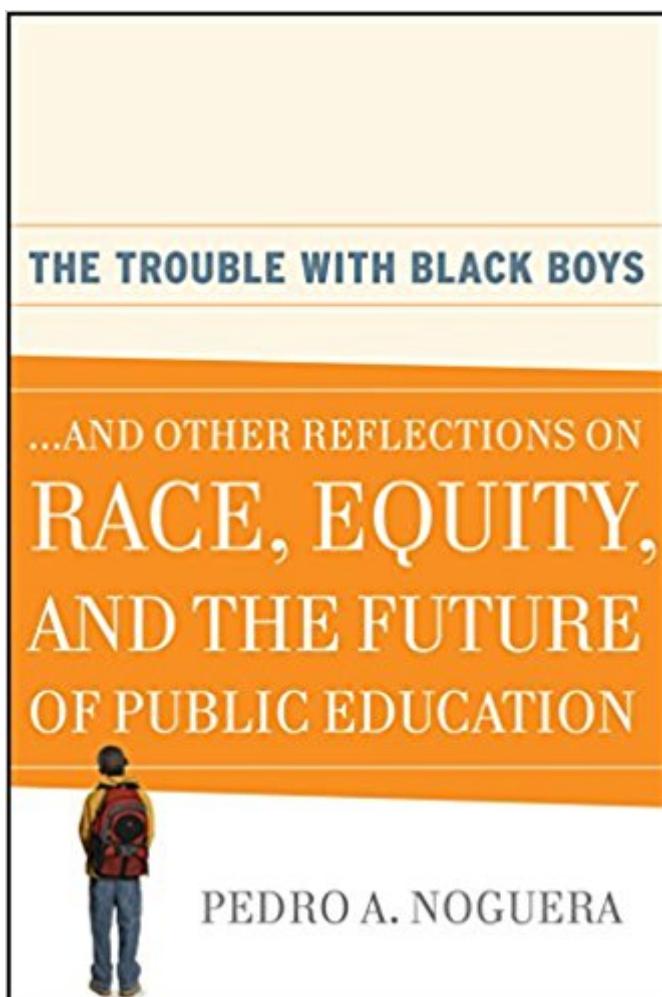


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The Trouble With Black Boys: ...And Other Reflections On Race, Equity, And The Future Of Public Education



Synopsis

For many years to come, race will continue to be a source of controversy and conflict in American society. For many of us it will continue to shape where we live, pray, go to school, and socialize. We cannot simply wish away the existence of race or racism, but we can take steps to lessen the ways in which the categories trap and confine us. Educators, who should be committed to helping young people realize their intellectual potential as they make their way toward adulthood, have a responsibility to help them find ways to expand identities related to race so that they can experience the fullest possibility of all that they may become. In this brutally honest "yet ultimately hopeful" book Pedro Noguera examines the many facets of race in schools and society and reveals what it will take to improve outcomes for all students. From achievement gaps to immigration, Noguera offers a rich and compelling picture of a complex issue that affects all of us.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Influenced by culture and aware of the lack of prospects for them, black boys in particular, but minority students of all kinds, make the kinds of poor choices that fulfill the low expectations of their teachers and the broader society. Education professor Noguera examines the cultural, societal "and personal" factors that create the stubborn link between race and poverty. In this compelling series of essays, Noguera cites research and his own personal experience "as a minority, a father, and an educator" to explore the myriad ways that young black and Hispanic males are expected to run afoul of middle-class American norms and often do. He argues that

public schools, despite their abysmal record, are the only institutions with the access and resources to turn around troubling social trends. He points to research comparing the disciplinary tactics of public schools and prisons, institutions that have far too much in common with so many male minority students dropping out of schools and landing in prison. A thoughtful look at issues of race and educational equity. --Vanessa Bush --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

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This is the most insightful and engaging text I've read on closing the achievement gap. The author strikes a great balance between presenting the reader with research and sharing compelling anecdotes from his personal and professional life. Both made an indelible impact on me. Unlike some authors who write on this subject, his tone is inviting - and not at all alienating. My only criticism has to do with the organization of the book. It reads like a collection of essays, which isn't such a big deal except that sometimes things seemed out of order somehow. Overall, I strongly recommend this book to educators who teach diverse populations. Not only is it helpful, it's actually an enjoyable education book! No offense to my profession, but sometimes education books are as boring as the day is long.

As a teacher at a continuation high school, I connected intensely with the realities and considerations Noguera presents in this book. He articulates the reality of Black and Latino youth in Berkeley schools, which resembles that of such youth in many other urban districts in America, without over-assuming or sensationalizing the issues. Confronted with conflicting images and perspectives on what they should become in life, these youth are caught in a conundrum. He addresses culture, social structures and educational agendas as he calls for schools to assume responsibility for ALL students' academic outcomes rather than expecting failure as an inevitable end for many. Noguera demonstrates that the implications of this so-called "trouble" are far-reaching, including when he honestly shares the story of his son Joaquin. I especially appreciate his unique take on the issues as an accomplished academic, a former school board member and a parent. Overall, Noguera's passion is undeniable as he gives a voice to the voiceless in urban America.

Great for College Course as Requested! especially price for a freshman in college!

As an educator and life long learner, this book speaks not only to the challenges in public education, but it also talks about what can be done to bring about change for the thousands of students affected by the choices we make everyday. Great book and a must read for educators especially those who work in urban school districts.

Don't let the title fool you, it is not only about African American children in our schools but all underrepresented populations. Very powerful book written in teacher friendly language that is actually applicable in real life classrooms. Highly recommended.

Very insightful and practical for educators as a resource.

As a doctoral student in education I found this book to be extremely rewarding with Dr. Noguera's personal stories and research. This book hits "the nail on the head" with detailing the explicit issues with African American & Latino males in public schools in America. This book is sure to raise awareness and promote action on behalf of these children.

If you've read at least two books on race, equality, and the education system than you've essentially read this book. It's a good read and if you're interested in the subject than it may be worth purchasing; however, it felt a bit redundant.

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