

cheryl harris whiteness as property pdf

cheryl harris whiteness as property pdf is a phrase often searched by students, scholars, and legal enthusiasts interested in understanding the profound ways in which race and property intersect within American legal history. Cheryl Harris's influential essay, "Whiteness as Property," originally published in 1993, has become a cornerstone text in critical race theory, legal studies, and social justice discourse. This article provides a comprehensive overview of the key themes, ideas, and significance of Harris's work, along with guidance on how to access the "Whiteness as Property" PDF and its relevance in contemporary discussions.

Understanding Cheryl Harris's "Whiteness as Property"

Background and Context

Cheryl Harris, a legal scholar and professor at UCLA School of Law, authored "Whiteness as Property" to analyze the racial structures embedded within the American legal system. The essay critically examines how whiteness has historically been constructed and maintained as a form of property—something of value that confers privileges and benefits to white individuals while marginalizing people of color.

Published as part of a 1993 symposium on racial justice, the essay challenged conventional notions of property and highlighted how racial identity itself functions as a form of social and legal capital. Harris's work draws on critical race theory to argue that whiteness is not merely a racial identity but a form of social property that has been legally and socially reinforced over centuries.

Key Themes and Concepts

The core ideas of Harris's "Whiteness as Property" include:

- **Whiteness as a form of social and legal property:** Harris posits that whiteness has historically been treated as a valuable asset, granting privileges such as access to better education, housing, employment, and legal protections.
- **Legal reinforcement of racial hierarchies:** Laws and policies, from slavery and segregation to contemporary practices, have embedded whiteness as a preferred status, thus perpetuating racial inequalities.
- **Property rights and racial identity:** The essay explores how racial identity itself has been commodified and protected through legal

systems, effectively making whiteness a transferable and inheritable asset.

- **Impact on racial justice:** Harris's analysis reveals how the perception of whiteness as property sustains systemic racism and obstructs efforts toward racial equality.

Why "Whiteness as Property" Matters in Legal and Social Discourse

Influence on Critical Race Theory

Harris's essay is considered a seminal work in critical race theory (CRT), a movement that critically examines the ways race and racism intersect with law and society. It challenges the notion that legal equality alone can dismantle racial disparities, emphasizing the importance of understanding how racial privileges are embedded and maintained.

Implications for Racial Justice and Policy

By framing whiteness as property, Harris's work underscores the need for policies that address structural inequalities rather than merely individual acts of discrimination. It advocates for a deeper understanding of how legal and social systems preserve racial hierarchies, guiding reform efforts toward more substantive changes.

Accessing the "Whiteness as Property" PDF

For those interested in reading Harris's original essay, the "Whiteness as Property" PDF is widely available online, often through academic repositories, law school libraries, or educational platforms.

Where to Find the PDF

- **Legal academic databases:** Platforms like JSTOR, HeinOnline, and Westlaw often host Harris's essay, accessible through institutional subscriptions.
- **University libraries:** Many university libraries provide digital access to critical race theory essays, including "Whiteness as Property," for students and faculty.
- **Open-access repositories:** Some educational websites or scholar-hosted pages may offer free downloadable versions of the essay.

Tips for Accessing and Using the PDF

1. Ensure you have access through an academic institution or a subscription service for the highest quality and legal access.
2. When citing or sharing the PDF, always give appropriate attribution to Cheryl Harris and the original publication source.
3. Use the PDF for educational purposes, research, or personal study to deepen your understanding of race, law, and social justice.

Relevance and Critique of "Whiteness as Property"

Contemporary Significance

Harris's analysis remains highly relevant decades after its publication. It provides a framework for understanding ongoing issues such as racial disparities in housing, employment, voting rights, and criminal justice. The idea that whiteness confers unearned privileges continues to influence debates on affirmative action, reparations, and anti-racism initiatives.

