FERNWOOD SUBJECT CATALOGUE

RACE + ANTI-RACISM

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Abolitionist Intimacies

by El Jones

Abolitionist Intimacies is an urgently needed text. With rigour, theoretical agility and a grounded sense of integrity, Jones forwards a poetic vision of intimacy, care and human liberation, sketching out abolitionist futures beyond policing, prisons and cages.

—ROBYN MAYNARD, author of Policing Black Lives and co-author of Rehearsals for Living

El Jones has gifted us all with a political beacon for liberation and an ethical compass for how to be. Abolitionist Intimacies is a searingly lyrical, poignant and revolutionary must-read; an absolute tour de force that I cannot recommend highly enough.

—HARSHA WALIA, author ofUndoing Border Imperialism and Border and Rule

Abolition is not only a political movement to end prisons; it is also an intimate one deeply motivated by love.

In Abolitionist Intimacies, El Jones examines the movement to abolish prisons through the Black feminist principles of care and collectivity. Understanding the history of prisons in Canada in their relationship to settler colonialism and anti-Black racism, Jones observes how practices of intimacy become imbued with state violence at carceral sites including prisons, policing and borders, as well as through purported care institutions such as hospitals and social work. The state also polices intimacy through mechanisms such as prison visits, strip searches and managing community contact with incarcerated people. Despite this, Jones argues, intimacy is integral to the ongoing struggles of prisoners for justice and liberation through the care work of building relationships and organizing with the people inside. Through characteristically fierce and personal prose and poetry, and motivated by a decade of prison justice work, Jones observes that abolition is not only a political movement to end prisons; it is also an intimate one deeply motivated by commitment and love.

EL JONES is a poet, journalist, professor and activist living in Halifax, Nova Scotia. She teaches at Mount Saint Vincent University, where she was named the 15th Nancy’s Chair in Women’s Studies in 2017. She was Halifax’s Poet Laureate from 2013 to 2015. She is the author of Live from the Afrikan Resistance!, a collection of poems about resisting white colonialism. Her work focuses on social justice issues, such as feminism, prison abolition, anti-racism and decolonization.
We Were Not the Savages, First Nations History, 4th Ed.
Collision Between European and Native American Civilizations

by Daniel N. Paul

foreword by Pamela Palmater

An intellectual blockbuster upending the smug sense that this land was only ever European, proving Mi’kma’ki is home to an ancient civilization, upon which everything else was built.

—JON TATTRIE, journalist and author of Cornwallis: The Violent Birth of Halifax

Exposes a history that Canadians have long collectively celebrated as benign, and proceeds to deconstruct the myth that Canada was, and continues to be, a fair and compassionate country.

—MARIE-LAUREN GREGOIRE, Tekawennake

The fourth edition of settler colonialism history and the European invasion of Mi’kma’ki, the ancestral, unceded territory of the Mi’kmaq.

The title of this book speaks to the truth of what happened when Europeans invaded Mi’kma’wi lands in the 17th century. Prior to the European invasion the Mi’kmaq lived healthy lives and for thousands of years had lived in harmony with nature in the land they called Mi’kma’ki. When the Europeans arrived they were welcomed and sustained by the Mi’kmaq. Over the next three centuries their language, their culture, their way of life were systematically ravaged by the newcomers to whom they had extended human kindness. The murderous savagery of British scalp proclamations, starvation, malnutrition and Canada’s Indian residential and day schools all but wiped out the Mi’kmaq. Yet the Mi’kmaq survived and today stand defending the land, the water and nature’s bounty from the European way of life, which threatens the natural world we live in and need to survive. In this 4th edition, the author shares his research, which catalogues not only the historical tragedy but the ongoing attempts to silence the Mi’kmaq and other Indigenous Peoples.

DANIEL N. PAUL, was born in 1938 on the Indian Brook Reserve, Nova Scotia, and now resides in Halifax with his wife Patricia. Paul is a freelance lecturer and journalist and an ardent activist for human rights. He is a former justice of the peace and a former member of the NS Police Commission and has served on several other provincial commissions. He holds, among many awards, honorary degrees from the University of Sainte Anne and Dalhousie University and is a member of both the Order of Canada and the Order of Nova Scotia. Previously, he was employed by the Department of Indian Affairs and was the founding executive director of the Confederacy of Mainland Mi’kmaq (CMM). His writing career includes a novel, Chief Lightning Bolt, several booklets, magazine articles, hundreds of newspaper columns, and chapters for a dozen or so edited books.

Mi’kmaq history; colonialism; oppression; survival; Halifax; essential reading; elder

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Frequently Asked White Questions

by Ajay Parasram and Alex Khasnabish

A gutsy, clear, compelling pep talk for the white anti-racist. The candour and focus on practice will reach many people.

—ARDATH WHYNACHT, author of Insurgent Love

This book is a practical, readable, no-nonsense guide that takes a complex, emotionally charged, serious subject and makes it accessible and interesting. The authors do a masterful job of debunking mythologies in our everyday discourse and giving people the tools to respond.

—FERN JOHNSON & MARLENE FINE, authors of Let’s Talk Race: A Guide for White People

"This book is a gift...clear, accessible, thoughtful, and often hilarious prose that provides context, breaks down examples, and leaves readers—especially white readers like myself—with a clear set of steps for recognizing and dismantling racism in their lives and broader communities.

—ERIN WUNKER, author of Notes from a Feminist Killjoy

With humour and compassion, this book offers relatable advice and a practical entry point into conversations about race.

Are you a white person with questions about how race affects different situations, but you feel awkward, shy or afraid to ask the people of colour in your life? Are you a racialized person who is tired of answering the same questions over and over? This book is for you: a basic guide for people learning about racial privilege. In Frequently Asked White Questions, Drs. Alex Khasnabish and Ajay Parasram answer ten of the most common questions asked of them by people seeking to understand how race structures our every day. Drawing from their lived experiences as well as live sessions of their monthly YouTube series Safe Space for White Questions, the authors offer concise, accessible answers to questions such as, “Is it possible to be racist against white people?” or “Shouldn’t everyone be treated equally?” This book offers a thoughtful and respectful guide for anyone trying to figure out “woke” politics without jargon and judgement.

