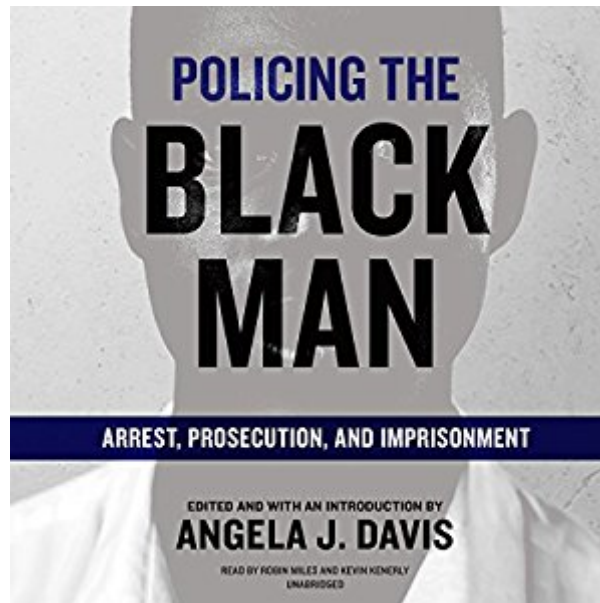


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# Policing The Black Man: Arrest, Prosecution, And Imprisonment



## Synopsis

A comprehensive analysis of the key issues of the Black Lives Matter movement, this thought-provoking and compelling anthology features essays by some of the nation's most influential and respected criminal justice experts and legal scholars. Contributing authors include Bryan Stevenson, director of the Equal Justice Initiative, NYU Law professor, and author of the New York Times best seller *Just Mercy*; Sherrilyn Ifill, president and director-counsel of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund; Jeremy Travis, president of John Jay College of Criminal Justice; and many others. *Policing the Black Man* explores and critiques the many ways the criminal justice system impacts the lives of African American boys and men at every stage of the criminal process, from arrest through sentencing. Essays range from an explication of the historical roots of racism in the criminal justice system to an examination of modern-day police killings of unarmed black men. The coauthors discuss and explain racial profiling, the power and discretion of police and prosecutors, the role of implicit bias, the racial impact of police and prosecutorial decisions, the disproportionate imprisonment of black men, the collateral consequences of mass incarceration, and the Supreme Court's failure to provide meaningful remedies for the injustices in the criminal justice system. *Policing the Black Man* is an enlightening listen for anyone interested in the critical issues of race and justice in America.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

great book

Excellent book!

Sent copy to my 2 oldest grandsons. So far so good.

A hard look at the American penal system--from cops, to court, to prison--is past due, and within this scholarly but crystal-clear series of essays, the broken justice system that still rules unequally over all inside USA borders is viewed under a bright light. Isn't it about time? Thank you to Doubleday and Net Galley for the DRC. It's for sale, and anyone with an interest in seeing change should read it. Caucasian readers that still can't figure out why so many African-Americans are so upset should buy this book at full price, and they should read it twice. If you read this collection and still don't understand why most Civil Rights advocates are calling out that Black Lives Matter, it likely means you didn't want to know. But bring your literacy skills when you come; well documented and flawless in both reason and presentation, it's not a book that individuals without college-ready reading skills will be able to master. The most horrifying aspect of American policing and prosecution is the way that Black boys are targeted. Sometimes only 10 or 12 years of age, they find themselves in the crosshairs of suspicion and implicit bias no matter what they do. Of course, the presumption that someone is violent, is dangerous, is guilty is never acceptable, and men and women all over the USA have seen it happen. However, most cultures hold their children dearest, and so what happens when every African-American boy grows up knowing that cops will assume he has done something wrong because he has stopped on the street corner, or not stopped; walked too slowly, or too quickly; looked away, or looked around down; what happens when an entire subset of the US population knows that he was essentially outlawed from the cradle? Those that care about justice won't want to read this collection while eating, and you won't want to read it at bedtime, either. How do you swallow? How do you fall asleep when what you want to do is hit a wall? This reviewer's own family is racially mixed, and when I consider the easy good humor of the Black men in my family, I wonder how they do it. And yet I know the answer: you can't be angry seven days a week or your life is already over. They face American racism with fatalistic humor and get on with their lives. That shouldn't be necessary. These essays each zero in on one particular area of policing. Implicit bias is addressed, as is the failure of the US government to even admit that a problem exists. The Supreme Court has adopted the ivory-tower position that American justice is colorblind, centuries of evidence to the contrary notwithstanding. There is no database at all regarding the deaths of Black boys and men by cops, and no requirement that

