scientist, asked to head study of race in America for Carnegie Corporation from 1938 to 1942
- Nichols, Nichelle**, singer, dancer, actress, activist, first African-American woman to have a major continuing role on television as Lieutenant Uhura of the Starship Enterprise in *Star Trek*®
- Norton, Eleanor Holmes**, Congresswoman representing District of Columbia
- Nott, Josiah C.**, South Carolina surgeon, lecturer on anatomy, most prominent exponent of ethnology, the study of race differences [1804-1873]
- Owen, Chandler**, co-editor with A. Philip Randolph, *The Messenger*, "The Only Radical Negro Magazine in America"
- Page, Clarence**, columnist, *The Chicago Tribune*
- Painter, Nell Irvin**, author, *Sojourner Truth, A Life, A Symbol*, teacher at Princeton
- Patterson, Orlando**, historical sociologist, author and essayist, John Cowles Professor, Harvard U.
- Pettigrew, Thomas F.**, Professor of Social Psychology, Harvard U.
- Phillips, Charles**, writer, editor, public historian
- Piazza, Thomas**, Research Specialist and Manager of Technical Services, U. of California, Berkeley
- Polite, Craig K.**, psychologist
- Powell, Colin L.**, former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff
- Project HIP-HOP**, see HIP-HOP
- Rambler, Mark**, editorial assistant, *Newsweek*
- Randolph, A. Philip**, organizer of Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, civil rights activist, publisher, vice president AFL-CIO [1889-1979]
- Rich, Frank**, Op Ed columnist, *New York Times*
- Rickey, Branch**, president and general manager, Brooklyn Dodgers, recruited Jackie Robinson in 1947, breaking color line in major league baseball [1881-1965]
- Ricks, Christopher**, Professor of English, Boston U.
- Robeson, Paul**, internationally renowned singer, actor, activist [1898-1976]
- Robinson, Jackie**, all-around athlete and premature civil rights activist, broke color line in major league baseball but had to pledge not to react by word or action to any provocation [1919-1972]
- Robinson, Joseph**, president, Chicago local, United Steel Workers of America
- Robinson, Kevin**, criminal law major at a city college
- Robinson, Maxie Cleveland, Sr.**, high-school history teacher and basketball coach, father of Randall Robinson
- Robinson, Rachel**, wife of Jackie, shared anguish of discrimination when they traveled in the South
- Robinson, Randall**, founder and president, Trans Africa, formed to influence U.S. policies toward Africa and the Caribbean
- Roediger, David**, chairman of American Studies, U. of Minnesota
- Rogers, J. A.**, historian [1880-1966]
- Rose, Arnold**, social scientist, editor
- Rowan, Carl T.**, foreign correspondent, diplomat, syndicated columnist [1925-2000]
- Rubin, Abraham**, vice president, National Smelting Co., Cleveland, Ohio, member, Board of the American Council on Race Relations
- Russwurm, John B.**, co-founder, first black newspaper in the U.S. [1799-1851]
- Sealey, Kelvin Shawn**, founder, non-profit grant-making Obsidian Society
- Segal, George J.**, assistant to Abraham Rubin, active in antidiscrimination fields
- Sergeant, Elizabeth Shepley**, writer for *The New Republic*, *Harper's Magazine*, and other contemporary journals [1881-1965]
- Shipler, David K.**, former New York Times reporter, author, *A Country of Strangers: Black and White in America*
- Silberman, Charles E.**, economist, member of Board of Editors, *Fortune Magazine*
- Smith, Lillian**, Southern white writer, educator, activist [1897-1966]
- Sniderman, Paul M.**, Professor of Political Science, Stanford U.
- Staples, Robert**, Professor of Sociology, U. of California at San Francisco
- Stevens, Hope R.**, attorney, noted Harlem civic and business leader, long-time friend of Paul Robeson
- Stevenson, Norma**, accountant, Chicago radio station

Swaffer, Hannen, British theater critic, gossip columnist

Tatum, Beverly Daniel, psychologist, professor at Mount Holyoke college, author, *Why Are the Black Kids Eating Together in the Cafeteria?*

Terkel, Studs, graduate of Chicago Law School, actor, sports commentator, disk jockey, talk-show host, Pulitzer Prize-winning author

Terry, Peggy, Chicago resident

Thernstrom, Abigail, senior fellow, Manhattan Institute, member, Massachusetts Board of Education