AJAY PARASRAM is a multigenerational transnational byproduct of the British empire, with roots in South Asia, the Caribbean and the settler cities of Halifax, Ottawa and Vancouver. He is an associate professor in the Departments of International Development Studies, History and Political Science at Dalhousie University. His research interests surround the colonial present, or the many ways through which strings of historical colonial entanglements continue to tighten the limit of political action today, and how those strings might be undone.

ALEX KHASNABISH is a writer, researcher and teacher committed to collective liberation living in Halifax, on unceded and unsurrendered Mi’kmaw territory. He is a professor in sociology and anthropology at Mount Saint Vincent University. His research focuses on radical imagination, radical politics, social justice and social movements.

BIPOC; race; white privilege; grassroots; public awareness; multiculturalism; far-right; online bullying
White Benevolence
Racism and Colonial Violence in the Helping Professions
edited by Amanda Gebhard, Sheelah McLean and Verna St. Denis

This panoptic collection is a clarion call for Canadians to wake up and dispense, once and for all, with the delusion that Canada is racism free. This is a must-read for students, educators and the general public.

—RAVEN SINCLAIR, University of Regina, and editor of Wicihitowin: Aboriginal Social Work in Canada

Interrogating the relation between the “helping professions” and the production of white racial power, this much-needed work exposes the everyday violence that permeates Canada’s social institutions. An essential and timely book.

—DR. SUNERA THOBANI, University of British Columbia

A book about the devastating consequences of white supremacy being normalized in the helping professions in Canada.

When working with Indigenous people, the helping professions — education, social work, health care and justice — reinforce the colonial lie that Indigenous people need saving. In White Benevolence, leading anti-racism scholars reveal the ways in which white settlers working in these institutions shape, defend and uphold institutional racism, even while professing to support Indigenous people. White supremacy shows up in the everyday behaviours, language and assumptions of white professionals who reproduce myths of Indigenous inferiority and deficit, making it clear that institutional racism encompasses not only high-level policies and laws but also the collective enactment by people within these institutions. In this uncompromising and essential collection, the authors argue that what’s needed are radical anti-racism, solidarity and a relinquishing of the power of white supremacy.

AMANDA GEBHARD is a white settler scholar and assistant professor in the Faculty of Social Work, University of Regina. Her research investigates racism and educational exclusions, the school/prison nexus and anti-racist pedagogy and practice.

SHEELAH MCLEAN is a white settler from Treaty 6 Territory. Her research and scholarship address how white supremacy is created and maintained within a white settler society.

VERNA ST. DENIS is a professor of education and special advisor to the president on anti-racism/anti-oppression at the University of Saskatchewan. She is both Cree and Métis and a member of the Beardy’s and Okemasis First Nation. Her scholarship is in anti-racist and Indigenous education, and she has published extensively on these topics.

anti-racism; settler colonialism; inequality; human services; nursing; whiteness
There’s Something in the Water
Environmental Racism in Indigenous and Black Communities

by Ingrid R. G. Waldron

Reckoning with Canada’s denial of its colonial past, present and erasure of marginalized communities, this book is a must-read for anyone interested in the impacts of environmental racism here and beyond.

—ELLIOT PAGE

Uses Nova Scotia as a case study to examine the legacy and impacts of environmental racism and its health impacts in Indigenous and Black communities in Canada.

There’s Something in the Water examines the legacy of environmental racism and its health impacts in Indigenous and Black communities in Canada, using Nova Scotia as a case study, and the grassroots resistance activities by Indigenous and Black communities against the pollution and poisoning of their communities. Using settler colonialism as the overarching theory, Waldron unpacks how environmental racism operates as a mechanism of erasure enabled by the intersecting dynamics of white supremacy, power, state-sanctioned racial violence, neoliberalism and racial capitalism in white settler societies. By redefining the parameters of critique around the environmental justice narrative and movement in Nova Scotia and Canada, Waldron opens a space for a more critical dialogue on how environmental racism manifests itself within this intersectional context. This book illustrates the ways in which the effects of environmental racism are compounded by other forms of oppression to further dehumanize and harm communities already dealing with pre-existing vulnerabilities and documents the long history of struggle, resistance and mobilizing in Indigenous and Black communities to address environmental racism.

INGRID R. G. WALDRON is an associate professor in the Faculty of Health at Dalhousie University and the director of the Environmental Noxiousness, Racial Inequities & Community Health Project (The ENRICH Project).
Policing Black Lives
State Violence in Canada from Slavery to the Present
by Robyn Maynard

This book should be read by anyone interested in the abolitionist and revolutionary potential of the Black Lives Matter movement more broadly.

—ANGELA Y. DAVIS

If you only read one book this year, make it this one. This is a comprehensive and necessary book for anyone who cares about the past, present and future of Black life in this country. Brilliant work!

—BLACK LIVES MATTER TORONTO

Delves behind Canada’s veneer of multiculturalism and tolerance, tracing anti-Blackness from the slave ships to the prisons, the classrooms and beyond.

Policing Black Lives traces the violent realities of anti-Blackness from the slave ships to prisons, classrooms and beyond. Robyn Maynard provides readers with the first comprehensive account of nearly four hundred years of state-sanctioned surveillance, criminalization and punishment of Black lives in Canada.

While highlighting the ubiquity of Black resistance, Policing Black Lives traces the still-living legacy of slavery across multiple institutions, shedding light on the state’s role in perpetuating contemporary Black poverty and unemployment, racial profiling, law enforcement violence, incarceration, immigration detention, deportation, exploitative migrant labour practices, disproportionate child removal and low graduation rates.

Emerging from a critical race feminist framework that insists that all Black lives matter, Maynard’s intersectional approach to anti-Black racism addresses the unique and understudied impacts of state violence as it is experienced by Black women, Black people with disabilities, as well as queer, trans, and undocumented Black communities. A call-to-action, Policing Black Lives urges readers to work toward dismantling structures of racial domination and re-imagining a more just society.

ROBYN MAYNARD is a Black feminist writer, grassroots community organizer and intellectual based in Montréal. Her work has appeared in the Toronto Star, the Montréal Gazette, World Policy Journal and Canadian Women Studies Journal.

