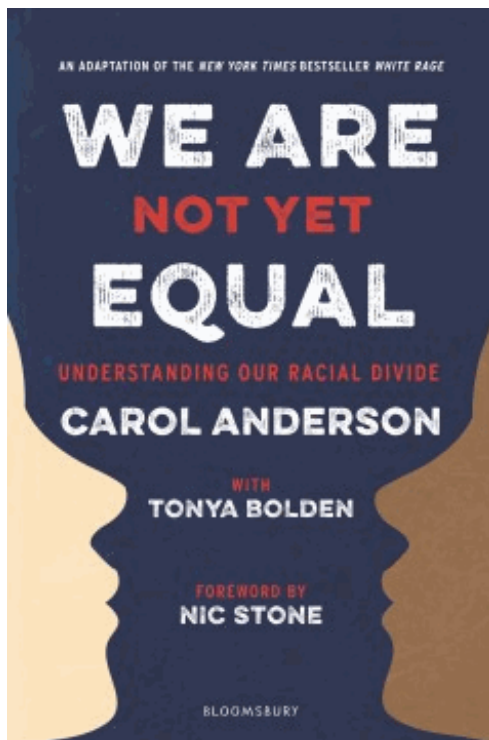


# WE ARE NOT YET EQUAL



*Young Adult*

**By Carol Anderson**

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## Summary of Concerns:

This book contains controversial and inflammatory racial and social commentary; controversial historical commentary.

**2**/5

**Teen Guidance**  
BookLooks Review Rating

Page	Content
0	<p>Foreward page 2 by Nic Stone:            It's been a long time since Dr. King and his contemporaries did away with Jim Crow during the Civil Rights Movement, and "progress" meant we were all the same. Racism was no longer a thing.            Except now we know that's not- and has never been- true. Now, statistics show undeniable discrepancies in arrest and incarceration rates along racial lines. Now, unarmed black men and women are gunned down in the streets for nothing more than looking "suspicious." Now, people openly gather in the name of "white nationalism" and raise the Nazi salute as they rally around discriminatory and xenophobic ideas.            Now, it can't be denied that racism in America is still very much a thing.</p>
0	<p>Prologue page 3:            What was really at work here was white rage. With so much attention focused on the flames, everyone had ignored the logs, the kindling. In some ways, it is easy to see why. White rage is not only about visible violence, but rather it works its way through the courts, the legislatures, and a range of government bureaucracies.</p>
0	<p>Prologue page 3-4:            The trigger for white rage, inevitably, is black advancement. It is not the mere presence of black people that is the problem; rather, it is blackness with ambition, with drive, with purpose, with aspirations, and with demands for full and equal citizenship. It is blackness that refuses to accept subjugation, to give up. A formidable array of policy assaults and legal contortions has consistently punished black resilience, black resolve.            And all the while, white rage manages to maintain not only the upper hand but also, apparently, the moral high ground.</p>
0	<p>Prologue page 4:            As I journey through Reconstruction, the Great Migration, Brown v. Board of Education and the rest of the Civil Rights Movement, and onward into the twenty-first century, it is my hope that you will see how white rage has undermined democracy; warped the Constitution; weakened the nation's ability to compete economically; squandered billions of dollars on baseless incarceration; rendered an entire region sick, poor, and woefully undereducated; and left cities nothing less than decimated. All this havoc has been wreaked simple because black people wanted to work, get an education, live in decent communities, raise their families, and vote. Because they were unwilling to take no for an answer.</p>
2	<p>How would the nation atone?            That was the question for black people and progressive white people when the Confederacy began its surrender on April 9, 1865.</p>
7	<p>Lincoln's anger in 1862 was directed at blacks, who, by and large, fully supported the Union and did not want to leave the United States of America. Many would exclaim that, despite slavery and enforced poverty, "We will work, pray, live, and, if need be, die for the Union." Nevertheless, Lincoln cast black people as the enemy for wickedly dividing "us".            From this perspective flowed Lincoln's lack of clarity about the purpose and cause</p>

Page	Content
	of the war. The president insisted that it was only about preserving the Union. Not about slavery!
230	The future is one that takes seriously a justice system whose enormous powers are actually used to serve and protect. The misuse is storied- from the convict-lease labor system to one that is now employed to undercut the gains of the Civil Rights Movement. A program that stops and frisks mostly those who are the least likely to have illegal contraband is not law enforcement. It is time to rethink America.
231	This is the moment now when all of us- black, white, Latino, Native American, Asian American- must step out of the shadow of white rage, deny its power, understand its unseemly goals, and refuse to be seduced by its buzzwords, dog whistles, and sophistry.
233	1. We Are Not Yet Equal introduces the concept of “white rage.” How does this concept differ from the other ways you may have thought about race relations in the past?
233	3. For some, legality and morality might intersect, but there are many instances in this book where the author shows lawmakers, judges, and politicians using the law to serve their white rage.
233	4. What are ways in which people today can respond to white rage?
233	7. How and where are teens affected by white rage?