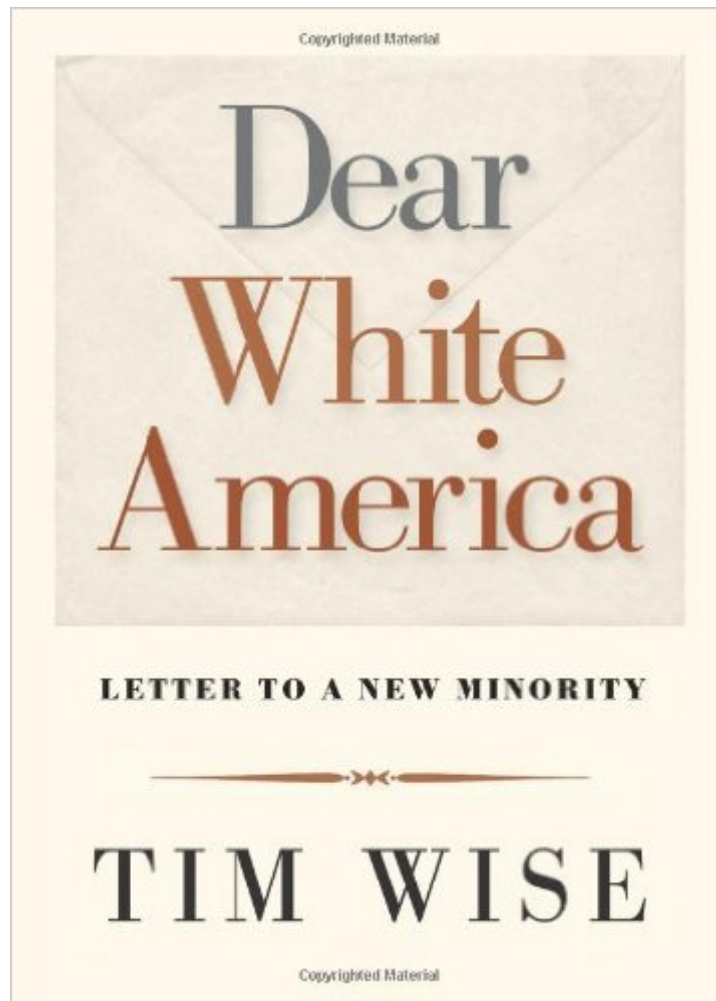


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Dear White America: Letter To A New Minority (City Lights Open Media)



Synopsis

White Americans have long been comfortable in the assumption that they are the cultural norm. Now that notion is being challenged, as white people wrestle with what it means to be part of a fast-changing, truly multicultural nation. Facing chronic economic insecurity, a popular culture that reflects the nation's diverse cultural reality, a future in which they will no longer constitute the majority of the population, and with a black president in the White House, whites are growing anxious. This anxiety has helped to create the Tea Party movement, with its call to "take our country back." By means of a racialized nostalgia for a mythological past, the Right is enlisting fearful whites into its campaign for reactionary social and economic policies. In urgent response, Tim Wise has penned his most pointed and provocative work to date. Employing the form of direct personal address, he points a finger at whites' race-based self-delusion, explaining how such an agenda will only do harm to the nation's people, including most whites. In no uncertain terms, he argues that the hope for survival of American democracy lies in the embrace of our multicultural past, present and future. "Sparing neither family nor self—he considers how the deck has always been stacked in his and other white people's favor—His candor is invigorating." —Publishers Weekly "One of the most brilliant, articulate and courageous critics of white privilege in the nation." —Michael Eric Dyson "Tim Wise has written another blockbuster! His new book, *Dear White America: Letter to a New Minority*, is a cogent analysis of the problems of race and inequality as well as a plea for those who harbor views about race and racism to modify and indeed eliminate them. While the book's title addresses white people, this is really a book for anyone who is concerned about eliminating the issue of racial disparity in our society. This is must read and a good read." —Charles J. Ogletree, Jr., the Jesse Climenko Professor of Law at Harvard Law School and the Executive Director of the Charles Hamilton Houston Institute for Race and Justice. He is the author of a number of books, including *The Presumption of Guilt: The Arrest of Henry Louis Gates, Jr.* and *Race, Class and Crime in America* "Tim Wise is an American hero in the truest sense of the term—he tells the truth, no matter how inconvenient that truth might be. *Dear White America* is a desperately needed response to the insidious mythology that pretends whites are oppressed and people of color unduly privileged. In the process, it exposes how new forms of racism have been deliberately embedded into our supposedly 'color blind' culture. Read this book—but rest assured, it's not for the faint of heart." —David Sirota, syndicated columnist, radio host, author of *Back to Our Future: How the 1980s Explain the World We Live In Now* "The foremost white analyst of racism in America never fails to provide fresh takes as he punctures myths and defenses." —World Wide Work Tim Wise is one of the most prominent antiracist essayists,

educators, and activists in the United States. He is regularly interviewed by A-list media, including CNN, C-SPAN, The Tavis Smiley Show, The Tom Joyner Morning Show, Michael Eric Dyson's radio program, and many more. His most recent books include *Colorblind* and *Between Barack and a Hard Place*.