Activism; Blackness as dangerous; racial profiling; slavery; transracial; global north; global south; incarceration of Black people; neoliberalism; border regulation
Africentric Social Work
edited by Delores V. Mullings, Jennifer Clarke, Wanda Thomas Bernard, David Este and Sulaimon Giwa

The first of its kind in Canada, this book provides an invaluable resource for students and practitioners alike by presenting a dynamic approach to African-centred service provision that is ethical and culturally relevant.

This edited collection focuses on Africentric social work practice, providing invaluable assistance to undergraduate students in developing foundational skills and knowledge to further their understanding of how to initiate and maintain best practices with African Canadians. In social work education and field practice, students will benefit from the depth and breadth of this book’s discussions of social, health and educational concerns related to Black people across Canada. The book’s contributors present a broad spectrum of personal and professional experiences as African Canadian social work practitioners, students and educators. They address issues that African Canadians confront daily, which social work educators and potential practitioners need to understand to provide racially and culturally relevant services. The book presents students with an invaluable opportunity to develop their practical skills through case studies and critical thinking exercises, with recommendations for how to ethically and culturally engage in African-centred service provision.

DELORES V. MULLINGS is an associate professor and interim associate dean of undergraduate programs at the School of Social Work, Memorial University of Newfoundland.

JENNIFER CLARKE is a social work educator, researcher and practitioner.

WANDA THOMAS BERNARD is a Canadian senator from East Preston, Nova Scotia. She was formerly a social worker and educator.

DAVID ESTE is a professor in the Faculty of Social Work at the University of Calgary.

SULAIMON GIWA is an assistant professor in the School of Social Work, Memorial University and the Endowed Chair in Criminology and Criminal Justice at St. Thomas University.

anti-Black racism; social work; child welfare; critical race theory; elderly; refugees; poverty; single mothers; queer Black
Decolonizing Equity

by Billie Allan and V.C. Rhonda Hackett

In this compelling and carefully crafted collection of essays, Indigenous, Black and racialized scholars teach us that "decolonizing equity" is about what we have to do to rebuild universities, how we bring old knowledges and our relations with us, as well as how we create the spaces we need to survive the colonial harms and inequities that continue to shape our present.

—SARA AHMED, author of On Being Included: Racism and Diversity in Institutional Life and Complaint!

This is a rare and important contribution to emerging fields of radical study and practice that encourages liberation and healing.

—BENITA BUNJUN, author of Academic Well-Being of Racialized Students

This book acknowledges the equity work BIPOC staff do in all institutions as both a burden and a survival mechanism and explores how this necessary work can be done in a less harmful way.

Institutions everywhere seem to be increasingly aware of their roles in settler colonialism and anti-Black racism. As such, many racialized workers find themselves tasked with developing equity plans for their departments, associations or faculties. This collection acknowledges this work as both survival and burden for Black, Indigenous and racialized peoples. What helps us to make this work possible? How do we take care with ourselves and each other in this work? What does solidarity, collaboration or "allyship" look like in decolonial equity work? This edited collection centres the voices of Indigenous, Black and other racialized peoples in articulating a vision for decolonial equity work. Specifically, the focus on decolonizing equity is an invitation to re-articulate what equity work can look like when we refuse to separate ideas of equity from the historical and contemporary realities of colonialism in the settler colonial nation states known as Canada and the United States and when we insist on linking an equity agenda to the work of decolonizing our shared realities.

BILLIE ALLAN is an assistant professor in the School of Social Work, University of Victoria. Billie is a Two Spirit Anishinaabe scholar from Sharbot Lake, Ontario, whose research is focused on Indigenous health and well-being.

RHONDA HACKETT is an assistant professor in the School of Social Work, University of Victoria. Rhonda is an African Caribbean scholar whose work is informed by extensive social work practice experience and a decolonizing theoretical lens.

healing; inclusion; diversity; EDI, critical race; Indigenous
Academic Well-Being of Racialized Students
edited by Benita Bunjun

Every Canadian post-secondary educator teaching or researching with BIPOC students must read and reflect on this critically edited book. The deep significance and outcomes from Dr. Bunjun’s work with racialized students over more than two decades are evident throughout its chapters. Once I began reading it, I could not put it down. This work speaks to my soul.
—DR. SHELLY JOHNSON (MUKWA MUSAYETT), Canada Research Chair in Indigenizing Higher Education

Educators have much to learn from BIPOC students about the ways in which the academy subjects them to the dictates of racial and colonial power. The survival strategies recounted here are deeply courageous and highly inspiring.
—DR. SUNERA THOBANI, author of Exalted Subjects: Studies in the Making of Race and Nation in Canada

Through the multiple genres of essay, art, poetry and photography, this book examines the experiences of racialized students in the Canadian academy, emphasizing the crucial kinship relations they forge.

Canadian universities have an ongoing history of colonialism and racism in this white-settler society. Racialized students (Indigenous, Black and students of colour), who would once have been forbidden from academic spaces and who still feel out of place, must navigate these repressive structures in their educational journeys. Through the genres of essay, art, poetry and photography, this book examines the experiences of and effects on racialized students in the Canadian academy, while exposing academia’s lack of capacity to promote students’ academic well-being. The book emphasizes the crucial connections that racialized students forge, which transform an otherwise hostile environment into a space of intellectual collaboration, community building and transnational kinship relations. Meticulously curated by Dr. Benita Bunjun, this book is a living example of mentorship, reciprocity and resilience.

All royalties from this book will be donated to the Racialized Students Academic Network

Benita Bunjun is an associate professor at Saint Mary’s University in the Department of Social Justice and Community Studies, where she coordinates the Racialized Students Academic Network. Her research examines organizational and institutional power relations with a focus on colonial encounters within academic spaces.
Identifying as Arab in Canada
A Century of Immigration History

by Houda Asal
translated by Mary Foster

With rigorous research and a gripping narrative, this book comes to shatter many preconceived ideas and orientalist views about “Arabs,” all in a constructive, historical, and critical way.

—MONIA MAZIGH, author, novelist and human rights advocate

Identifying as Arab in Canada begins to rectify this invisibilization by exploring the migration from Machrek (the Middle East) to Canada from the late 19th century through the 1970s.

