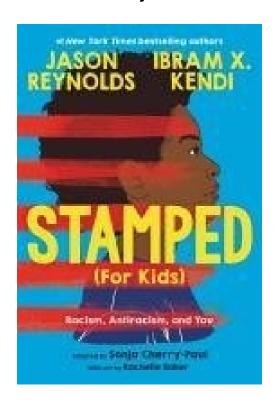


## **STAMPED** (FOR KIDS): RACISM, ANTIRACISM, AND YOU



## **Summary of Concerns:**

This book contains inflammatory racial and social commentary.

Juvenile

## By Jason Reynolds and Ibram X. Kendi

ISBN: 978-0316167581





**Page** Content

- 19 In 1619, THE FIRST SHIP CARRYING ENSLAVED AFRICAN people arrived in the newly colonized America. America welcomed slavery with open arms and used it to build this new country
- 19 Some of these new arrivals were missionaries, religious folks who wanted to spread their religion, including Puritan ministers who followed strict religious rules. When they came to America, they set up churches and schools to teach their way of thinking; that they were better than anyone who wasn't a Puritan, and way better than Native American and African people. They taught those ideas in their churches and schools, which, along with Zurara's ideas and others, helped justify slavery for a long, long time- because it was tied to church and school, which are basically the bacon and eggs of the country. Or maybe the bread and cheese. The meat and potatoes? You get the point.
- 26 But slavery was the American cash machine. It provided free labor to produce resources that would help America grow, which provided money money money for White Americans. And in order for White Americans to feel comfortable with continuing slavery, they had to break free of Britain once and for all
- 28 In 1776 America was doubling down on owning people, but didn't want to be owned by Great Britain. Talk about a contradiction. And, speaking of contradiction, no one was more whishy-washy than Thomas Jefferson. You've probably heard of Jefferson. He's the guy who wrote the Declaration of Independence, America's freedom document, which stated that "all men are created equal." But were enslaved people seen as men? And what about women?"
- 29 Eventually, after years of fighting against the British, America did break free of their control. It came out of the Revolutionary War needing a stronger government, so the Founders wrote a new constitution. And guess what was baked right into this constitution? Racist ideas.
- 45 But the honest truth is the fighting, the (Civil) war, the symbols, and the monuments are about White supremacy and racial terror.
- 89 Everyday words such as black sheep, blackmail, blacklist, and others connect Blackness with badness. They support the idea that black is negative. And other words help to suggest this. Such as minority, which suggests that Black people are minor, making White people major. And ghetto, a term used to describe an undesirable area of a city. In racist America, ghetto and minority became synonyms for Black. These words were used like knives, to inflict pain and suggest danger. They are still used this way today.
- 106 Years after desegregation became the law of the land (on paper if not in practice), racists found a new way to make public education a weapon: standardized testing.





107 The idea that we should pretend NOT to see racism is connected to the idea that we should pretend NOT to see color. It's called color-blindness. Not the medical condition whereby it's hard for some people to tell the difference between red and green. But the kind where people think it's better to act like they don't see differences in skin color. Here's what's wrong with this.

It's ridiculous! Skin color is something we all absolutely see.

It's dark skin that people pretend not to see, which reinforces the idea that something is wrong with black skin.

If people do not see color, that means they do not see racism.

So to pretend not to see color is pretty convenient if you don't actually want to stamp out racism in the first place.

- 115 Black children's lives ended at the hands of police officers and those who placed no value on Black humanity. Black people's lives ended at the hands of police officers and White people who were rarely punished.
- 122 From the beginning, racist ideas have been stamped into the United States- into the Constitution, laws, policies, practices, and beliefs of segregationists and assimilationists.
- 124 And you dear reader? Do you want to be a segregationist (a hater), an assimilationist (a coward), or an antiracist (someone who truly loves)? The choice is yours.