Critiques and Discussions

While Harris's concept of whiteness as property has been widely influential, it has also sparked debate. Some critics argue that it may overstate the legal transferability of racial privileges or simplify complex social dynamics. However, most agree that the essay offers a powerful critique of systemic racism and the ways in which legal structures sustain inequality.

Conclusion

"Whiteness as Property" by Cheryl Harris is an essential read for anyone interested in understanding the deep-rooted racial disparities embedded within the American legal system. Its analysis of whiteness as a form of property challenges readers to rethink notions of race, privilege, and justice. For those seeking the "cheryl harris whiteness as property pdf," numerous academic repositories and university libraries offer access, providing a valuable resource for scholars, students, and activists committed to social justice and racial equity.

Whether for academic research, classroom discussion, or personal

enlightenment, engaging with Harris's work offers critical insights into the ongoing fight against systemic racism. By understanding how whiteness functions as property, we can better recognize the structural changes needed to achieve a more equitable society.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the main argument in Cheryl Harris's 'Whiteness as Property' PDF?

Harris argues that whiteness functions as a form of property that confers social advantages and privileges, effectively serving as a form of racial ownership that sustains racial inequality.

How does Harris conceptualize whiteness in her PDF?

She conceptualizes whiteness as a form of social capital and property that is legally and socially constructed, which can be inherited and transferred, much like tangible property.

Why is 'Whiteness as Property' considered a foundational text in critical race theory?

Because it critically examines how race and property intersect to uphold systemic racism, influencing subsequent scholarship on racial justice and law.

What legal theories does Cheryl Harris draw upon in her analysis of whiteness?

Harris draws upon property law, legal history, and critical legal studies to illustrate how whiteness has been embedded within legal systems as a form of protected property.

How does Harris's PDF relate to contemporary discussions on racial inequality?

It provides a foundational understanding of how racial hierarchies are maintained through legal and social constructs of property, informing ongoing debates about reparations and racial justice.

Are there critiques or limitations discussed regarding Harris's concept of whiteness as property?

While many scholars agree with her analysis, some critique it for potentially oversimplifying complex racial dynamics or for focusing predominantly on legal aspects without fully addressing economic disparities.

How has Cheryl Harris's 'Whiteness as Property'

influenced legal scholarship and activism?

It has deeply influenced critical race theory, legal scholarship on race and property, and activism by highlighting the need to dismantle racialized legal structures that confer unearned privileges.

Where can I access the full PDF of Cheryl Harris's 'Whiteness as Property'?

The full PDF is often available through academic databases, university libraries, or platforms hosting legal and critical race theory scholarship, such as JSTOR or SSRN.

Additional Resources

Cheryl Harris Whiteness as Property PDF: An In-Depth Examination of Race, Power, and Legal Constructs

The concept of Whiteness as Property, as articulated by Cheryl Harris in her seminal 1993 Harvard Law Review article, remains one of the most influential and thought-provoking analyses of racial stratification within American legal and social history. The PDF version of Harris's work continues to serve as a vital resource for scholars, students, and social justice advocates seeking to understand how racial identity is intertwined with notions of property, privilege, and societal power. This article aims to provide a comprehensive, analytical exploration of Harris's thesis, its historical context, and its enduring significance.

Understanding the Core Thesis: Whiteness as Property

Definition and Conceptual Framework

Cheryl Harris's central argument posits that whiteness has historically functioned as a form of property—a privileged asset that confers tangible and intangible benefits upon those classified as white. Unlike physical property, which is tangible and legally recognized, Harris describes whiteness as a form of "social property" that grants its holder a set of privileges that are often invisible but deeply embedded in societal structures.

In her own words, Harris states that "whiteness, as a racial identity, has been constructed and maintained through legal, social, and economic mechanisms that serve to reinforce white dominance." Her analysis underscores that these privileges are not merely moral or cultural but are embedded in the legal fabric of the United States, shaping access to resources, rights, and social standing.

