Politics Beyond Black and White

The U.S. is transforming into a multiracial society: today one-in-six new marriages are interracial and the multiple-race population is the fastest-growing youth group in the country. In *Politics Beyond Black and White*, Lauren Davenport examines the ascendance of multiracial identities and their implications for American society and the political landscape. Amassing unprecedented evidence, this book systematically investigates how race is constructed and how it influences political behavior. Professor Davenport shows that biracials’ identities are the product of family, interpersonal interactions, environment, and, most compellingly, gender stereotypes and social class. These identities, in turn, shape attitudes across a range of political issues, from affirmative action to same-sex marriage, and multiracial identifiers are shown to be culturally and politically progressive. However, the book also reveals lingering prejudices against race-mixing, and that intermarriage and identification are highly correlated with economic prosperity. The book’s overall findings suggest that multiracialism is poised to dismantle some racial boundaries, while reinforcing others.

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Politics Beyond Black and White

Biracial Identity and Attitudes in America

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For my parents, Bruce and Gayle Davenport
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