While “Arabs” now attract considerable attention — from media, the state and sociological studies — their history in Canada remains little known. Houda Asal breathes life into this migratory history and the people who made the journey, and examines the public, collective existence they created in Canada in order to understand both the identity Arabs have constructed for themselves here, and the identity that has been constructed for them by the Canadian state. Using archival research, media analysis, laws and statistics, and a series of interviews, Asal offers a thorough examination of the institutions these migrants and their descendants built, and the various ways they expressed their identity and organized their religious, social and political lives. Identifying as Arab in Canada offers an impressively researched, but accessibly written, much-needed glimpse into the long history of the Arab population in Canada.

HOUDA ASAL holds a PhD in socio-history. Her doctoral thesis was published by Presses de l’Université de Montréal in 2016 as, Se dire arabe au Canada. Un siècle d’histoire migratoire. Asal has written and spoken extensively about this history and contemporary racism in Canada and France.
Rethinking Who We Are
Critical Reflections on Human Diversity in Canada
edited by Jessica E. Pulis and Paul U. Angelini

*Rethinking Who We Are* takes a non-conventional approach to understanding human difference in Canada.

Contributors to this volume critically re-examine Canadian identity by rethinking who we are and what we are becoming by scrutinizing the “totality” of difference. Included are analyses on the macro differences among Canadians, such as the disparities produced from unequal treatment under Canadian law, human rights legislation and health care. Contributors also explore the diversities that are often treated in a non-traditional manner on the bases of gender, class, sexuality, disAbility and Indigeniety. Finally, the ways in which difference is treated in Canada’s legal system, literature and the media are explored with an aim to challenge existing orthodoxy and push readers to critically examine their beliefs and ideas, particularly in an age where divisive, racist and xenophobic politics and attitudes are resurfacing.

Jessica Pulis, professor of criminology, is the contributing editor of *Social and Behavioural Sciences: Exploring Human Behaviour and the Social Environment*, along with Paul Angelini. Paul Angelini is a professor of political science and the contributing editor of *Our Society: Human Diversity in Canada*.

AODA; appropriation; Asian immigrants; Atwood; biomedicine; BLM; decolonization; compulsory heterosexuality; homosexuality; policing
Sister Seen, Sister Heard
by Kimia Eslah

Unapologetically raw and intimate, this book forces us to acknowledge women of colour, their experiences and traumas, and how they fit into the framework of a settler colonial Canadian society. A fresh and provocative look at the immigrant experience that will stay with you.
—TASLIM BURKOWICZ, author of The Desirable Sister and Chocolate Cherry Chai

A story for every immigrant struggling between cultures, every youth rebelling against parents, and every woman facing assault alone.

Farah’s ready to move out of her parent’s house. It takes an hour to get to campus, and she has no freedom to be herself. Maiheen and Mostafa, first-generation Iranian immigrants in Toronto, find their younger daughter’s “Canadian” ways disappointing and embarrassing, and they wonder why Farah can’t be like her older sister Farzana — though Farah knows things about Farzana that her parents don’t. They begrudgingly agree to let Farah move, and she begins to explore her exciting new life as an independent university student. But when Farah gets assaulted on campus, everything changes. This beautiful coming-of-age story will be familiar to every immigrant in the diaspora who has struggled to find a way between cultures, every youth who has rebelled against their parents and every woman who has faced the world alone.

KIMIA ESLAH is a feminist writer and a queer woman of colour. Her work has been featured on CBC Books, Ms. Magazine and The Miramichi Reader. She is the author of The Daughter Who Walked Away. Her novels explore the effects of systemic discrimination, patriarchy, mental illness and queerphobia on Canadian women of colour.

sexual assault; stalking; Iran; immigrant; diaspora; police; racialized sexism; campus
Jude and Diana
by Sharon Robart-Johnson

OUT NOW as an audiobook! Narrated by Shelley Hamilton

By speaking their names, Robart-Johnson provides what was denied to Jude and Diana at the hands of the magistrates of Yarmouth County — justice. Through her achingly beautiful writing, she restores Black humanity and hope.

—DR. AFUA COOPER, author of Black Matters and The Hanging of Angelique

Meticulously researched and unflinching in detail, putting flesh and bones on the plight of enslaved Black people in Nova Scotia, who are too often reduced to a sterile footnote in the polite version of Canadian history. In its explorations of Black dignity, deferred justice and the responsibility of “good” white bystanders, this historical novel is deeply relevant for our time.

—CHAD LUCAS, journalist and author of Thanks A Lot, Universe


The only mention of Jude in Nova Scotia’s official history relates to her death: a slave-owning family was brought to trial for her murder in 1801. They were acquitted despite overwhelming evidence that they were guilty. This book pays tribute to such archival glimpses of enslaved people by re-creating the fullness of sisters Jude and Diana’s survival. Robart-Johnson stories their movements through the U.S. to Nova Scotia, Canada, emphasizing their joys alongside their hardship. As a child, Jude is sold away and then, by a lucky turn of fate, reunited with her fiercely loving family. Jude’s experiences harden her into a rebel who resists injustice without heeding consequences, and after her death, Diana is left alone to deal with racist and sexual violence. In the historical fiction of Jude and Diana, we experience nineteenth-century Nova Scotia, when political debates about abolishing slavery were just beginning to emerge. While chronicling the cruelty they endured, Robart-Johnson’s storytelling powerfully honours their humour, strength and shining dignity.

SHARON ROBART-JOHNSON was born in the South End of Yarmouth and is a thirteenth-generation Nova Scotian. Her roots reach back to the Expulsion of the Acadians in 1755, to the arrival of the Black Loyalists to Shelburne in 1783 and to an enslaved person brought to Digby County in 1798. In 2009 she published her first book, Africa’s Children: A History of Blacks in Yarmouth. Her years of archival experience and passion for researching Black history have most recently culminated in historical fiction, a way to honour those omitted from colonial archives.

slavery; Black people; African Nova Scotian; historical fiction; Canadian history; rape
Decolonizing Academia
Poverty, Oppression and Pain

by Clelia O. Rodríguez

Poetic, confrontational and radical, *Decolonizing Academia* speaks to those who have been taught to doubt themselves because of the politics of censorship, violence and silence that sustain the Ivory Tower. Clelia O. Rodríguez illustrates how academia is a racialized structure that erases the voices of people of colour, particularly women. She offers readers a gleam of hope through the voice of an inquisitorial thinker and methods of decolonial expression, including poetry, art and reflections that encompass much more than theory. In *Decolonizing Academia*, Rodríguez passes the torch to her Latinx offspring to use as a tool not only to survive academic spaces but also to dismantle systems of oppression. Through personal anecdotes, creative non-fiction and unflinching bravery, Rodríguez reveals how people of colour are ignored, erased and consumed in the name of research and tenured academic positions. Her work is a survival guide for people of colour entering academia.