Thomas, Alexander, M.D., Professor of Psychiatry, New York U. Medical Center, and Director, Psychiatric Division, Bellevue Hospital

Thurman, Little Dovie, evangelist

Tucker, John, director, Racial Justice and Equity Project, Burlington, Vermont

Van Evrie, John H., Washington, D.C., physician and New York City publisher

Vivian, Reverend C. T., civil rights activist

von Hoffman, Constantine, freelance writer

Walton, Anthony, poet and essayist

Washington, Booker T., former slave, founder of Tuskegee Institute, focused on teaching vocational skills [1856-1915]

Washington, William, father of tennis family

Wattleton, Faye, nurse, former president (first African-American) of Planned Parenthood

Werner, Fred, editor, student newspaper, U. of Illinois, Chicago

West, Cornel, Professor of Afro-American Studies and Philosophy of Religion, Harvard U.

Wicker, Tom, retired political columnist, *New York Times*

Wilkins, Roger, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, civil rights activist, former Assistant Attorney General of the United States

Williams, Armstrong, syndicated broadcast commentator and Los Angeles Times columnist

Williams, Patricia, professor of law, Columbia U., columnist, *The Nation* magazine

Williams, Robert F., expelled from NAACP for advocating armed militancy, self-exiled to Cuba and China

Winfrey, Oprah, actress, influential talk show host

Winter, William F., former Democratic Governor of Mississippi, member President Clinton's Initiative on Race and Reconciliation

Wolfe, Alan, University Professor, Boston U., sociologist

Wollstonecraft, Mary, pioneer British feminist writer, mother of Mary Shelley (author of *Frankenstein*) [1759-1797]

Woolcott, Alexander, essayist, raconteur, radio personality

Young, Andrew, minister, former executive director SCLC (Southern Christian Leadership Conference), Congressman from Georgia, U.S. Ambassador to United Nations, mayor of Atlanta

Young, Whitney M., Jr., Executive Director, National Urban League [1921-1971]

About people referred to in the quotes

PLEASE NOTE: The number in () is the page where a name appears.
Individuals already identified in THE VOICES listing are not included.

Carver, George Washington (88), world famous agricultural scientist, developed innovative farming techniques [c.1861-1943]

Gandhi, Mahatma (54), Indian leader, whose non-violent principles led to ridding his country of British rule in 1946, assassinated by a Hindu fanatic [1869-1948]

Jackson, Sam[uel] (91), film actor

Lee, Spike (91), actor/writer/director/producer

Louis, Joe (88), long-time heavyweight boxing champion, known as "the Brown Bomber" [1914-1981]

Marshall, Thurgood (91), NAACP attorney who won *Brown vs. Board of Education of Topeka*, first African-American Supreme Court Justice [1908-1993]

Poitier, Sidney (91), helped break the Hollywood stereotype of Negroes as inferior, first black Oscar winner, 1992 Lifetime Achievement Award

Quayle, Dan (67), Vice President under President George Bush, known for his verbal bloopers

Roddenberry, Gene (147), television producer, creator of *Star Trek*®, the first science fiction series to use an ethnically diversified cast [1921-1991]

Steinbeck, John (85), novelist, best known for his 1939 classic of the Depression, *The Grapes of Wrath* [1902-1968]

Till, Emmett (75), 14-year-old black Chicago boy, son of Mamie Mobley (see VOICES), brutally murdered in Mississippi in 1955 by relatives of a white woman he had spoken to without the "proper" respect for Southern womanhood

Tyson, Mike (71), boxing champion with a tendency toward notoriety

Washington, Denzel (91), versatile black actor who played Malcolm X in Spike Lee's film

Williams, Venus (89), black tennis prodigy

Woods, Tiger (89), golf prodigy, whose mother is Thai and whose father is African-American and Native-American

ABOUT THE EDITOR

Ella Mazel (B.A., Hunter College, 1938) is a long-time editor and book designer, sometime author, mother of four, grandmother of five.

Her article, "Conductor from Harlem: Dean Dixon Makes His Way With Baton Despite Many Hazards," was published in *The New York Times*, January 11, 1941. Many years and several careers later, in 1978, she had the privilege of designing, editing, and producing Philip S. Foner's *Paul Robeson Speaks: Writings, Speeches, Interviews*.

