

RACIAL PROFILING CAUSES & CONSEQUENCES

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Racial profiling is a phenomenon that has been around for many years...

As of 2007, there had been over 200 court cases involving allegations of racial and ethnic profiling against law enforcement agencies in the United States. Consequently, it is an issue of significant concern.

While racial profiling can affect many aspects of the lives of minorities, including Arab and Muslim Americans, *Racial Profiling: Causes and Consequences* focuses on the “driving while black” (DWB) phenomenon. Among the most frequently occurring incidences of racial profiling are traffic stops for minor violations, which often result in vehicle searches for contraband. The concept of “driving while black” is the focus of this book, which includes several studies of traffic stops, and assesses traffic stops from several perspectives.

Racial Profiling: Causes and Consequences:

- Includes a study that analyzes reports from several states on data collected in traffic stops for evidence of racial discrimination. This data indicates the race of the driver and the disposition of the traffic stop (i.e. search and yield for contraband).
- Features several personal stories of DWB in order to illuminate the pervasiveness of its occurrence.
- Presents a comprehensive study of traffic ticketing in Cleveland, Ohio. This study integrates research methods used in other studies to provide an enhanced estimate of the driving population within the particular geographic area being studied.
- Provides an analysis of the DWB issue from an institutional racism perspective rather than the traditional, individual racist police officer paradigm, in which the issue is generally discussed.
- Highlights the less obvious concomitant socioeconomic and legal ramifications of DWB, such as the revocation of a driver’s license due to the accumulation of points for moving traffic violations.

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Causes & Consequences**

by Ronnie A. Dunn and Wornie Reed

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