Viola Desmond
Her Life and Times

by Graham Reynolds with Wanda Robson

*Reynolds and Robson have forged a remarkable partnership to bring us a fascinating account of Viola Desmond’s life. This wonderful book is filled with new information and insight, riveting reading about an extraordinary woman’s contribution to Canada’s history.*

—Constance Backhouse, professor of law, University of Ottawa

Many Canadians know that Viola Desmond is the first Black, non-royal woman to be featured on Canadian currency. But fewer know the details of Viola Desmond’s life and legacy. In 1946, Desmond was arrested for refusing to give up her seat in a whites-only section of a movie theatre in New Glasgow, Nova Scotia. Her singular act of courage was a catalyst in the struggle for racial equality that eventually ended segregation in Nova Scotia. Authors Graham Reynolds and Wanda Robson (Viola’s sister) look beyond the theatre incident and provide new insights into her life. They detail not only her act of courage in resisting the practice of racial segregation in Canada, but also her extraordinary achievement as a pioneer African Canadian businesswoman. In spite of the widespread racial barriers that existed in Canada during most of the twentieth century, Viola Desmond became the pre-eminent Black beauty culturist in Canada, establishing the first Black beauty studio in Halifax and the Desmond School of Beauty Culture. She also created her own line of beauty products. Accessible, concise and timely, this book tells the incredible, important story of Viola Desmond, considered by many to be Canada’s Rosa Parks.
Becoming an Ally, 3rd Ed.
Breaking the Cycle of Oppression in People

by Anne Bishop

Becoming an Ally, 3rd Ed. is a book for men who want to end sexism, white people who want to end racism, straight people who want to end heterosexism, able-bodied people who want to end ableism — for all people who recognize their privilege and want to move toward a more just world by learning to act as allies.

Has oppression always been with us, just part of “human nature”? What does individual healing have to do with social justice? What does social justice have to do with individual healing? Why do members of the same oppressed group fight one another, sometimes more viciously than they fight their oppressors? Why do some who experience oppression develop a life-long commitment to fighting oppression, while others turn around and oppress those with less power?

In this accessible and enlightening book, now in its third edition, Anne Bishop examines history, economic and political structures, and individual psychology in a search for the origins of racism, sexism, heterosexism, ableism, ageism and all the other forms of oppression that divide us. Becoming an Ally looks for paths to justice and lays out guidelines for becoming allies of oppressed peoples when we are in the privileged role.

Colonized Classrooms
Racism, Trauma and Resistance in Post-Secondary Education

by Sheila Cote-Meek

In Colonized Classrooms, Sheila Cote-Meek discusses how Aboriginal students confront narratives of colonial violence in the postsecondary classroom, while they are, at the same time, living and experiencing colonial violence on a daily basis. Basing her analysis on interviews with Aboriginal students, teachers and Elders, Cote-Meek deftly illustrates how colonization and its violence are not a distant experience, but one that is being negotiated every day in universities and colleges across Canada.
Viola Desmond’s Canada
A History of Blacks and Racial Segregation in the Promised Land
by Graham Reynolds

Reynolds’ book is a significant and timely contribution to the burgeoning field of African Canadian history and social justice studies. I thank him for writing this book.

—AFUA COOPER, James R. Johnston Chair in Black Canadian Studies, Dalhousie University

An impressive book that tackles much more than the experience of Viola Desmond. Reynolds’ work is a wide-ranging discussion of the broad themes of slavery, race, segregation and historical memory.

—HARVEY AMANI WHITFIELD, University of Vermont

In 1946, Viola Desmond was wrongfully arrested for sitting in a whites-only section of a movie theatre in New Glasgow, Nova Scotia. In 2010, the Nova Scotia Government recognized this gross miscarriage of justice and posthumously granted her a free pardon. Most Canadians are aware of Rosa Parks, who refused to give up her seat on a racially segregated bus in Alabama, but Viola Desmond’s act of resistance occurred nine years earlier. However, many Canadians are still unaware of Desmond’s story or that racial segregation existed throughout many parts of Canada during most of the twentieth century. On the subject of race, Canadians seem to exhibit a form of collective amnesia. This groundbreaking book provides a concise overview of the narrative of the Black experience in Canada. Reynolds traces this narrative from slavery under French and British rule in the eighteenth century to the practice of racial segregation and the fight for racial equality in the twentieth century.

Awards (2016–17)
The Robbie Robertson Dartmouth Book Award for Non-Fiction (2017)
The Miramichi Reader’s Best Non-Fiction Book (2016)

Out of Left Field
Social Inequality and Sport
by Gamal Abdel-Shehid and Nathan Kalman–Lamb

An accessible and engaging text ideal for introducing students to a cultural studies approach to sport and to tools for analyzing the ideological implications of a key facet of contemporary social life.

—SAMANTHA KING, School of Kinesiology & Health Studies Queen’s University

This book deserves a wide audience, weaving together examples from North America, Europe, Latin American, and the Caribbean. Its insight encourages engagement and fosters application.

—C. RICHARD KING, Department of Comparative Ethnic Studies, Washington State University

Out of Left Field engages readers in a structural analysis of how sport, particularly high-performance sport, within a colonial, racist, sexist and homophobic/heterosexist structure not only exploits athletes, but also is or can be a site for social and political struggle for justice.

—CARL JAMES, York University

High-performance sport, like other social and cultural formations, is a site of social, economic and racial inequalities emerging from larger histories of colonialism and capitalism. In this introductory text, the authors explore the nature of historical and contemporary social inequality in high-performance sport, both globally and locally — understanding high-performance sport as a model that is emulated on other sports fields. In addition, the authors examine the enduring appeal of high-performance sport and its role in the making of identity as well as high-performance sport as a site for resisting the forces of colonialism and capitalism.
Racism and Anti-Racism in Canada
edited by David Este, Liza Lorenzetti and Christa Sato

Multiculturalism is regarded as a key feature of Canada’s national identity. Yet despite an increasingly diverse population, racialized Canadians are systematically excluded from full participation in society through personal and structural forms of racism and discrimination. *Race and Anti-Racism in Canada* provides readers with a critical examination of how racism permeates Canadian society and articulates the complex ways to bring about equity and inclusion both individual and systemically.