From 1967 to 1973 she compiled, and revised annually, a college guide used widely by high school guidance counselors and students. Originally called *Colleges at Your Fingertips*, it was eventually issued as *The New York Times Guide to College Selection*.

In 1995, she compiled, arranged and annotated, designed, and produced *Ahead of Her Time: A Sampler of the Life and Thought of Mary Wollstonecraft*, excerpts from the letters and writings of the great pioneer of the feminist movement.

The present volume is probably her swan song (famous last words), a labor of love that she hopes will make a difference.

Collect-your-own quotes

“If people just clipped the newspaper and analyzed the issues from a perspective of racial justice every day, their consciousness and their actions would change. They could no longer be mere observers of the daily inequality and cruel disdain manifested so boldly through our history and our current reality. Your book is an example of what people can do as a start on the problem.”

MARILYN CLEMENT

Executive Director, The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

This is an invitation to follow my example. It was hard for me to accept the fact that I could no longer include many items that appeared after I had finalized the book. The process is open ended. So I've left these pages for you to continue my work.

You'll be surprised how many news stories relating to racism turn up virtually every day if you're tuned in. Use these pages to copy or paste in whatever pithy quotes you come across in your reading. For complete articles, use a folder or a scrapbook.

Collect-your-own quotes

A LETTER FROM A READER

I think this book will inspire soul-searching even in the most well-intentioned individuals. The quotations not only establish the issues involved and tick off point-by-point the arguments and counter-arguments, but also ultimately guide a reader to the compassionate conclusion. I learned a lot. The quotations really helped me understand my feelings better. I found particularly interesting the ones about black reactions to such common white phrases as "I don't think of you as black." So many well-meaning people, myself included, aren't thinking about the implications of what they're saying. We all really need to be more conscious or else we end up being cruel and even absurd.

Understanding black feelings better also made me cry, both for them and for myself. I was surprised how many of those feelings I or members of my family had had. I don't think about it much, but I'm somewhere between a quarter and an eighth Choctaw. The reason I don't know exactly how much is because my mother's mother was an orphan. She experienced a great deal of prejudice against her Indian heritage in the orphanage and in the world at large. So much so, that since she could pass for white, she did. When the U.S. government asked Indians to register in order to receive benefits, my grandmother did not register because she didn't want her descendants branded as Indians. She didn't want them to suffer the pain she had. My brother and I could have gone to college for free, my mother told us, if my grandmother had registered. I don't know all the details, but apparently her life as an American Indian had been so bad that she thought not being known as an Indian was more important than free college.

I've seen in my own life how these negative feelings my grandmother had about herself and her heritage passed on low self-esteem to my mother, which in turn affected me and my brother. I think, though, I was more fortunate than my grandmother or mother. Being a kid during the '60's, I felt proud of my ancestry because it was cool to be an American Indian. Still, I think it's of vital importance that the depths of human suffering, from prejudice or whatever other cause, be known, both to give the victims peace of mind and to stir them and others to action.

As the book points out, all too many think that the era of racism is over. It isn't: in a small town not too far from where we live here in Texas, and not very long ago, a black man was dragged to death, tied behind a pickup truck for no other reason than that he was black. The culprits are in jail, but there are more with their mindset out there. Our society needs wake-up calls like yours to keep us mindful of that.

CATHY WELCH, Texas

"Congratulations on a superb job! The ground covered, the way the material is arranged, the movement from section to section, the choice of quotes and illustrations — all work wonderfully well."

NANCY MURRAY, Director
The Bill of Rights Education Project, ACLU of Massachusetts

"And don't call *me* a racist!"

In this treasury of over 1,000 quotes, you will find — in the voices of Langston Hughes and the Delany sisters, for example — some of the bitter-sweet humor that has helped sustain blacks in this country through their long, oppressive history.

But, in the words of both blacks and whites, you will also find the stark contrast between the "incalculable" advantages of being born white and the "all-consuming" burden of being born black.

In these pages:

Apologists for slavery extol the social and economic "harmony and good will" that they claim the system made possible — and Frederick Douglass cries out about its "crimes against God and man."

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Melba Patillo Beals — almost forty years after she risked death as a teenager to integrate Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas — writes in her heart-wrenching memoir of that experience: "The task that remains is to cope with our interdependence — to see ourselves reflected in every other human being and to respect and honor our differences."

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