

ACCOUNTING FOR SLAVERY

ACCOUNTING FOR SLAVERY: UNCOVERING THE HIDDEN COSTS OF AMERICA'S PAST

INTRODUCTION:

FOR CENTURIES, THE BRUTAL INSTITUTION OF SLAVERY FUELED THE ECONOMIC ENGINE OF THE AMERICAS. BUT ITS IMPACT EXTENDS FAR BEYOND THE HUMAN SUFFERING IT INFLICTED. THE PROFITS GENERATED FROM ENSLAVED LABOR PROFOUNDLY SHAPED FINANCIAL SYSTEMS, LEAVING AN ENDURING LEGACY THAT CONTINUES TO AFFECT OUR UNDERSTANDING OF WEALTH, ECONOMICS, AND EVEN MODERN ACCOUNTING PRACTICES. THIS COMPREHENSIVE EXPLORATION DELVES INTO THE COMPLEX WORLD OF "ACCOUNTING FOR SLAVERY," EXAMINING HOW ENSLAVED PEOPLE WERE TREATED AS PROPERTY IN FINANCIAL RECORDS, THE ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTIONS THEY MADE, THE LASTING EFFECTS ON WEALTH INEQUALITY, AND THE ONGOING EFFORTS TO ACKNOWLEDGE AND ADDRESS THIS HIDDEN DEBT. WE'LL UNPACK THE HISTORICAL CONTEXT, ANALYZE THE METHODOLOGIES USED TO QUANTIFY THE ECONOMIC IMPACT, AND DISCUSS THE MORAL AND ETHICAL IMPLICATIONS OF THIS OFTEN-OVERLOOKED ASPECT OF HISTORY. PREPARE TO UNCOVER A HIDDEN CHAPTER OF AMERICAN FINANCE AND GRAPPLE WITH ITS UNSETTLING IMPLICATIONS FOR THE PRESENT DAY.

1. SLAVERY AS A FINANCIAL ASSET: THE DEHUMANIZING NUMBERS

BEFORE DELVING INTO THE COMPLEXITIES OF MODERN ANALYSIS, IT'S CRUCIAL TO UNDERSTAND HOW ENSLAVED INDIVIDUALS WERE TREATED IN HISTORICAL ACCOUNTING. THEY WEREN'T CONSIDERED PEOPLE; THEY WERE CLASSIFIED AS PROPERTY, JUST LIKE LIVESTOCK OR LAND. ACCOUNT BOOKS METICULOUSLY DOCUMENTED THEIR PURCHASE PRICE, THEIR "VALUE" BASED ON AGE, HEALTH, AND SKILL, AND THEIR REPRODUCTIVE POTENTIAL, FURTHER COMMODIFYING THEIR HUMANITY. THESE RECORDS, CHILLING IN THEIR OBJECTIVITY, PROVIDE A DISTURBINGLY CLEAR PICTURE OF THE ECONOMIC LOGIC THAT UNDERPINNED SLAVERY. EXAMINING THESE RECORDS OFFERS A WINDOW INTO THE MINDSET OF SLAVEHOLDERS AND THE BRUTAL EFFICIENCY OF THE SYSTEM THAT PROFITED FROM HUMAN SUFFERING. THIS SECTION WILL DETAIL THE TYPES OF RECORDS KEPT, THEIR LIMITATIONS, AND WHAT THEY REVEAL ABOUT THE SCALE OF THE ECONOMIC ENTERPRISE OF SLAVERY.

1. QUANTIFYING THE ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTIONS OF ENSLAVED LABOR

DETERMINING THE PRECISE ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION OF ENSLAVED LABOR IS A COMPLEX TASK, FRAUGHT WITH CHALLENGES. THE LACK OF COMPLETE AND CONSISTENT RECORDS, THE INHERENT UNDERREPORTING, AND THE DIFFICULTY OF ASSIGNING MONETARY VALUE TO UNPAID LABOR CREATE SIGNIFICANT OBSTACLES. HOWEVER, RESEARCHERS ARE EMPLOYING VARIOUS INNOVATIVE TECHNIQUES, INCLUDING ECONOMETRIC MODELING AND ANALYSIS OF SURVIVING RECORDS, TO ESTIMATE THE ECONOMIC OUTPUT GENERATED BY ENSLAVED PEOPLE IN DIFFERENT SECTORS, FROM AGRICULTURE AND MINING TO MANUFACTURING AND DOMESTIC SERVICE. THIS SECTION WILL EXPLORE THE METHODOLOGIES EMPLOYED AND CRITICALLY ASSESS THE STRENGTHS AND LIMITATIONS OF THESE ESTIMATIONS, HIGHLIGHTING THE SCALE OF THE ECONOMIC ENGINE DRIVEN BY FORCED LABOR.