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Alt-Right
From 4Chan to the White House
by Mike Wendling

*Wendling is perhaps the ideal journalist for the task of deconstructing the alt-right’s delusional, hate-driven politics and inscrutable codewords.*

—WINNIPEG FREE PRESS

*An important guide to one of the most disturbing political developments of our time.*

—NEW YORK TIMES

This book is a vital guide to understanding the racist, misogynist, far-right movement that rose to prominence during Donald Trump’s successful election campaign. To some, the movement appears to have burst out of nowhere, but journalist Mike Wendling has been tracking the Alt-Right for years. He reveals the role of technological utopians, reactionary philosophers, the notorious 4chan bulletin boards, and a range of bloggers, vloggers and tweeters, and the extreme ideas they attempt to popularize. Analyzing what the Alt-Right stands for, based upon interviews with movement leaders and foot soldiers, Wendling provides evidence linking extremists with terror attacks and hate crimes. Ultimately the book argues that, despite its high profile support, the movement’s contradictory tendencies will lead to its downfall.
Boomerang Ethics
How Racism Affects Us All

by Joseph Mensah and Christopher J. Williams

The fact that racism has adverse effects on Blacks and other minorities is obvious. But what is not so obvious are the hidden impacts of racism on all members of society, including white people. Joseph Mensah and Christopher J. Williams argue that ethics of altruism and social justice are inadequate to curb racism because they neglect the impact of racism on whites. Just like a boomerang, acts of hatred and racism against people of colour and even unsolicited and sometimes unconscious exertions of white privilege ultimately come back to harm almost everyone in society. Timely and incredibly important, Boomerang Ethics is a much-needed resource in the fight against racism because it does not gloss over the self-interests of members of the privileged, who ultimately have the power to help alleviate racism.

Flying Fish in the Great White North
The Autonomous Migration of Black Barbadians

by Christopher Stuart Taylor

Canadians are proud of their multicultural image both at home and abroad. But that image isn’t grounded in historical facts. As recently as the 1960s, the Canadian government enforced discriminatory, anti-Black immigration policies, designed to restrict and prohibit the entry of Black Barbadians and Black West Indians. The Canadian state capitalized on the public’s fear of the “Black unknown” and racist stereotypes to justify their exclusion. In Flying Fish in the Great White North, Christopher Stuart Taylor utilizes the intersectionality of race, gender and class to challenge the perception that Blacks were simply victims of racist and discriminatory Canadian and international immigration policies by emphasizing the agency and educational capital of Black Barbadian emigrants during this period. In fact, many Barbadians were middle to upper class and were well educated, and many, particularly women, found autonomous agency and challenged the very Canadian immigration policies designed to exclude them.
Writing the Roma
Histories, Policies and Communities in Canada

by Cynthia Levine-Rasky

The culmination of four years of ethnographic research at the Roma Community Centre in Toronto, Writing the Roma is the first book to provide an overview of the identities, origins, history and treatment of Roma refugees. Cynthia Levine-Rasky traces the historical and cultural roots of the Roma in Europe, through their genocide in the Holocaust, their persecution in Eastern Europe in the post-Communist era, to their settlement as refugees in Canada. What emerges is a book that challenges the stereotypes surrounding this non-territorial nation while exposing the ways that Canadian immigration policies have affected Roma populations.

On Building a Social Movement
The North American Campaign for South African Liberation

by John Saul

In his characteristically engaging conversational style, combining intimate first-hand knowledge with strong opinions, John Saul takes the reader vividly into the heart of the Canadian and American movements that supported the anti-apartheid and liberation struggles in southern Africa.

—Colin Leys, co-editor, The Socialist Register

John Saul challenges us to demystify the national liberation movements many of us worshiped in order to see not only their strengths and weaknesses, but in order to understand the forces that have ground many of them to a halt. What an outstanding piece of writing!

—Bill Fletcher, Jr., former president of TransAfrica Forum; host of The Global African on Telesur-English

On Building a Social Movement focuses, as its subtitle suggests, on the North American campaign for southern African liberation. It does so by first evoking both the region-wide battle for liberation from racial oppression that emerged in southern Africa between 1960 and 1994 and the world-wide mobilization of support for that regional struggle which emerged alongside it. It then examines in some detail the building of movements in both Canada and the United States designed to contribute to this notable global effort. These movements sought to publicize the positive goals and concrete undertakings of the liberation struggles on the ground in southern Africa while also focusing public attention on the policies of the governments and the corporations in North America that pulled the two countries focused on in this book to the wrong — the racist and exploitative — side of this African contestation.
Live from the Afrikan Resistance!
by El Jones

El Jones is a griot of the first order. Her beautiful, brilliant and bold poems tell us that she is both word-mistress and swordmistress.

—AFUA COOPER, author of Black Matters

Deeply honouring and explosively brilliant, El Jones is a fearless young poet creatively in the ‘zone’ joining the ranks of George Elliott Clarke, Maxine Tynes and Rocky Jones. El tackles old and new poetic territory with street smarts, crucial historical touchstones, fresh new hope and a caring revolutionary fervor. Catch El Jones performing these poems and be still in astonishment. Read her on the page and experience what it’s like to be moved by unbounded commitment to the lives of Black people.

—LILLIAN ALLEN

Live from the Afrikan Resistance! is the first collection of spoken word poetry by Halifax’s fifth Poet Laureate, El Jones. These poems speak of community and struggle. They are grounded in the political culture of African Nova Scotia and inherit the styles and substances of hip-hop, dub and calypso’s political commentary. They engage historical themes and figures and analyze contemporary issues — racism, environmental racism, poverty and violence — as well as confront the realities of life as a Black woman. The voice is urgent, uncompromising and passionate in its advocacy and demands. One of Canada’s most controversial spoken word artists, El Jones writes to educate, to move communities to action and to demonstrate the possibilities of resistance and empowerment. Gathered from seven years of performances, these poems represent the tradition of the prophetic voice in Black Nova Scotia.

