



The Race Beat: The Press, the Civil Rights Struggle, and the Awakening of a Nation

By Gene Roberts, Hank Klibanoff

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An unprecedented examination of how news stories, editorials and photographs in the American press—and the journalists responsible for them—profoundly changed the nation’s thinking about civil rights in the South during the 1950s and ‘60s.

Roberts and Klibanoff draw on private correspondence, notes from secret meetings, unpublished articles, and interviews to show how a dedicated cadre of newsmen—black and white—revealed to a nation its most shameful shortcomings that compelled its citizens to act. Meticulously researched and vividly rendered, *The Race Beat* is an extraordinary account of one of the most calamitous periods in our nation’s history, as told by those who covered it.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

This Pulitzer-winning chronicle of the role the news media played in shaping the civil rights movement makes its belated audio debut. Richard Allen undertakes the vocal depictions of the players from across the race-relations spectrum with tremendous skill. He manages to portray characters instead of caricatures as the sweeping real-life drama unfolds. Given the length of the recording and the density of the material, listeners should find it particularly helpful that Allen repeats the last few sentences of the previous disc at the start of each new CD. The solid production follows the authors' straight-ahead narrative approach. Journalism students and history buffs with at least some grounding in both the conventions of the news business or the civil rights era are the natural core audience. Others may wish to familiarize themselves with more general resources before tackling such an ambitious offering. *A Vintage paperback (Reviews, Nov. 9, 2006). (Jan.)*
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From [Booklist](#)

Before the civil rights movement, coverage of race was almost exclusively the purview of the black press, which reported on the plight of southern blacks facing brutality and Jim Crow laws and northern blacks facing a watered-down version of the same racism. Drawing on interviews, private correspondence and notes, and unpublished articles, Roberts, a journalism professor, and Klibanoff, managing editor of the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, describe the personal and professional difficulties faced by southern-born white reporters as they took up the coverage, mostly for northern publications. They chronicle the coverage of the Emmett Till case, Selma march, Montgomery bus boycott, and bombings and sit-ins that constituted the civil rights movement. Roberts and Klibanoff also recall the hatred and threats of violence against white reporters as they dared to report on the turbulence in the South. By retelling the civil rights story from the perspective of the white reporters who covered it, Roberts and Klibanoff demonstrate the profound changes the movement wrought not only on U.S. social justice but also on American journalism. *Vanessa Bush*
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Review

“A masterpiece . . . *The Race Beat* is a riveting piece of social history that balances both its subjects brilliantly . . . There has never been a better study of the importance of a free press.”—*The Philadelphia Inquirer* “Fascinating. . . . Just when you think there's nothing left to say about the civil rights movement, [*The Race Beat*] pulls you back in.” —*The Los Angeles Times* “*The Race Beat* has good characters, good yarns and good thinking. Just as important, though, it's got a good heart.” —*Newsweek* “Research for *The Race Beat* is meticulous, uncovering many facts that have gone unreported in other books about the movement . . . proves a necessary addition to anyone interested in learning more about the movement and the journalists whose work helped transform the South and, indeed, the nation.” —*Chicago Sun-Times*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Desiree Thorne:

Spent a free time and energy to be fun activity to complete! A lot of people spent their sparetime with their family, or all their friends. Usually they performing activity like watching television, likely to beach, or

picnic in the park. They actually doing same thing every week. Do you feel it? Will you something different to fill your personal free time/ holiday? Might be reading a book could be option to fill your totally free time/ holiday. The first thing that you'll ask may be what kinds of e-book that you should read. If you want to try out look for book, may be the publication untitled The Race Beat: The Press, the Civil Rights Struggle, and the Awakening of a Nation can be good book to read. May be it may be best activity to you.

Yolanda Osuna:

A lot of people always spent their particular free time to vacation or even go to the outside with them family or their friend. Do you realize? Many a lot of people spent that they free time just watching TV, as well as playing video games all day long. If you need to try to find a new activity here is look different you can read any book. It is really fun for yourself. If you enjoy the book you read you can spent all day every day to reading a reserve. The book The Race Beat: The Press, the Civil Rights Struggle, and the Awakening of a Nation it is extremely good to read. There are a lot of folks that recommended this book. We were holding enjoying reading this book. Should you did not have enough space to bring this book you can buy typically the e-book. You can m0ore very easily to read this book out of your smart phone. The price is not to fund but this book provides high quality.

Marina Tijerina:

Are you kind of busy person, only have 10 or maybe 15 minute in your moment to upgrading your mind ability or thinking skill even analytical thinking? Then you have problem with the book than can satisfy your short space of time to read it because all of this time you only find book that need more time to be examine. The Race Beat: The Press, the Civil Rights Struggle, and the Awakening of a Nation can be your answer because it can be read by a person who have those short free time problems.

Jean Gonzales:

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