

# Police Power and the Production of Racial Boundaries: Critical Issues in Crime



## Police, Power, and the Production of Racial Boundaries (Critical Issues in Crime and Society) by John Nathan Diamond

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

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The police play a key role in shaping the racial order in the United States. Their actions have a profound impact on the lives of people of color, and they are often seen as symbols of oppression and inequality.

The police are responsible for enforcing the law, but they also have the power to define what is considered a crime. This power has been used to target people of color, and to justify their arrest, imprisonment, and even death.

For example, the police have historically been used to enforce Jim Crow laws, which segregated black people from white people in the South. They have also been used to suppress black voter turnout, and to break up black protests.

In recent years, the police have been increasingly used to target black youth. They are more likely to be stopped, searched, and arrested than white youth, even though they are no more likely to commit crimes.

This racial profiling is a form of discrimination, and it has a devastating impact on the lives of black youth. It makes them more likely to drop out of school, to be unemployed, and to be involved in the criminal justice system.

The police are also responsible for the deaths of many black people. In the past few years, there have been a number of high-profile cases of police officers killing unarmed black men.

These deaths have sparked outrage and protests across the country, and they have led to a renewed debate about the role of the police in society.

There are a number of things that can be done to reform the police and create a more just and equitable society.

- We need to end racial profiling and other forms of discrimination in policing.
- We need to hold police officers accountable for their actions, and we need to create independent oversight mechanisms to investigate police misconduct.
- We need to invest in community-based policing programs that build trust between the police and the communities they serve.
- We need to create more opportunities for people of color to enter the police force and to rise to positions of leadership.

These are just some of the steps that we can take to create a more just and equitable society. It will not be easy, but it is essential that we work together to make it happen.

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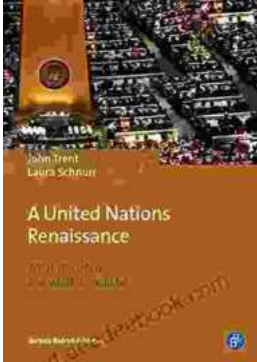
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