anyone keep track. Does it make a difference if the prosecutor is Black? There's no data. None. And did you know that 95% of the people charged with a crime plead guilty? Prosecutors hold so much power that often a completely innocent person can be persuaded not to risk having an extra charge, and extra time, tacked on. Prosecutors get to decide whether a crime should be pursued as a state crime, which has far more lenient implications, or as a felony. Cops are out in the public eye and thank goodness they are, but prosecutors do things quietly, often behind closed doors. Davis's own article alone is worth the purchase price of this collection, but once you have it in your hands, you will want to read the whole thing; and you should. You should do it, and then you should become involved. Protest in the way you are able, but don't sit idly by and watch. Protest, because Black Lives Matter, and until this country admits that it has a race problem, how can any of us breathe?

*Policing the Black Man* explores and critiques the many ways the criminal justice system impacts the lives of African American boys and men at every stage of the criminal process, from arrest through sentencing. Essays range from an explication of the historical roots of racism in the criminal justice system to an examination of modern-day police killings of unarmed black men. The contributors discuss and explain racial profiling, the power and discretion of police and prosecutors, the role of implicit bias, the racial impact of police and prosecutorial decisions, the disproportionate imprisonment of black men, the collateral consequences of mass incarceration, and the Supreme Court's failure to provide meaningful remedies for the injustices in the criminal justice system. *Policing the Black Man* is an enlightening must-read for anyone interested in the critical issues of race and justice in America. *Policing the Black Man* is a detailed guide to how institutional racism affects every aspect of the criminal justice system. It's a compilation of essays, written by different authors, that includes topics such as the police shootings of unarmed black men, the prosecution of both black men in general and in police officers involved in shootings, the grand jury process, and the regular criminal trial sentencing process. I learned so much from this book. Prior to reading this, I had mostly considered the racial bias of the police force and the judges in criminal trials. I didn't really know anything about how the grand jury process works. And turns out, no one else does either. It's highly secret and only the prosecutor and the jury know what happens behind the closed doors of the trial. The essay on prosecutors was enlightening as well. I didn't realize how much the prosecutor can affect the outcome of the trial. I figured that it affected how black men were treated as defendants but didn't consider how the prosecutor affect the process when it's a police officer on trial. I guess I assumed that the

prosecutor always fights wholeheartedly for the government's side no matter who he's prosecuting. However, this isn't always the case because of the close relationship between the prosecutor and the police. The police need prosecutors to prosecute the people they arrest and the prosecutors need the police officers to testify in the criminal trials. Therefore, the prosecutors might be reluctant to upset the police department by sending some of their officers to prison. I liked the way *Policing the Black Man* was structured, in that each essay was about a different topic. It was easy to read an essay or two in a sitting without feeling like I was getting information overload. The essays are thoroughly researched with copious notes after each one. This book is a comprehensive look at the institutional racism present in the criminal justice system. I highly, highly recommend it.

This is a book that should be read by all. This is a detailed, essay formatted book on racism. This book covers many different basis such from the past to the present. What I truly enjoyed about the book was the statistics and facts to back up what had been written. I did learn some new things. With the climate of the world today, I wish everyone would read this book. The insight is magnificent. I will be buying this book for family and friends. Thanks to NetGalley, the author and the publisher for the ARC of this book in return for my honest review.

*Policing the Black Man* by Angela J. Davis is a free NetGalley ebook that I read in early June. A series of article-length discussions on profiling bias, controlled plea bargaining, wrongful prosecution, police attacking and targeting, crimes against black men as unconvicted, an overall disproportionate prison population, lynching (i.e. history, there being an absence of a formal crime, victim, or criminality, but definitely the presence of an allegation), low levels of accountability, illegal search, and unfounded patdowns. Critical reading in the time of an enraging not-guilty verdict against Jeronimo Yanez.

This is a must read. Plain and simple. It's very well done - organized well with a broad range of contributors. HIGHLY recommend.

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