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# From The War On Poverty To The War On Crime: The Making Of Mass Incarceration In America



**From the War on Poverty to the  
War on Crime The Making of  
Mass Incarceration in America**

ELIZABETH HINTON



## Synopsis

Co-Winner of the Thomas J. Wilson Memorial PrizeA New York Times Notable Book of the YearA New York Times Book Review Editorsâ™ ChoiceA Wall Street Journal Favorite Book of the YearA Choice Outstanding Academic Title of the YearA Publishers Weekly Favorite Book of the YearIn the United States today, one in every thirty-one adults is under some form of penal control, including one in eleven African American men. How did the âœland of the freeâ• become the home of the worldâ™s largest prison system? Challenging the belief that Americaâ™s prison problem originated with the Reagan administrationâ™s War on Drugs, Elizabeth Hinton traces the rise of mass incarceration to an ironic source: the social welfare programs of Lyndon Johnsonâ™s Great Society at the height of the civil rights era.âœAn extraordinary and important new book.â•Jill Lepore, New YorkerâœHintonâ™s book is more than an argument; it is a revelationâœThere are moments that will make your skin crawlâœThis is history, but the implications for today are striking. Readers will learn how the militarization of the police that weâ™ve witnessed in Ferguson and elsewhere had roots in the 1960s.â•âœImani Perry, New York Times Book Review

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"The book is vivid with detail and sharp analysis. Stretching beyond the typical scope of an academic text, Hinton's book is more than an argument; it is a revelation." ---New York Times --This text refers to the Audio CD edition.

Elizabeth Hinton is Assistant Professor of History and African and African American Studies at Harvard University.

Ms. Hinton makes a very convincing case to locate baselines for our current mass incarceration strategies. While the threads of the incarceration-industrial complex are nefariously intertwined into our culture, the roots of these coursing networks are framed in our national disgraces: slavery, poverty and and a sustained inequality of power distribution. Ms. Hinton and Ms. Alexander ("The New Jim Crow") are voices that need amplification and reiteration in our society. Both are must reads.

Excellent read on well intended policies that never achieve what they promised. and the politics that drive them. As young woman, Hinton has a very wise and realistic view of society.

Very well researched book that gives strong evidence of the failure of our country to do anything useful about structural inequality. It's detail can be tedious at times, but that is essential to the thesis.

This book is required reading if you want to understand crime, poverty, or race in America. If you liked the New Jim Crow, you will LOVE Hinton's book. I couldn't put it down.

Received as described

The most important and informative book about the mass incarceration crisis to date. Hinton details the genesis and development of the flawed and biased criminal justice system which to this day thrives in the United States.

Interesting subject matter, but the writing is disorganized and in many places lacks citations or references to back up some claims.

James Baldwin once said that if you do not what happen behind you you will never know what is going in around you. This book gives you that information. If we are going to successful fight poverty & discrimination, this book is wher we need to start.

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