Historical Roots of Whiteness as Property

Harris traces the origins of whiteness as a form of property back to colonial America and the transatlantic slave trade. Key historical developments include:

- Enslavement and Property Ownership: Enslaved Africans were legally considered property, and this dehumanization laid the groundwork for racialized property rights.
- Legal Codification of Racial Hierarchies: Laws such as the Virginia Slave Codes and subsequent statutes codified racial distinctions, ensuring that whiteness remained associated with freedom, status, and property rights.
- The Dred Scott Decision (1857): Reinforced the idea that Black people could not be citizens or possess property rights, contrasting sharply with the rights granted to whites.
- Post-Reconstruction Legislation: Jim Crow laws and discriminatory practices further entrenched racial hierarchies, consolidating whiteness as a privileged social position.

This historical trajectory demonstrates how legal institutions have been central to transforming racial identities into property-like commodities that confer societal advantages.

The Legal Foundations of Whiteness as Property

Legal Instruments Reinforcing Whiteness

Harris emphasizes that the legal system has played a pivotal role in constructing and maintaining whiteness as a form of property. Several legal mechanisms have contributed to this process:

- Naturalization Laws: Early 20th-century laws restricted naturalization to "free white persons," implicitly tying whiteness to legal rights and societal acceptance.
- Restrictive Covenants and Segregation Laws: Deed restrictions and zoning laws prevented non-white populations from accessing certain neighborhoods and resources.
- Voting Rights and Disenfranchisement: Poll taxes, literacy tests, and other barriers effectively limited political participation for racial minorities, preserving white dominance.
- Discriminatory Employment and Education Policies: Laws and practices that favored white workers and students further entrenched economic and social disparities.

These legal frameworks collectively functioned to preserve the social property of whiteness, making it an asset that could be inherited, transferred, or lost, much like tangible property.

Whiteness as a Form of Social Capital

Harris's analysis extends beyond legal statutes to encompass social and cultural capital. Whiteness, in this context, becomes a form of intangible property—an asset that grants access to opportunities, social acceptance, and systemic advantages.

In her view, the legal recognition of whiteness as property serves to uphold social hierarchies by:

- Legitimizing racial inequalities: Laws codify the superiority of white status.
- Facilitating the transfer of privilege: White individuals inherit and pass down societal advantages.
- Perpetuating systemic exclusion: Non-white individuals are systematically marginalized, limiting their access to the "property" of social mobility.

This conceptualization underscores that whiteness is not merely a racial identity but a powerful social currency embedded in legal and cultural institutions.

Implications of Harris's Thesis in Contemporary Society

Understanding Racial Inequality Today

Harris's framework provides insight into ongoing racial disparities across various domains:

- Housing and Wealth: Historical practices like redlining, discriminatory lending, and exclusionary zoning have prevented non-white communities from accumulating wealth, effectively denying them access to the "property" of economic stability.
- Education and Employment: Systemic barriers have limited educational opportunities for minorities, constraining their social mobility and access to the privileges associated with whiteness.
- Criminal Justice System: Racial profiling, sentencing disparities, and incarceration rates reflect how systemic structures continue to uphold the property status of whiteness.

By framing whiteness as property, Harris illuminates how these disparities are not accidental but are rooted in a long history of institutionalized privilege.

The Role of Law in Maintaining Racial Hierarchies

Harris's analysis underscores the role of law as a tool of social reproduction. Legal doctrines and policies have historically been designed—not merely to regulate conduct—but to maintain racial hierarchies

by:

- Legitimizing racial discrimination: Laws have historically codified the subjugation of non-white populations.
- Reinforcing the value of whiteness: Legal privileges associated with whiteness have been protected and expanded through judicial decisions.
- Obstructing racial equality efforts: Legal barriers have often slowed or thwarted attempts to dismantle systemic racism.

This understanding prompts critical reflection on current legal reforms and the importance of deconstructing legal systems that perpetuate racial inequalities.

