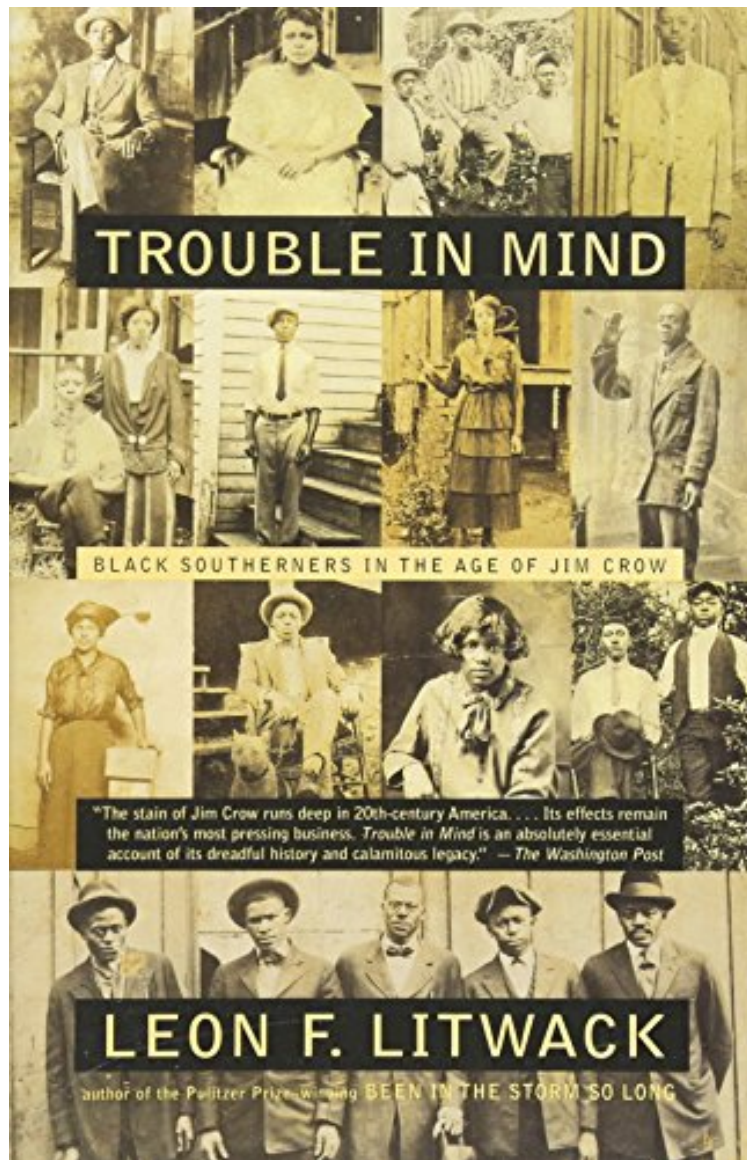


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Trouble in Mind

Leon F. Litwack, Leon F Litwack

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Leon F. Litwack, Leon F Litwack : Trouble in Mind before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Trouble in Mind:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. One of the best, well writtenBy CustomerOne of the best, well written, researched and articulated histories of American apartheid/jim crow that I've read. I have read much about the 'black problem in America and this is one of the best,...0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Trouble in

MindBy J Michael McDadeAn amazing book! Wonderfully written, an excellent read. I have long known about the "Jim Crow" South, but have never fully grasped the horror of being black during that period, and the full extent of torture, mental and physical applied by White Southerners for no good reason. The use of actual quotes from people who lived through it make it come alive.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Necessary but troubling reading.By TeacherThis book is a must have in the personal libraries of anyone with a slight interest in African-American history. No other book I've read documents the pain and suffering of the Jim Crow South like this one. The book focuses on the era after Reconstruction to the early 20th century, which was arguably the worst time period to be a black person in the American south. This book is well researched. It will give you a greater appreciation for the suffering of your fellow man.