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Customer Reviews

I think three things will happen after you read this book. 1) You will feel proud of being a minority and better argue the current popular racial resentment rhetoric (right wing propaganda). 2) As the majority race, you will analyze your own views and stereotypes. Worry, perhaps, and seek to truly bridge the racial gap with true and logical solutions. 3) Or you will ignore this, because it doesn't suit your view of America as a minority or majority race. Random thoughts: We are united, as crazy as it sounds, more than ever. We white, black, brown, red or purple face similar problems. Whether it's wall street at the brink of bankrupting our country, education, job security, terrorism, government role, unemployment. Perhaps white America has tasted what it's like to be a minority, can better understand one another and start uniting as one. At times I just think the wealthy pit the middle and low class against one another with racial tensions and xenophobia. Let's rise above that and unite as one, for our nation and future children.

I just finished "Dear White America" and I believe it is a must read for all white-Americans in this

particular election year. As a retired white-guy, living in the VERY conservative Orange County California (aka The OC), I am probably not the "typical" reader/demographic for Tim Wise's works, yet I find him to be a great thinker, educator, & student of history. Having read Tim's books "White Like Me" (which is one of my top-10 all-time favorites), "Colorblind", & "Speaking Treason Fluently", plus owning two DVD's of Tim's speeches on White Privilege, much in this book seemed to me to be a compilation of his other material, but updated with some current facts & statistics that I believe are especially important to all voters in this important upcoming Presidential election, no matter where your political alliances lie. This book is, to me, much more "readable" than "Colorblind" while addressing most of the issues in that excellent work. My only personal gripe with some of Tim's earlier books/writing is that sometimes it's too "academic" in nature, & I worry that some of my friends may not persevere to complete the book. This is a book I'll be giving to many friends, & even some not-so-friendly acquaintances. Although I stated that I believe this is a must read for all white-Americans, I believe it's an interesting read for all people. I wholeheartedly give this a 5-star rating.

Still relevant in 2016. Quote: "No, talking about racism isn't the problem: racism itself is. To blame the conversation for the problem is like blaming your speedometer for the speeding ticket you just received."

I find Wise puts things simply and directly in a way that's digestible. He speaks of his own experience and I appreciate his insights and his clarity. I think this is a very good book. Sadly, it will be read primarily by people who are already aware of the inequities in our society. I would like to find a way to get through to people who are steadfast in their refusal to believe that white privilege exists. I gave this book to one such person and he was unable to read it because of his denial.

If "White America" doesn't read this, **BLACK AMERICA MUST!!** It gives great insight on why White America thinks and view issues the way they do..This book brings discernment. Thanks again Tim Wise!

This should be required reading for anyone who lacks tolerance, fair-mindedness, and good will toward fellow citizens. After reading this book, my first thought was this person should be appointed to head this country's Federal Civil Rights operations. As an African-American male, I would be very comfortable entrusting my civil liberties to anyone who exhibits his kind of sensitivity and general

fairness in looking beyond stereotypes, labels, and historical disregard for facts. Periodically, a person like this comes along, and renews your faith in humanity and the potential for how truly great this country really could be.

A must read for all White Americans first, but also People of Color.

I heard a discussion of "Dear White America" on NPR and ordered it with Colorblind: The Rise of Post-Racial Politics and the Retreat from Racial Equity (City Lights Open Media). I found DWA more succinct and better organized although Colorblind was also a great read (The concept of a colorblind society has always irritated the 7734 out of me.) DWA addressed a gripe I have had with the media and the commentariat for years. All of these things are happening in U.S. society and no one ever seems to link the pattern or describe what is happening at a macro level. Tim Wise does just that. The legacy of the past 100 years is as damaging as the antebellum era. This book reminds all Americans that minorities have legitimate gripes about public policy and society between the Civil War and today. There is a correlation between the racist implementation of the G.I. Bill and the wealth disparities today. White America's denial-ism injures everyone in America because no one can move to new roles if we refuse to recognize our past and current roles. Please read this book and then share your copy with a friend. It will help the choir develop a clearer understanding of the path that led us here and also inform the maddening crowd that can't seem to grasp that we haven't actually had a national discussion about race because so many are refusing to acknowledge the systematic injustices and privilege that shape our daily lives. If everyone reads this, I won't have to suffer through one more bootstrap story that includes grazing rights on public land, the G.I. Bill, Levitt town communities, and a public school education that served them well.

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