Critiques and Debates Surrounding Harris's Work

Strengths of Harris's Analysis

Harris's framing of whiteness as property has been praised for:

- Illuminating the systemic nature of racial privilege: Moving beyond individual acts of racism to structural analysis.
- Linking law and social hierarchy: Demonstrating how legal institutions reinforce societal inequalities.
- Providing a framework for understanding racial injustice: Facilitating policy discussions on reparations and racial justice.

Critiques and Limitations

Despite its influence, Harris's thesis has also faced critiques:

- Potential oversimplification: Some argue that conceptualizing whiteness solely as property may overlook the fluidity and variability of racial identities.
- Focus on legal structures: Critics note that Harris's analysis emphasizes legal frameworks, potentially underestimating cultural and economic factors.
- Implications for racial identity: Questions arise about how this framing affects efforts toward racial reconciliation and identity politics.

Engaging with these debates enriches the understanding of Harris's work and its applicability to contemporary issues.

Relevance and Continuing Significance of Harris's PDF

Educational and Activist Use

The PDF version of Harris's article remains a foundational text in law schools, sociology courses, and social justice initiatives. It provides:

- A historical lens: Clarifies how systemic racism is embedded in legal institutions.
- A framework for activism: Supports efforts aimed at dismantling racial disparities.
- A basis for policy reform: Guides discussions on reparations, affirmative action, and anti-discrimination laws.

Challenges in Distribution and Accessibility

Despite its importance, access to Harris's PDF can be limited by:

- Copyright restrictions: Some repositories may restrict free access.
- Digital divides: Not all students or advocates can access digital resources equally.
- Need for contextual understanding: The article benefits from supplementary materials and discussions to fully grasp its implications.

Efforts to promote open access and educational dissemination are crucial to ensuring Harris's insights continue to inform public discourse.

Modern Applications and Research

Contemporary scholarship continues to expand upon Harris's thesis by examining:

- Intersectionality: How whiteness as property intersects with gender, class, and other identities.
- Global contexts: Applying similar analyses to racial hierarchies in other countries.
- Legal reforms: Evaluating the impact of contemporary policies aimed at reducing racial disparities.

These ongoing debates highlight the enduring relevance of Harris's work in understanding and challenging systemic racism.

Conclusion: The Legacy of Harris's Whiteness as Property

Cheryl Harris's articulation of Whiteness as Property offers a powerful lens through which to examine the entrenchment of racial hierarchies in American society. Her work compels us to recognize that racial privilege is not incidental but systematically embedded within legal, social, and economic structures. The PDF of her article remains an essential resource for those committed to understanding and dismantling systemic racism.

By critically engaging with Harris's thesis, scholars, activists, and policymakers can better appreciate the historical roots of racial inequality and develop strategies to address the ongoing legacy of whiteness as property. As society continues to grapple with issues of racial justice, Harris's insights serve as a call to examine the foundational legal and social constructs that sustain racial hierarchies—and to work toward a more equitable future.

Note: For further reading, access the full PDF of Cheryl Harris's "Whiteness as Property" through academic databases, law school repositories, or legal research platforms to explore her

[Cheryl Harris Whiteness As Property Pdf](#)

cheryl harris whiteness as property pdf: Race and the Question of Palestine Lana Tatour, Ronit Lentin, 2025-06-17 This book develops from the position that the colonization of Palestine—like other imperial and settler colonial projects—cannot be understood outside the grammar of race. *Race and the Question of Palestine* explores how race operates as a technology of power and colonial rule, a political and economic structure, a set of legal and discursive practices, and a classificatory system. Offering a wide-ranging set of essays by historians, legal scholars, political scientists, sociologists, literary scholars, and race critical theorists, this collection illuminates how race should be understood in terms of its political work, and not as an identity category interchangeable with ethnicity, culture, or nationalism. Essays build on a long-standing tradition of theorizing race in Palestine studies and speak to four interconnected themes—the politics of racialization and regimes of race, racism and antiracism, race and capital accumulation, and Black-Palestinian solidarity. These engagements challenge the exceptionalism of the Palestinian case, and stress the importance of locating Palestine within global histories and present politics of imperialism, settler colonialism, capitalism, and heteropatriarchy. Contributors: Yasmeen Abu-Laban, Seraj Assi, Abigail B. Bakan, Zvi Ben-Dor Benite, Yinon Cohen, Noura Erakat, Michael R. Fischbach, Neve Gordon, Alana Lentin, David Palumbo-Liu, John Reynolds, Kieron Turner

