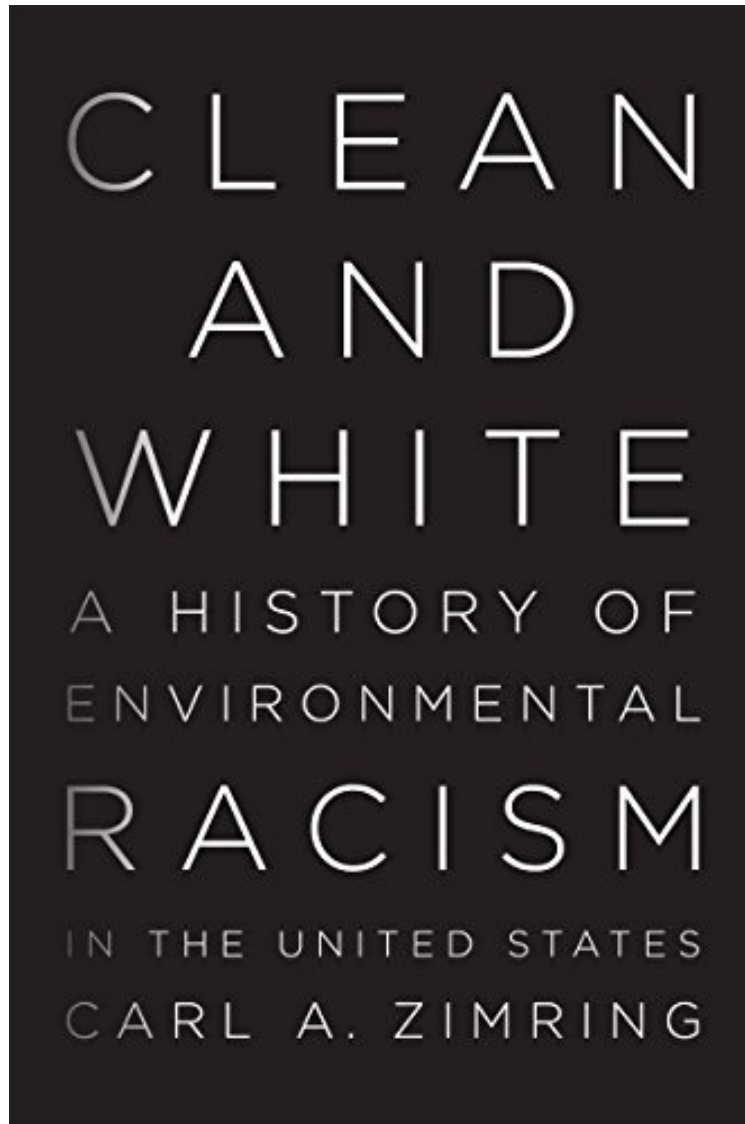


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# Clean and White: A History of Environmental Racism in the United States

*Carl A. Zimring*

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**Carl A. Zimring : Clean and White: A History of Environmental Racism in the United States** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Clean and White: A History of Environmental Racism in the United States:

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significance and human nature.0 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Four StarsBy CustomerAn intriguing story of environmental racism in the United States.

When Joe Biden attempted to compliment Barack Obama by calling him “clean and articulate,” he unwittingly tapped into one of the most destructive racial stereotypes in American history. This book tells the history of the corrosive idea that whites are clean and those who are not white are dirty. From the age of Thomas Jefferson to the Memphis Public Workers strike of 1968 through the present day, ideas about race and waste have shaped where people have lived, where people have worked, and how American society’s wastes have been managed.

"[A] valuable history of environmental racism in the United States...Essential reading for those interested in social justice and environmental issues."-Library Journal"Zimring shows that American notions of clean environments and healthy landscapes are the products of a racist past."-Journal of American History"Offers a significant and startling new perspective on United States history, revealing the many ways in which ideals of cleanliness, notions of environmental propriety, and definitions of whiteness have been interwoven for centuries, to devastating effect. With deft prose and thoroughly researched arguments, Zimring unravels some of the previously overlooked origins of deeply rooted American racism, and in the process shows how these have come to justify economic, social, and political discrimination against people of color. It is an important original analysis, and it brings much needed insight to our ongoing national debate about race and justice."-Robin Nagle, author of Picking Up: On the Streets and Behind the Trucks with the Sanitation Workers of New Yor"[E]nlightening."-Publishers Weekly"Zimring offers a clearly written overview of environmental racism in the US."-Choice Connect"What an innovative study! In *Clean and White*, Carl Zimring addresses an age-old critique of racism that posits white as clean and good and black as dirty and bad. In so doing, he elevates the discussion by demonstrating the cultural roots of this nefarious comparison within the context of environmental racism. Those interested in both questions of race and modern environmentalism will benefit from reading this book."-Martin V. Melosi, author of *The Sanitary City*"Traces the always shifting, always intertwined definitions of whiteness and cleanliness from the Civil War to the present day."-Pacific Standard"Zimring's provocative book will compel future historians to take the role of garbage and waste seriously when seeking to explain some of the most pernicious social injustices of our time."-Indiana Magazine of HistoryAbout the AuthorCarl A. Zimring is Professor of Sustainability Studies in the Department of Social Science and Cultural Studies at the Pratt Institute. He is the author of *Cash for Your Trash: Scrap Recycling in America* and general editor of the *Encyclopedia of Consumption and Waste: The Social Science of Garbage*.