Visitor
My Life in Canada
by Anthony Stewart

Canada’s next major challenge is not economic or political. It’s ethical. On the issue of racism, Canadians tend to compare themselves favourably to Americans and to rely on a concession that Canadian racism, if it exists at all, is more “subtle.” Is there a future time when newcomers and visible minorities will be enabled to feel like they belong in Canada? Or will they have to accept their experience as visitors to Canada no matter how long they have lived here? These are some of the questions Anthony Stewart tackles eloquently and with considerable wit.

“As a Black Canadian, the Canada that I have come to see is different from the idealized Canada of Tim Hortons commercials, Hockey Night in Canada and countless other imaginings. It’s a Canada that takes credit for a level of open-mindedness that far exceeds its reality. It’s a Canada that distinguishes itself for its population of citizens who passively lay claim to welcoming difference while staying silent when those around them who are in fact different are disenfranchised, dehumanized, undervalued and left to feel that we do not belong in the country in which many of us were born, or about which we are told tales of tolerance.” —Anthony Stewart
Stand Together or Fall Apart
Professionals Working with Immigrant Families

by Judith K. Bernhard

With its comprehensive approach and practical and applied focus, Stand Together or Fall Apart is a unique resource that should be in arms-reach of every professional dealing with immigrants and their children in Canada.

—Harald Bauder, academic director of the Toronto Metropolitan Centre for Immigration and Settlement

Immigration is an important topic that continues to appear in news reports across Western countries. However, few reports examine what adjusting and integrating into a new country means for immigrant families. The traditional strategy employed by social workers, teachers and other social service practitioners is decidedly Euro-centric and treats immigrants as if they have little cultural or community-based means of integrating of their own. Judith K. Bernhard argues that immigrants have deep cultural, familial and communal resources to aid their integration and that these resources need to be tapped by social workers, teachers, counsellors, settlement workers, early childhood educators and child and youth care workers alike. Providing several alternative, integrated, research-based programs that combine cultural resources, traditions and family dynamics, Stand Together or Fall Apart will help practitioners to better understand the struggles of immigrants and thus be better able to assist them as they adjust to life in a new country.

The Cancer Stage of Capitalism, 2nd Edition
From Crisis to Cure

by John McMurtry

In The Cancer Stage of Capitalism, John McMurtry argues that our world disorder of unending crises is the predictable result of a cancerous economic system that is destroying ecological, social and organic life. In this updated edition, McMurtry explains the "social immune response" required to fight this "macro cancer," which has already surfaced in the Occupy movement and in the democratic social transformation of Latin America. In an official global culture increasingly destructive of life, this book shows the necessity and possibility of building a sustainable society based on a universal commitment to life and nature.
Asian Immigrants in “Two Canadas”
Racialization, Marginalization and Deregulated Work
by Habiba Zaman

Canada is experiencing a major demographic shift, with two-thirds of the population in major cities predicted to belong to racialized groups, particularly Asian newcomers, by 2031. But how are these immigrants faring in this new Canada? Employing the International Labour Organization’s concept of “basic security” and the voices of immigrants themselves, Asian Immigrants in “Two Canadas” demonstrates that their security — such as work, job, employment, and voice and representation — has been compromised in multi-dimensional ways. Changes to immigration policy and the neoliberal restructuring of the Employment Standards Act in British Columbia have led to further marginalization within the labour market and the creation of deregulated and hazardous workplaces — resulting in the emergence of “two Canadas” within the Canadian welfare state. Representing a diverse group of immigrants, this book demonstrates a shared experience of precariousness and insecurity — an experience that has led to a broad-based alliance of Asian immigrant workers aimed at addressing workplace security and rights.

Jamaica in the Canadian Experience
A Multiculturalizing Presence
edited by Andrea Davis and Carl E. James

This important interdisciplinary collection offers us a generous and hopeful vision of multiculturalism, peopled by the daily joys, trials and aspirations of generations of Jamaican-Canadians who are neither simply urban residents nor recent arrivals, and whose presence is key to understanding what it means to be Canadian today.

—ALISSA TROTZ, associate professor and director, Caribbean Studies, University of Toronto

I am pleased to be associated in a modest way with the genesis and conceptualization of this work and even more gratified by its completion and the high quality of its content.

—SHEILA SEALY MONTEITH, High Commissioner for Jamaica to Canada

In 2012, Jamaica celebrated its fiftieth anniversary of independence from Britain. In the short period of its life as a nation, Jamaica’s increasingly powerful influence on global culture cannot go unremarked. The growth of Jamaican diasporas beyond Britain to the United States, Canada and West Africa has served to strengthen Jamaica’s global reach, so that today Jamaica’s cultural, economic and political achievements are felt way beyond its national borders. This anthology commemorates Jamaica’s independence by acknowledging the immense and widespread contributions of Jamaica and Jamaicans to Canadian society.
Life at the Intersection
Community, Class and Schooling
by Carl E. James

The intersection of Jane and Finch in Toronto’s north end has long been portrayed as one of Canada’s most troubled neighbourhoods, with images of social dysfunction, shootings and “at risk” youth dominating media accounts. Setting out to discover what it means — and what it takes — to grow up in this economically disadvantaged and racially and ethnically diverse neighbourhood, *Life at the Intersection* engages young people, parents and educators to explore the experiences, issues, perceptions and ambitions of the youth of this community. What Carl James finds is that young people have come to appreciate the social capital and cultural wealth of their neighbourhood and that they use the negative perceptions of their community as inspiration for educational and social success. Understanding education as key to encouraging youth to persevere, endure and succeed, this book focuses on youth’s educational experiences and expectations and argues that schooling programs must consider socio-geographic context in their efforts to be socially and culturally relevant.