cheryl harris whiteness as property pdf: The Vanishing Black African Woman: Volume One Olumide, Yetunde Mercy, 2016-10-06 Skin-lightening is currently one of the most common forms of potentially harmful body modification practices in the world and African women are among some of the most widely represented users of skin-lightening products. The overall objective of this book is to provide up-to-date evidence-based recommendations for reducing the global burden of cosmetic skin bleaching and preventing injuries related to skin bleaching in sub-Saharan Africa and Africans in diaspora. The book aims to: offer an appraisal of all relevant literature on cosmetic bleaching practices to-date, focusing on any key developments; identify and address important medical, public health issues as well as historical, genetic, psychosocial, cultural, behavioural, socioeconomic, political, institutional and environmental determinants; provide guideline recommendations that would help attenuate the burden and possibly eliminate the injuries related to skin bleaching; discuss potential developments and future directions.

cheryl harris whiteness as property pdf: The Digitally Disposed Seb Franklin, 2021-06-22 Locates the deep history of digitality in the development of racial capitalism Seb Franklin sets out a media theory of racial capitalism to examine digitality's racial-capitalist foundations. *The Digitally Disposed* shows how the promises of boundless connection, flexibility, and prosperity that are often associated with digital technologies are grounded in racialized histories of dispossession and exploitation. Reading archival and published material from the cybernetic sciences alongside

nineteenth-century accounts of intellectual labor, twentieth-century sociometric experiments, and a range of literary and visual works, *The Digitally Disposed* locates the deep history of digitality in the development of racial capitalism. Franklin makes the groundbreaking argument that capital's apparently spontaneous synthesis of so-called free individuals into productive circuits represents an "informatics of value." On the one hand, understanding value as an informatic relation helps to explain why capital was able to graft so seamlessly with digitality at a moment in which it required more granular and distributed control over labor—the moment that is often glossed as the age of logistics. On the other hand, because the informatics of value sort populations into positions of higher and lower capacity, value, and status, understanding their relationship to digitality requires that we see the digital as racialized and gendered in pervasive ways. Ultimately, *The Digitally Disposed* questions the universalizing assumptions that are maintained, remade, and intensified by today's dominant digital technologies. Vital and far-reaching, *The Digitally Disposed* reshapes such fundamental concepts as cybernetics, informatics, and digitality.

cheryl harris whiteness as property pdf: *The Everyday Language of White Racism* Jane H. Hill, 2009-01-30 In *The Everyday Language of White Racism*, Jane H. Hill provides an incisive analysis of everyday language to reveal the underlying racist stereotypes that continue to circulate in American culture. provides a detailed background on the theory of race and racism reveals how racializing discourse—talk and text that produces and reproduces ideas about races and assigns people to them—facilitates a victim-blaming logic integrates a broad and interdisciplinary range of literature from sociology, social psychology, justice studies, critical legal studies, philosophy, literature, and other disciplines that have studied racism, as well as material from anthropology and sociolinguistics Part of the http://eu.wiley.com/WileyCDA/Section/id-410785.html?target=_blank Blackwell Studies in Discourse and Culture Series/a

