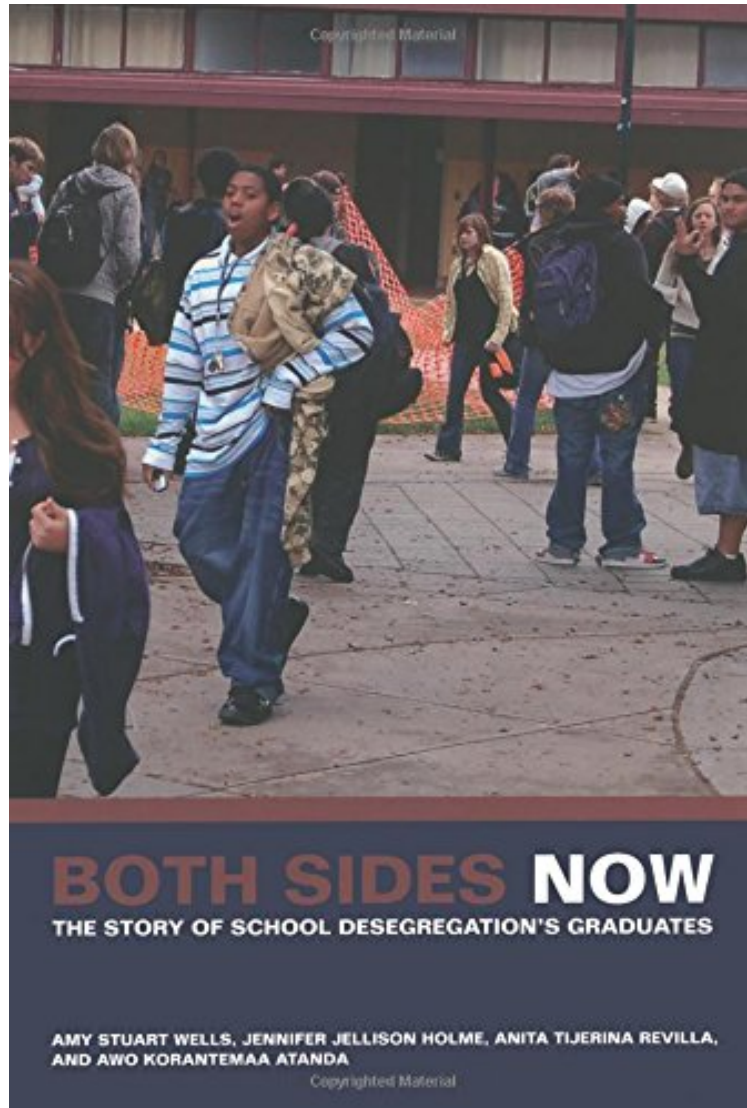


[Mobile ebook] Both Sides Now: The Story of School Desegregation's Graduates

Both Sides Now: The Story of School Desegregation's Graduates

Amy Stuart Wells

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Amy Stuart Wells : Both Sides Now: The Story of School Desegregation's Graduates before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Both Sides Now: The Story of School Desegregation's Graduates:

This is the untold story of a generation that experienced one of the most extraordinary chapters in our nation's

history—school desegregation. Many have attempted to define desegregation, which peaked in the late 1970s, as either a success or a failure; surprisingly few have examined the experiences of the students who lived through it. Featuring the voices of blacks, whites, and Latinos who graduated in 1980 from racially diverse schools, *Both Sides Now* offers a powerful firsthand account of how desegregation affected students—during high school and later in life. Their stories, set in a rich social and historical context, underscore the manifold benefits of school desegregation while providing an essential perspective on the current backlash against it.

From the Inside Flap“Amidst dismal news of increasing inequality and resegregation, we are all apt to forget that there was a time in our history when the nation was moving in the other direction, often by the force of court orders, but backed by a measure of liberal will that saw, in school integration, the seeds of social justice. What, exactly, were the lasting achievements of desegregation? Based on interviews with graduates from integrated high schools from Texas to Ohio, from Pasadena to Charlotte, twenty years after they completed their degrees, the authors find that whites who shared classrooms with blacks are more concerned about equality, more critical of 'blame the victim' discourse, and more appreciative of what black culture has contributed to the American fabric. This book provides compelling, moving, and profoundly important testimony to the wisdom of policies that bring us together across the color line.”—Katherine S. Newman, coauthor of *The Missing Class: Portraits of the Near Poor in America*.“*Both Sides Now* is an exquisite, vital and compelling portrait of the human side of school desegregation. The authors provide a meticulous, well-designed study of a deeply complex issue and then offer us something even grander. In this beautiful book, readers get the rare privilege of hearing the eloquent, unfiltered voices of men and women who actually attended racially mixed schools. These are people with more than just stories to tell. They have lessons to teach our nation—about the meaning of democracy, about America's aspirations for cohesion, and about schooling experiences that might allow us to live more happily and work more productively in our increasingly diverse nation.”—Susan Eaton, author of *The Children of Room E4*“Amy Stuart Wells and colleagues vividly portray the ephemeral nature of interracial contact in the history of desegregated schools in the United States. In this telling portrayal of the high school Class of 1980—some of desegregation's first beneficiaries—Wells and company provide a textured and complex examination of just how difficult it was and is to achieve the social ideals of the Brown decision. No other piece of work has provided such gripping and intimate sociological and historical details of earlier interracial school contact. Such relations, as Wells et al. argue, are certain to have long-term effects on the communal fabric of our nation. *Both Sides Now* is a book that should be read by anyone who cares about the state of racial diversity in American schools.”—Prudence Carter, author of *Keepin' It Real: School Success Beyond Black and White*