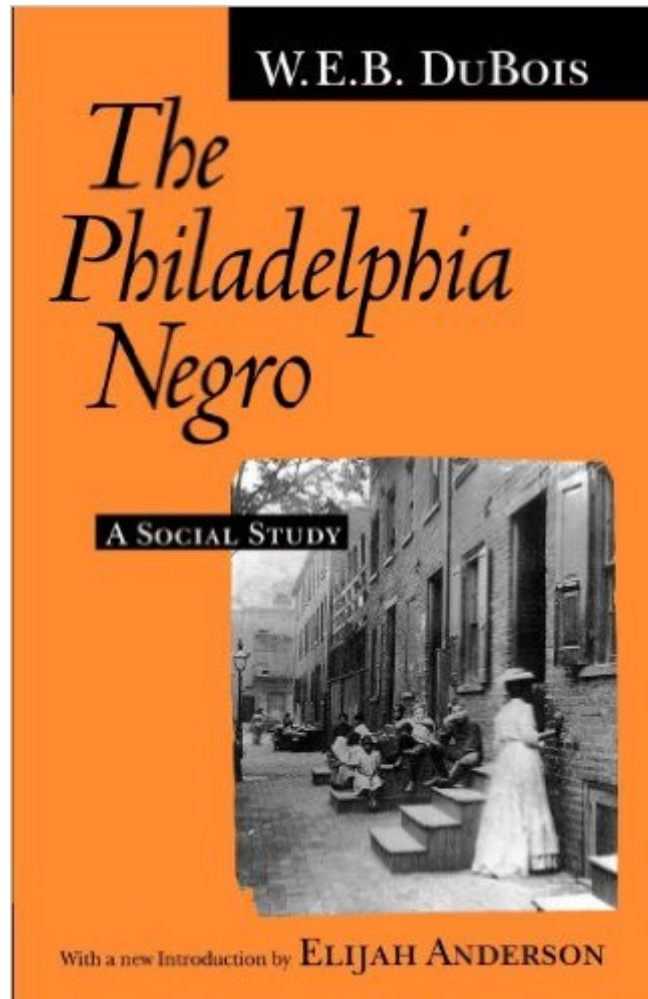


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# The Philadelphia Negro: A Social Study



## Synopsis

In 1897 the promising young sociologist William Edward Burghardt Du Bois (1868-1963) was given a temporary post as Assistant in Sociology at the University of Pennsylvania in order to conduct a systematic investigation of social conditions in the seventh ward of Philadelphia. The product of those studies was the first great empirical book on the Negro in American society. More than one hundred years after its original publication by the University of Pennsylvania Press, The Philadelphia Negro remains a classic work. It is the first, and perhaps still the finest, example of engaged sociological scholarshipâthe kind of work that, in contemplating social reality, helps to change it. In his introduction, Elijah Anderson examines how the neighborhood studied by Du Bois has changed over the years and compares the status of blacks today with their status when the book was initially published.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 starsÂÂ See all reviewsÂ (12 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

Read this book! Not only was "The Philadelphia Negro" a groundbreaking piece of sociological research in its day (the late 19th century), the book also goes a long way to explain the historical roots of much of what we see today in Philadelphia and other cities in America. Organized simply and effectively into clear chapters, we learn how African Americans really lived in Philadelphia after emancipation; detailing family and household arrangements, employment, education, health and religion. Elijah Anderson's introduction is a fantastic bonus, helping to illuminate the book even more. Everyone living in Philadelphia should read this!

This of course is a seminal study, but was extremely enlightening since we don't realize that a number of African Americans were free and living in urban settings with their own insular communities and organizations. Although it is filled with graphs and staid sociological comments it is an important lens on life among negroes 1840-1880's.

I used this book in a seminar on design theory and was intrigued by Du Bois' use of quantitative and qualitative methods to analyze Negro Philadelphia at the turn of the last century. I will definitely turn to this book again in my teaching and research about cities.

Informative, enlightening and powerful. A great Introduction by Elijah Anderson. Full of substance. A great way to show the genius of W.E.B. DuBois.

Tremendous book a must read For black americans.. All Americans very insightful and informative. W.E.B has my respect on alot of issues..

The book came fast and arrived in good condition. As far as the contents, honestly it can be a bit boring at times so if you usually don't read these types of books just a warning.

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