cheryl harris whiteness as property pdf: *T&T Clark Handbook of Asian American Biblical Hermeneutics* Uriah Y. Kim, Seung Ai Yang, 2019-05-30 The first reference resource on how Asian Americans are currently reading and interpreting the Bible, this volume also serves a valuable role in both developing and disseminating what can be termed as Asian American biblical hermeneutics. The volume works from the important background that Asian Americans are the fastest growing ethnic/racial minority population in the USA, and that 42% of this group identifies as Christian. This provides a useful starting point from which to examine what may be distinctive about Asian American approaches to the Bible. Part 1 of the Handbook describes six major ethnic groups that make up 85% of Asian population (by country of origin: China, Philippines, Indian Subcontinent, Vietnam, Korea, Japan) and outlines the specific concerns each group has when its members read the Bible. Part 2 of the Handbook examines major critical methods in biblical interpretation and suggests adjustments that may be helpful for Asian Americans to make when they are interpreting the Bible. Finally, Part 3 provides 25 interpretations by Asian American biblical scholars on specific texts in the Bible, using what they consider to be Asian American hermeneutics. Taken together the Handbook interprets the Bible both with and for the Asian American communities.

cheryl harris whiteness as property pdf: *The Historian's Passing* Lynn Domina, 2018-10-01 This meticulously annotated edition of Nella Larsen's novel *Passing* contextualizes the novel's many historical and cultural references and introduces readers to a central theme: crossing the color line in the hopes of living a more privileged life. Nella Larsen's *Passing* is widely regarded as a classic novel of African American literature—a groundbreaking work in which the author keenly depicted an under-acknowledged element of early 20th-century American life: crossing the color line in the hopes of living a more privileged life. Now, readers can appreciate the full text of Larsen's masterpiece, accompanied throughout by invaluable annotations that transform this classic into a fascinating historical documentation of American life and society during the Harlem Renaissance. This meticulously annotated edition draws on the wealth of race scholarship that has been produced during the last generation to contextualize the novel's many historical and cultural references. It includes introductory essays focusing on Nella Larsen's life and its influence on her novel, and on

events in American history and culture that appear in the novel. The book concludes with a comprehensive list of resources for further research.

cheryl harris whiteness as property pdf: The Scandal of White Complicity in US Hyper-incarceration A. Mikulich, L. Cassidy, M. Pfeil, 2013-02-05 The Scandal of White Complicity and US Hyper-incarceration is a groundbreaking exploration of the moral role of white people in the disproportionate incarceration of African-Americans and Latinos in the United States.

cheryl harris whiteness as property pdf: Gender and the Superhero Narrative Michael Goodrum, Tara Prescott-Johnson, Philip Smith, 2018-10-01 Contributions by Dorian L. Alexander, Janine Coleman, Gabriel Gianola, Mel Gibson, Michael Goodrum, Tim Hanley, Vanessa Hemovich, Christina Knopf, Christopher McGunnigle, Samira Nadkarni, Ryan North, Lisa Perdigao, Tara Prescott-Johnson, Philip Smith, and Maite Ucaregui The explosive popularity of San Diego's Comic-Con, Star Wars: The Force Awakens and Rogue One, and Netflix's Jessica Jones and Luke Cage all signal the tidal change in superhero narratives and mainstreaming of what were once considered niche interests. Yet just as these areas have become more openly inclusive to an audience beyond heterosexual white men, there has also been an intense backlash, most famously in 2015's Gamergate controversy, when the tension between feminist bloggers, misogynistic gamers, and internet journalists came to a head. The place for gender in superhero narratives now represents a sort of battleground, with important changes in the industry at stake. These seismic shifts—both in the creation of superhero media and in their critical and reader reception—need reassessment not only of the role of women in comics, but also of how American society conceives of masculinity. Gender and the Superhero Narrative launches ten essays that explore the point where social justice meets the Justice League. Ranging from comics such as Ms. Marvel, Batwoman: Elegy, and Bitch Planet to video games, Netflix, and cosplay, this volume builds a platform for important voices in comics research, engaging with controversy and community to provide deeper insight and thus inspire change.

