

Uprooting Racism

How White People Can Work for Racial Justice

By Paul Kivel

AFTER SEPTEMBER 11, 2001, A NEW GROUP EMERGED AS A TARGET of racist wrath: Arab and Muslim Americans. Individuals have been attacked, beaten, and even killed. Mosques have been vandalized. Less violent, but no less significant, have been reports of governmental encroachments on Arab American civil liberties, and negative comments and threats by fellow civilians.

This widespread response to a specific racial group fits a larger history. Continuing high poverty rates of African Americans, Native Americans and Hispanics illustrate how everyday racism still pervades American society. Despite such destructive attitudes, horrific acts, and everyday discrimination, many white people in America continue to work with people of color for racial justice.

Paul Kivel has been a long-time advocate and strong activist for racial equality. The new edition of his award-winning book, **UPROOTING RACISM: How White People Can Work for Racial Justice** (New Society Publishers) is as relevant and needed as ever. From examining how the New Economy has left behind so many people of color, to analyzing the 2000 election debacle, and detailing the rising Arab American prejudice since September 11, Kivel explores much new and important terrain since the first edition of **UPROOTING RACISM** was named the Outstanding Book on Human Rights in North America in 1996.

Through anecdotes, questionnaires, and simulated dialogue, Kivel deconstructs the concept of race and explores the many manifestations of racism in politics, work, and community and family life. Written in an engaging, personal style, **UPROOTING RACISM** helps readers understand how racism is learned, what effects it has on our lives, and its costs and benefits to white people. The numerous specific suggestions for

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action throughout the book support the "white" reader in becoming a more effective ally in the struggle to end racism. Passionate and practical, this is an essential handbook for white activists who know there can be no racial peace and harmony until there is racial justice.

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