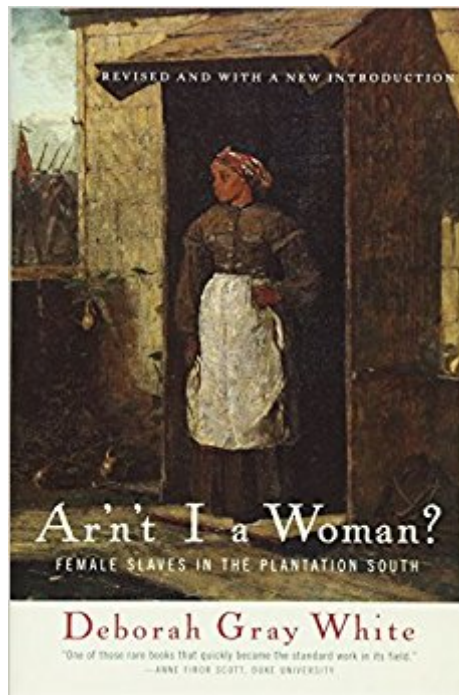


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Ar'n't I A Woman?: Female Slaves In The Plantation South



Synopsis

"This is one of those rare books that quickly became the standard work in its field. Professor White has done justice to the complexity of her subject." —Anne Firor Scott, Duke University

Living with the dual burdens of racism and sexism, slave women in the plantation South assumed roles within the family and community that contrasted sharply with traditional female roles in the larger American society. This new edition of *Ar'n't I a Woman?* reviews and updates the scholarship on slave women and the slave family, exploring new ways of understanding the intersection of race and gender and comparing the myths that stereotyped female slaves with the realities of their lives. Above all, this groundbreaking study shows us how black women experienced freedom in the Reconstruction South — their heroic struggle to gain their rights, hold their families together, resist economic and sexual oppression, and maintain their sense of womanhood against all odds.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book challenges the myth of the Southern mammy and other myths and attempts a richer, more complex picture of the lives of black women in slavery. Drawing on historical evidence, including slave narratives and the diaries and autobiographies of white Southerners, as well as on recent scholarship on the black family, the author examines slave women's daily life, occupations, family roles, and female networks. She finds strength and resourcefulness, but denies that female slaves played a domineering role in their families. Her view will be of interest to scholars, especially those studying comparative female social roles. For most readers, however, the story of slave women is better told in Jacqueline Jones's comprehensive work on black women, *Labor of Love*,

Labor of Sorrow (LJ 3/1/85). Mary Drake McFeely, Smith Coll. Lib., Northampton, Mass. Copyright 1985 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Original and balanced. . . . [A] splendidly written book. -- Carl N. Degler, Stanford University
This is one of those rare books that quickly became the standard work in its field. Professor White has done justice to the complexity of her subject. -- Anne Firor Scott, Duke University

I enjoyed this book. White was able to dispel the myths about slave women. She did so in a way that was easy to understand but at the same time, academic. I could have done without her excessive use of the word "antebellum" as slavery itself was pre-Civil War. This book has increased my desire to learn more about the abolition movement from the perspective of the slaves as well as dive deeper into the daily lives of plantation black women.

ok

I was reading this book for an assignment in my history class. Even though it was for school, this was one of the best and most informative books that I have read that involved the history of slavery. Reading about slavery from the perspective of black women was interesting and enlightening.

This book has much suspense and detail. Excellent literature is given that paints vivid accounts of historical events.

This book gives a very insightful look into the role of African American women during and after slavery. It allows the reader to view the slave woman in a different light. It helped me to understand the importance of womanhood. When learning America history, I never truly understood the role of African American women during slavery. I thought that all they did was work and reproduce. This book has taught me that through the hardship and adversity the black woman is like who she is today, the glue that holds it together. After all of what they had been through, the slave woman was still hopeful and was still beneficial to herself and society.

Awesome book! Unemotional but not detached. A clear view on plantation life in the south

Such a wonderful book. goes deep into how African American women lived during the time of slavery. Its a must read!

Great book, enjoyed the true history of slavery. A real eye opener.

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