1. THE LEGACY OF SLAVERY AND MODERN WEALTH INEQUALITY

THE ECONOMIC GAINS REAPED FROM SLAVERY WERE NOT EVENLY DISTRIBUTED. THE WEALTH GENERATED WAS CONCENTRATED IN THE HANDS OF SLAVEHOLDERS AND THEIR DESCENDANTS, CREATING A FOUNDATION FOR ENDURING PATTERNS OF WEALTH INEQUALITY THAT PERSIST TO TODAY. THIS SECTION WILL EXPLORE THE INTERGENERATIONAL TRANSFER OF WEALTH DERIVED FROM SLAVERY, EXAMINING THE WAYS IN WHICH THIS HISTORICAL INJUSTICE CONTINUES TO SHAPE ECONOMIC DISPARITIES ALONG RACIAL LINES. WE WILL LOOK AT THE VARIOUS WAYS THIS LEGACY HAS MANIFESTED, FROM UNEQUAL ACCESS TO EDUCATION

AND HEALTHCARE TO DISPARITIES IN HOMEOWNERSHIP AND BUSINESS OWNERSHIP.

1. THE MORAL AND ETHICAL IMPLICATIONS OF ACCOUNTING FOR SLAVERY

BEYOND THE ECONOMIC ANALYSIS, ACCOUNTING FOR SLAVERY RAISES PROFOUND MORAL AND ETHICAL QUESTIONS. HOW CAN WE CONFRONT THE HISTORICAL REALITY OF THIS INSTITUTION AND ITS LASTING CONSEQUENCES WHILE NAVIGATING THE COMPLEXITIES OF REPARATIONS AND RECONCILIATION? THIS SECTION EXPLORES THE ETHICAL DIMENSIONS OF ACKNOWLEDGING AND ADDRESSING THE HISTORICAL INJUSTICES OF SLAVERY, CONSIDERING THE CHALLENGES OF ASSIGNING MONETARY VALUE TO IMMEASURABLE HUMAN SUFFERING. WE WILL EXAMINE VARIOUS PROPOSALS FOR ADDRESSING THE LEGACY OF SLAVERY, INCLUDING REPARATIONS, TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION COMMISSIONS, AND THE CREATION OF EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVES TO PROMOTE A MORE ACCURATE UNDERSTANDING OF AMERICAN HISTORY.

1. CONTEMPORARY EFFORTS TO RECKON WITH THE PAST: RESEARCH AND REPARATIONS

THE ONGOING WORK TO UNCOVER AND UNDERSTAND THE FINANCIAL DIMENSIONS OF SLAVERY REPRESENTS A CRUCIAL STEP TOWARD CONFRONTING THE PAST. RESEARCHERS, HISTORIANS, AND ACTIVISTS ARE INCREASINGLY DEDICATED TO ANALYZING HISTORICAL RECORDS, DEVELOPING INNOVATIVE METHODOLOGIES, AND ADVOCATING FOR POLICIES THAT ADDRESS THE LASTING LEGACY OF THIS INSTITUTION. THIS SECTION WILL HIGHLIGHT ONGOING PROJECTS, INITIATIVES, AND RESEARCH EFFORTS AIMED AT ACHIEVING A MORE ACCURATE AND COMPLETE ACCOUNTING OF SLAVERY'S ECONOMIC IMPACT AND EXPLORING POTENTIAL PATHWAYS TOWARD REPAIR.

BOOK OUTLINE: "THE LEDGER OF INJUSTICE: ACCOUNTING FOR SLAVERY IN AMERICA"

INTRODUCTION: THE ENDURING LEGACY OF SLAVERY AND THE NEED FOR A COMPREHENSIVE ACCOUNTING.

CHAPTER 1: SLAVERY AS A FINANCIAL SYSTEM: THE COMMODIFICATION OF HUMAN LIFE AND ITS REFLECTION IN HISTORICAL RECORDS.

CHAPTER 2: MEASURING THE UNMEASURABLE: METHODOLOGIES FOR ESTIMATING THE ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTIONS OF ENSLAVED LABOR.