Theorizing Africentricity in Action
Who We Are Is What We See
edited by Delvina E. Bernard and Susan M. Brigham

Education is a primary site of social change for people of African descent in Nova Scotia, which is why centuries of systemic neglect and racial inequities in the public school system have failed to suppress the creativity, resilience and resourcefulness of African Nova Scotian learners and their desire to succeed. This collection of articles by African Nova Scotian educators brings together new and enlightening research and analyses that go beyond education alone. Each chapter offers personal critical reflections and theory-building in Africentricity and lifelong learning. The perspectives of these authors present important challenges to novice and experienced educators as well as to laypersons. The book highlights such topics as honouring the knowledge of our elders, the role of parental involvement in Black students’ academic achievement, racial identity development, Africentric schooling, Canadian Black feminism and African spirituality. *Theorizing Africentricity in Action: Who We Are Is What We See* reveals the innate ability of Black people to re-invent themselves in the face of oppressive conditions and still remain intact as Africans — culturally, spiritually and psychologically.
Chasing Freedom
by Gloria Ann Wesley

This novel of a revolutionary era, of Yanks and Africans “chasing freedom,” is arresting, with startling events, intriguing characters, and vivid language.

—GEORGE ELLIOTT CLARKE

The American Revolutionary War is being waged, and the fate of slaves in the colonies is on the line. Sarah Redmond, a slave on a South Carolina plantation, watches with a heavy heart as her father steals away in the dead of the night to join the British army, enticed by promises of freedom, land and provisions for his whole family. But before her father can return, the war draws to a close and the Loyalist slaves are all freed — including Sarah and her grandmother, Lydia. Uncertain of their future, Sarah and Lydia join the thousands who are rounded up and sent to New York to prepare for their journey to a new home somewhere in the British colonies. After months of waiting, the Redmonds are assigned to a ship bound for the first all-Black community in North America: Birchtown, Nova Scotia. With their Certificates of Freedom in hand, Lydia and Sarah wait anxiously, hoping beyond hope that their new life will bring acceptance and happiness. But once they reach Birchtown they find that their new home is barren, cold and isolated — and in a world slow to forget old fears and hate, their Certificates offer them freedom in name only. Chasing Freedom is the story of a young woman struggling to discover who she is and what she can become in a world that offers her few opportunities. Can Sarah and her family find the strength and determination to persevere against all odds?

AWARDS: 2012
Selected for The Canadian Children’s Book Centre’s Best Books for Kids & Teens
Shortlisted for The Ann Connor Brimer Award for Children’s Literature

Brown Skin, White Masks
by Hamid Dabashi

Brown Skin, White Masks provides a critical examination of the role that immigrant “comprador intellectuals” play in facilitating the global domination of American imperialism. In Black Skin, White Masks, Frantz Fanon explored the consequences of inferiority that colonized people felt, leading them to identify with the ideology of the colonial agency. Dabashi picks up where Fanon left off and extends Fanon’s insights as they apply to today’s world. Dabashi examines the ideology of cultural superiority and provides a passionate account of how these immigrant intellectuals continue to betray any notion of home or country in order to manufacture consent for imperial projects.
A New Notion: Two Works by C.L.R. James
The Invading Socialist Society and Every Cook Can Govern
by Noel Ignatiev and C.L.R. James

C.L.R. James was a leading figure in the independence movement in the West Indies, and the Black and working-class movements in both Britain and the United States. As a major contributor to Marxist and revolutionary theory, his project was to discover, document and elaborate the aspects of working-class activity that constitute the revolution in today’s world. In this volume, Noel Ignatiev, author of How the Irish Became White, provides an extensive introduction to James’s life and thought, before presenting two critical works that together illustrate the tremendous breadth and depth of James’s worldview. “The Invading Socialist Society,” for James the fundamental document of his political tendency, shows clearly the power of James’s political acumen and its relevance in today’s world with a clarity of analysis that anticipated future events to a remarkable extent. “Every Cook Can Govern” is a short and eminently readable piece counterpoising direct with representative democracy, and getting to the heart of how we should relate to one another. Together these two works represent the principal themes that run through James’s life: implacable hostility toward all “condescending saviours” of the working class and undying faith in the power of ordinary people to build a new world.

Islamophobia and the Question of Muslim Identity
The Politics of Difference and Solidarity
by Evelyn Leslie Hamdon

This book is a critical analysis of a Muslim group in Canada that has been working to challenge Islamophobia in their community. An important part of their anti-racist work involves dealing with the internal conflicts and dilemmas created by the differences among the members of the group. The coalition has been successful in developing several educational initiatives, in part, because they have been able to negotiate internal differences in ways that do not fragment the group. Through discussions with members of the coalition, the author explores the tensions that arise from these internal differences, and in doing so demonstrates the diversity of Muslim identity — and challenges the stereotypical image that has permeated the West for centuries.
White Femininity
Race, Gender & Power
by Katerina Deliovsky

This book contributes to the emerging field of white studies — an examination of the notion that whiteness is not an invisible category, but is itself a category of race. Looking at hegemonic white femininity in particular, the author examines the ways in which white women are coerced and compelled to demonstrate an allegiance to whiteness through their choice of intimate partners, sexual orientation, participation in racial inequality and complicity with white feminine beauty standards. This qualitative and theoretical research points to the fundamental role that white femininity plays in securing and reproducing whiteness as a location of white power and privilege.

Deadly Fever
Racism, Disease and a Media Panic
by Charles T. Adeyanju

Deadly Fever is a great text for courses that take up any of several timely themes: news media politics, racialization and/or immigration panic in the context of the changing demographics in Canada, or anxiety over Canadian “national identity” in the context of globalized risk. A key strength of the book is its analysis of the intersection of gender, race and nation, in examining how the media produces the black female body as a particular threat to the nation.

—ANGELA FAILLER, Sociology, University of Winnipeg

In February 2001, a woman from the Congo was admitted to a hospital in Hamilton, Ontario, with a serious illness of unknown origin. Very quickly, the rumour spread that she was carrying the deadly Ebola virus. Even though it was equally quickly determined that she did not carry the virus, the rumour spread like wildfire throughout the Canadian media. Through a content analysis of four major Canadian newspapers and interviews with journalists, medical practitioners and members of the Black community, Charles T. Adeyanju shows that it was the potent mixture of race, gender and immigration, not a real health problem, that lay at the heart of this public panic.
Fernwood works as a guest on unceded Indigenous lands; specifically, we create from Kjipuktuk in Mi’kma’ki, colonially known as Halifax, Nova Scotia, the territory of the Mi’kmaq, as well as in Winnipeg, Manitoba, the original lands of Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota and Dene peoples, and the homeland of the Métis Nation, which in 1871 became Treaty 1 territory.

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