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# Race and Ethnicity in Society: The Changing Landscape

*By Elizabeth Higginbotham, Margaret L. Andersen*



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This engaging reader is organized in four major thematic parts, subdivided into thirteen different sections. Part I ("The Social Basis of Race and Ethnicity") establishes the analytical frameworks that are now being used to think about race in society. The section examines the social construction of race and ethnicity as concepts and experience. Part II ("Continuity and Change: How We Got Here and What It Means") explores both the historical patterns of inclusion and exclusion that have established racial and ethnic inequality, while also explaining some of the contemporary changes that are shaping contemporary racial and ethnic relations. Part III ("Race and Social Institutions") examines the major institutional structures in contemporary society and investigates patterns of racial inequality within these institutions. Persistent inequality in the labor market and in patterns of community, residential, and educational segregation continue to shape the life chances of different groups. Part IV ("Building a Just Society") concludes the book by looking at both large-scale contexts of change, such as those reflected in the movement to elect the first African American president.



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### **Editorial Review**

#### **About the Author**

Elizabeth Higginbotham (B.A., City College of the City University of New York; M.A., Ph.D., Brandeis University) is Professor of Sociology, Black American Studies, and Women's Studies at the University of Delaware. She is the author of *TOO MUCH TO ASK: BLACK WOMEN IN THE ERA OF INTEGRATION* (University of North Carolina Press, 2001) and co-editor of *WOMEN AND WORK: EXPLORING RACE, ETHNICITY, AND CLASS* (Sage Publications, 1997; with Mary Romero). She has also authored many articles in journals and anthologies on the work experiences of African American women, women in higher education, and curriculum transformation. While teaching at the University of Memphis, she received the Superior Performance in University Research Award for two consecutive years. Along with colleagues Bonnie Thornton Dill and Lynn Weber, she is a recipient of the American Sociological Association Jessie Bernard Award and Distinguished Contributions to Teaching Award for the work of the Center for Research on Women at the University of Memphis. She also received the Robin M. Williams Jr. Award from the Eastern Sociological Society, given annually to one distinguished sociologist. She served a term as Vice President of the Eastern Sociological Society and has held many elected leadership positions in the American Sociological Association.

Margaret L. Andersen (B.A., Georgia State University; M.A., Ph.D. University of Massachusetts, Amherst) is the Edward F. and Elizabeth Goodman Rosenberg Professor of Sociology at the University of Delaware, where she has also served in several senior administrative positions, including most recently as Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs and Diversity. She holds secondary appointments in Black American Studies and Women and Gender Studies. She is the author of several books, including (among others) *THINKING ABOUT WOMEN*, recently published in its tenth edition; the best-selling anthology, *RACE, CLASS, AND GENDER* (co-edited with Patricia Hill Collins, now in its ninth edition); *LIVING ART: THE LIFE OF PAUL R. JONES, AFRICAN AMERICAN ART COLLECTOR*; and *ON LAND AND ON SEA: A CENTURY OF WOMEN IN THE ROSENFELD COLLECTION*. She is a member of the National Advisory Board for Stanford University's Center for Comparative Studies in Race and Ethnicity, the Past Vice President of the American Sociological Association, and Past President of the Eastern Sociological Society, from which she received the ESS Merit Award. She has also received two teaching awards from the University of Delaware and the American Sociological Association's Jessie Bernard Award.

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