cheryl harris whiteness as property pdf: The Intersections of Whiteness Evangelia Kindinger, Mark Schmitt, 2019-01-04 Trumpism and the racially implied Islamophobia of the travel ban; Brexit and the yearning for Britain's past imperial grandeur; Black Lives Matter; the public backlash against Merkel's refugee policies in Germany. These seemingly national responses to the changing demographics in a multitude of Western nations need to be understood as effects of a global/transnational crisis of whiteness. The Intersections of Whiteness brings together scholars from different disciplines to shed light on these manifestations in the United States, the United Kingdom, South Africa and Germany. Applying methodology stemming from critical race theory's investment in intersectionality, the contributions of this edited collection focus on specific intersections of whiteness with gender, class, space, affect and nationality. Offering valuable insights into the contours of whiteness and its instrumentalisation across different nations, societies and cultures, this incisive volume creates transnational dialogue and will appeal to students and researchers interested in fields such as critical whiteness and race studies, gender studies, cultural studies and social policy.

cheryl harris whiteness as property pdf: Downed by Friendly Fire Signithia Fordham, 2016-11-22 Most Americans would never willingly revisit their high school experiences; the nation's school systems reflect the broader society's hierarchical emphasis on race, class, and gender. While schools purport to provide equal opportunities for all students, this rarely happens in actuality—particularly for girls. In Downed by Friendly Fire, Signithia Fordham unmask and examines female-centered bullying in schools, arguing that it is essential to unmask female aggression, bullying, and competition, all of which directly relate to the structural violence embedded in the racialized and gendered social order. For two and a half years, Fordham conducted field research at "Underground Railroad High School," a suburban high school in upstate New York. Through a series of composite student profiles, she examines the girls' relationships to academic achievement, social competition, and aggression toward one another. Fordham argues that girls academically "compete to lose," which only perpetuates their subordination through the

misrecognition of their own competitive behaviors. She goes further to expand the meaning of violence to include what is seen as normal, including suffering, humiliation, and social and economic abuse. Using the concept "symbolic violence," Fordham theorizes the psychological and social damage suffered especially by black girls in schools. The five narratives in *Downed by Friendly Fire* ultimately highlight the pain and suffering this violence produces as well as the ways in which it promotes inequality, exclusion, and marginalization among girls.

cheryl harris whiteness as property pdf: The Routledge Reader of African American Rhetoric Vershawn Ashanti Young, Michelle Bachelor Robinson, 2024-11-01 The Routledge Reader of African American Rhetoric is a comprehensive compendium of primary texts that is designed for use by students, teachers, and scholars of rhetoric and for the general public interested in the history of African American communication. The volume and its companion website include dialogues, creative works, essays, folklore, music, interviews, news stories, raps, videos, and speeches that are performed or written by African Americans. Both the book as a whole and the various selections in it speak directly to the artistic, cultural, economic, gendered, social, and political condition of African Americans from the enslavement period in America to the present, as well as to the Black Diaspora.

cheryl harris whiteness as property pdf: Alternative Historiographies of the Digital Humanities Dorothy Kim, Adeline Koh, 2021 Alternative Historiographies of the Digital Humanities examines the process of history in the narrative of the digital humanities and deconstructs its history as a straight line from the beginnings of humanities computing. By discussing alternative histories of the digital humanities that address queer gaming, feminist game studies praxis, Cold War military-industrial complex computation, the creation of the environmental humanities, monolingual discontent in DH, the hidden history of DH in English studies, radical media praxis, cultural studies and DH, indigenous futurities, Pacific Rim post-colonial DH, the issue of scale and DH, the radical, indigenous, feminist histories of the digital database, and the possibilities for an antifascist DH, this collection hopes to re-set discussions of the DH straight, white origin myths. Thus, this collection hopes to reexamine the silences in such a straight and white masculinist history and how power comes into play to shape this straight, white DH narrative.--Page 4 of cover