"The stain of Jim Crow runs deep in 20th-century America. . . . Its effects remain the nation's most pressing business. Trouble in Mind is an absolutely essential account of its dreadful history and calamitous legacy." --The Washington Post
"The most complete and moving account we have had of what the victims of the Jim Crow South suffered and somehow endured."--C. Vann Woodward
In April 1899, black laborer Sam Hose killed his white boss in self-defense. Wrongly accused of raping the man's wife, Hose was mutilated, stabbed, and burned alive in front of 2,000 cheering whites. His body was sold piecemeal to souvenir seekers; an Atlanta grocery displayed his knuckles in its front window for a week.
With the same narrative skill he brought to the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Been in the Storm So Long*, Leon Litwack constructs a searing history of life under Jim Crow. Drawing on new documentation and first-person accounts by blacks and whites, he describes the injustices--both institutional and personal--inflicted against a people. Here, too, are the black men and women whose activism, literature, and music preserved the genius of their human spirit. Painstakingly researched, important, and timely, *Trouble in Mind* recalls the bloodiest and most repressive period in the history of race relations in the United States--and the painful record of discrimination that haunts us to this day.
"Moving, elegant, earthy and pointed. . . . It forces us to reckon with the tragic legacies of freedom as well as of slavery. And it reminds us of the resilience and creativity of the human spirit." --Steven Hahn, *The San Diego Union-Tribune*
"A chilling reminder of how simple it has been for Americans to delude themselves about the power of race." --The Raleigh News Observer

.com The name of the era, "Jim Crow," was somehow derived from an old minstrel song, but there was nothing frivolous about the laws and traditions used to keep blacks from participating in society in the post-Reconstruction South. Leon Litwack, a professor at the University of California at Berkeley and a noted authority on black history, has written a searing account of the age of Jim Crow in *Trouble In Mind*. The book is arranged in thematic chapters that show how blacks were restricted at every turn. Blacks were kept in perpetual debt, denied proper schooling, and were subjected to daily assaults on their dignity. Most disturbing was the institution of lynchings, the thousands of hangings and burnings that terrorized blacks in the South. Litwack documents how lynchings were carefully planned and attracted large crowds who viewed them as cathartic entertainment. *Trouble In Mind* deals with a long and sad chapter in American History, but Professor Litwack has written a laudable book which deserves to be read. *Trouble In Mind* is considered a sequel to Litwack's *Been In the Storm So Long*, a critically acclaimed account of Reconstruction which was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for History.
From Library Journal
The 1970s witnessed an explosion of extraordinary historical scholarship on black slavery, culture, and the complex relationship between races in U.S. history. Among the best of the great books published was Berkeley professor Litwack's *Been in the Storm So Long* (Random, 1979), which examined the development of black society and culture roughly from the Civil War to the end of the 19th century. The new volume begins a century ago as race relations deteriorated toward strict segregation and a brutality that rivaled slavery. As in his earlier book, Litwack is strongest describing how the black community built and preserved its integrity while under constant assault from hostile whites. This long-awaited sequel shows that the author is a master of making the most of sources that only a generation ago were considered too meager to merit serious historical examination. A useful discography follows the thorough bibliography of primary and secondary sources. Highly recommended for most public and academic audiences.
?Charles K. Piehl, Mankato State Univ., Minn.
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From Booklist
In his Pulitzer Prize-winning *Been in the Storm So Long* (1979), historian Litwack drew on Depression-era oral histories of ex-slaves to recapture the experience of African Americans the U.S. Constitution defined as property until the Civil War and finally recognized as citizens under the Emancipation Proclamation and the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth Amendments. In *Trouble in Mind*, he blends archival material, research from a new generation of historians, and blues lyrics' often powerful glimpses of a way of life in a wide-ranging portrait of yet another generation of African Americans--those born after the war and Reconstruction, who had to learn the rigorous strictures of Jim Crow or, ultimately, escape the South in the great migration. Most nonsoutherners who know only clichés about this troubled period will be enlightened by Litwack's thorough descriptions, studded with contemporary citations, of both the fear and the violence that underlay Jim Crow and the notable success of African Americans in the southern states in building and preserving strong families,

schools, and other institutions. Mary Carroll