


# White Trash: Race and Class in America

*From Routledge*

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First published in 1997. Routledge is an imprint of Taylor & Francis, an informa company.

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## Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review
This collection of essays suffers somewhat from occasional appearances in its pages of the plodding and pretentious prose of academia, but despite that fault, these essays on poor white Americans are, in general, quite interesting. To be honest, when the scholars trip over their jargon while explaining why Bubba and Jolene constitute a "debased other," it can be more fun than a free Pabst beer at the monster truck pull. Some essays stand out. Writer Michael Berube's memoir of life in a 1950s trailer park in Bayonne, New Jersey, is well-written and touching; and University of Southern California film professor Constance Penley's disquisition on white trash pornography, entitled "Crackers and Whackers" is bound to raise eyebrows. And Gael Sweeney provides the fitting finale, an essay entitled "The King of White Trash Culture: Elvis Presley and the Aesthetics of Excess."

Review
"[T]he essays in Matt Wray and Annalee Newitz's "White Trash: Race and Class in America forcefully peel away many common assumptions about the relations between race and privilege. The essays in "White Trash interweave the personal and the "objective" to demonstrate the interdependence of experience and knowledge necessary to understand as false what has to date been assumed as normative in our cultural identity: that "white" is both classless and privileged. "White Trash offers a slash-and-burn approach that others will appreciate, targeting the intersection of race and class in white culture as the invisible site of contradiction that allows whiteness to be understood as raceless and classless."
-"Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society
"White Trash...contribute(s) some important new voices to the current culture wars."
-"Boston Review of Books ..a new collection of stunningly didactic essays in cultural criticism...Welcome to the newest fad in academia: white studies.

From the Back Cover
Poor or marginal whites occupy an uncharted space in recent identity studies, particularly because they do not easily fit the model of whiteness-as-power proposed by many multiculturalist or minority discourses. Associated in mainstream culture with "trashy" kitsch or dangerous pathologies rather than with the material realities of economic life, poor whites are treated as degraded caricatures rather than as real people living in conditions of poverty and disempowerment. White Trash situates the study of poor whites within the context of several academic disciplines, public-policy analysis, and popular or mass-media representations. Arguing that white racism is directed not only against people of color but also against certain groups of whites, the contributors to this volume explore the ways in which race and class in America are often talked about and represented in hidden, coded, or half-realized ways. In so doing, they demonstrate why the term white trash itself embodies yet another way in which some whites generate a debased "other" through pejorative naming practices.

## Users Review

**From reader reviews:**

**Michelle Huffman:**

In this 21st millennium, people become competitive in most way. By being competitive at this point, people have do something to make all of them survives, being in the middle of often the crowded place and notice

by simply surrounding. One thing that occasionally many people have underestimated that for a while is reading. Sure, by reading a guide your ability to survive boost then having chance to stand up than other is high. To suit your needs who want to start reading a new book, we give you this White Trash: Race and Class in America book as nice and daily reading guide. Why, because this book is usually more than just a book.

**Scott Hagen:**

The particular book White Trash: Race and Class in America has a lot of knowledge on it. So when you check out this book you can get a lot of gain. The book was authored by the very famous author. This articles author makes some research ahead of write this book. This particular book very easy to read you will get the point easily after looking over this book.

**Michelle Fulk:**

People live in this new day time of lifestyle always attempt to and must have the time or they will get great deal of stress from both day to day life and work. So , when we ask do people have extra time, we will say absolutely sure. People is human not a robot. Then we ask again, what kind of activity do you possess when the spare time coming to you of course your answer will probably unlimited right. Then do you ever try this one, reading books. It can be your alternative within spending your spare time, typically the book you have read will be White Trash: Race and Class in America.

**Roxie Jenkins:**

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