cheryl harris whiteness as property pdf: The Gratifications of Whiteness Ella Myers, 2022 The first book-length study of W. E. B. Du Bois's conceptualization of American whiteness. W. E. B. Du Bois famously argued that whiteness in the US in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries functioned as a public and psychological wage, offering valuable social standing to even the poorest of whites. Such compensation, dependent on the devaluation of Black existence, helped secure the US capitalist regime and prevent interracial class solidarity. This book argues that Du Bois's influential account of compensatory whiteness is crucially important, but also incomplete. For Du Bois, whiteness was never one thing, but many. Focusing on Du Bois's middle-period work (about 1920-1940), Ella Myers uncovers an overlooked, complex analysis that theorizes whiteness as a source of varied gratifications. These gratifications include not only the status rewards of racial capitalism, but also the enjoyment of gratuitous Black suffering and the conviction that the planet belongs to those marked as white. The book shows that Du Bois's analysis, developed in response to the pressing political problems of his own day, also offers insight into 21st century struggles for racial justice. Myers argues that it is important to recognize the extent to which anti-Blackness continues to underwrite plural -and deeply disturbing-forms of white gratification here and now. Doing so helps explain the tenacity of America's unequal racial order and also reveals why creative, multifaceted strategies of resistance are necessary to end it.

cheryl harris whiteness as property pdf: Academic Outsider Victoria Reyes, 2022-07-05 Many enter the academy with dreams of doing good; this is a book about how the institution fails them, especially if they are considered outsiders. Tenure-track, published author, recipient of prestigious fellowships and awards—these credentials mark Victoria Reyes as somebody who has achieved the status of insider in the academy. Woman of color, family history of sexual violence, first generation, mother—these qualities place Reyes on the margins of the academy; a person who does not see

herself reflected in its models of excellence. This contradiction allows Reyes to theorize the conditional citizenship of academic life—a liminal status occupied by a rapidly growing proportion of the academy, as the majority white, male, and affluent space simultaneously transforms and resists transformation. Reyes blends her own personal experiences with the tools of sociology to lay bare the ways in which the structures of the university and the people working within it continue to keep their traditionally marginalized members relegated to symbolic status, somewhere outside the center. Reyes confronts the impossibility of success in the midst of competing and contradictory needs—from navigating coded language, to balancing professional expectations with care-taking responsibilities, to combating the literal exclusions of outmoded and hierarchical rules. Her searing commentary takes on, with sensitivity and fury, the urgent call for academic justice.

cheryl harris whiteness as property pdf: Spectacle of Property John David Rhodes, 2017-12-15 Much of our time at the movies is spent in other people's homes. Cinema is, after all, often about everyday life. *Spectacle of Property* is the first book to address the question of the ubiquitous conjuncture of the moving image and its domestic architecture. Arguing that in cinema we pay to occupy spaces we cannot occupy, John David Rhodes explores how the house in cinema both structures and criticizes fantasies of property and ownership. Rhodes tells the story of the ambivalent but powerful pleasure we take in looking at private property onscreen, analyzing the security and ease the house promises along with the horrible anxieties it produces. He begins by laying out a theory of film spectatorship that proposes the concept of the "spectator-tenant," with reference to films such as *Gone with the Wind* and *The Magnificent Ambersons*. The book continues with three chapters that are each occupied with a different architectural style and the films that make use of it: the bungalow, the modernist house, and the shingle style house. Rhodes considers a variety of canonical films rarely analyzed side by side, such as *Psycho* in relation to *Grey Gardens* and *Meet Me in St. Louis*. Among the other films discussed are *Meshes of the Afternoon*, *Mildred Pierce*, *A Star Is Born*, *Killer of Sheep*, and *A Single Man*. Bringing together film history, film theory, and architectural history as no book has to date, *Spectacle of Property* marks a new milestone in examining cinema's relationship to realism while leaving us vastly more informed about, if less at home inside, the houses we occupy at the movies.

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