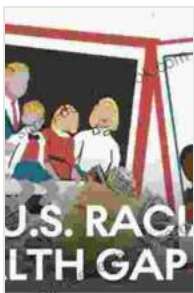


The Story Behind the Racial Wealth Divide: A History of Discrimination, Exploitation, and Systemic Racism

The racial wealth divide is a complex and multifaceted issue with a long and painful history. In this article, we will explore the origins of the racial wealth divide, the various factors that have contributed to its persistence, and the ongoing efforts to close the gap.



The Color of Wealth: The Story Behind the U.S. Racial Wealth Divide by Betsy Leondar-Wright

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 3507 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
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Dimensions	: 6.14 x 0.57 x 9.21 inches
X-Ray for textbooks	: Enabled



Origins of the Racial Wealth Divide

The origins of the racial wealth divide can be traced back to the era of slavery in the United States. During this time, African Americans were denied the opportunity to own property or accumulate wealth. They were also subjected to discriminatory practices such as redlining, which

prevented them from buying homes in white neighborhoods. These practices created a significant wealth gap between white and black Americans that has persisted for generations.

Factors Contributing to the Persistence of the Racial Wealth Divide

A number of factors have contributed to the persistence of the racial wealth divide. These include:

- **Discrimination in housing:** Discrimination in housing has been a major factor in the racial wealth divide. For decades, African Americans were denied the opportunity to buy homes in white neighborhoods. This practice, known as redlining, created a significant wealth gap between white and black Americans.
- **Discrimination in employment:** African Americans have also faced discrimination in employment. They have been paid less than white workers for the same work, and they have been denied opportunities for promotion. This discrimination has made it difficult for African Americans to accumulate wealth.
- **Lack of access to education:** African Americans have also faced a lack of access to quality education. This has made it difficult for them to acquire the skills and knowledge needed to succeed in the economy.
- **Systemic racism:** Systemic racism is a major factor in the racial wealth divide. This type of racism is embedded in the institutions of our society, such as the criminal justice system, the education system, and the housing system. Systemic racism makes it difficult for African Americans to succeed in the economy.

Efforts to Close the Racial Wealth Divide

There are a number of efforts underway to close the racial wealth divide. These include:

- **Increasing access to affordable housing:** One way to close the racial wealth divide is to increase access to affordable housing. This can be done by building more affordable housing units and by providing financial assistance to low-income families.
- **Expanding access to quality education:** Another way to close the racial wealth divide is to expand access to quality education. This can be done by investing in early childhood education and by providing financial assistance to low-income students.
- **Addressing systemic racism:** Addressing systemic racism is essential to closing the racial wealth divide. This can be done by reforming the criminal justice system, the education system, and the housing system.

The racial wealth divide is a complex and multifaceted issue with a long and painful history. However, there are a number of efforts underway to close the gap. By working together, we can create a more just and equitable society for all.



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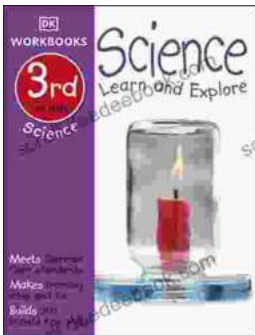
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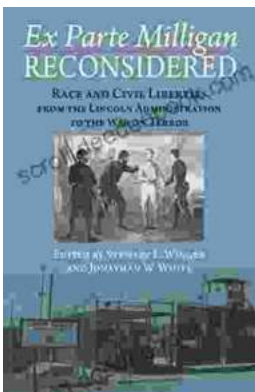
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