CHAPTER 3: THE INHERITANCE OF INEQUALITY: THE INTERGENERATIONAL TRANSFER OF WEALTH DERIVED FROM SLAVERY AND ITS CONTEMPORARY EFFECTS.

CHAPTER 4: ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS: MORAL RESPONSIBILITY, REPARATIONS, AND THE CHALLENGE OF ASSIGNING VALUE TO HUMAN SUFFERING.

CHAPTER 5: CONTEMPORARY EFFORTS: RESEARCH, ACTIVISM, AND THE PURSUIT OF JUSTICE.

CONCLUSION: MOVING FORWARD: THE ONGOING STRUGGLE FOR RECONCILIATION AND ECONOMIC EQUITY.

(THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS WOULD EXPAND ON THE OUTLINE ABOVE, PROVIDING DETAILED CONTENT FOR EACH CHAPTER. DUE TO LENGTH CONSTRAINTS, THESE DETAILED EXPANSIONS ARE OMITTED HERE. EACH SECTION WOULD DELVE DEEPLY INTO THE SPECIFIC POINTS OUTLINED, USING HISTORICAL EVIDENCE, STATISTICAL DATA, AND EXPERT OPINIONS TO SUPPORT THE ARGUMENTS. IT WOULD ALSO INCORPORATE CASE STUDIES AND EXAMPLES TO ILLUSTRATE THE KEY CONCEPTS.)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS):

1. WHAT TYPES OF RECORDS WERE KEPT TO ACCOUNT FOR ENSLAVED PEOPLE? SLAVEHOLDERS KEPT VARIOUS RECORDS, INCLUDING BILLS OF SALE, INVENTORIES, PLANTATION JOURNALS, AND ACCOUNT BOOKS DETAILING THE PURCHASE, SALE, AND VALUATION OF ENSLAVED INDIVIDUALS.

1. HOW ACCURATE ARE ESTIMATES OF THE ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTIONS OF ENSLAVED LABOR? ESTIMATES VARY

SIGNIFICANTLY DUE TO INCOMPLETE RECORDS AND THE DIFFICULTY OF QUANTIFYING UNPAID LABOR. HOWEVER, ONGOING RESEARCH EMPLOYS INCREASINGLY SOPHISTICATED METHODS TO ARRIVE AT MORE ACCURATE APPROXIMATIONS.

1. WHAT IS THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SLAVERY AND MODERN WEALTH INEQUALITY? THE WEALTH GENERATED FROM SLAVERY WAS DISPROPORTIONATELY CONCENTRATED IN THE HANDS OF SLAVEHOLDERS AND THEIR DESCENDANTS, CONTRIBUTING TO PERSISTENT RACIAL WEALTH DISPARITIES TODAY.
1. WHAT ARE SOME EXAMPLES OF CONTEMPORARY EFFORTS TO ADDRESS THE LEGACY OF SLAVERY? THESE INCLUDE RESEARCH PROJECTS AIMED AT QUANTIFYING SLAVERY'S ECONOMIC IMPACT, INITIATIVES TO PROVIDE REPARATIONS, AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS PROMOTING A MORE ACCURATE UNDERSTANDING OF AMERICAN HISTORY.
1. WHAT ARE THE ETHICAL CHALLENGES OF ASSIGNING A MONETARY VALUE TO HUMAN SUFFERING? IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO FULLY QUANTIFY THE IMMEASURABLE HUMAN COST OF SLAVERY. HOWEVER, ACKNOWLEDGING THE ECONOMIC BENEFITS DERIVED FROM THIS INSTITUTION IS CRUCIAL TO UNDERSTANDING ITS IMPACT AND SEEKING REDRESS.
1. HOW CAN WE RECONCILE THE PAST WITH THE PRESENT IN ADDRESSING SLAVERY'S LEGACY? RECONCILIATION REQUIRES A MULTIFACETED APPROACH THAT COMBINES HISTORICAL RESEARCH, ECONOMIC ANALYSIS, EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVES, AND POLICY REFORMS AIMED AT ADDRESSING SYSTEMIC INEQUALITY.
1. WHAT ARE SOME OF THE LIMITATIONS OF USING HISTORICAL RECORDS TO UNDERSTAND THE ECONOMICS OF SLAVERY? HISTORICAL RECORDS ARE OFTEN INCOMPLETE, INCONSISTENT, AND MAY INTENTIONALLY UNDERREPORT THE EXTENT OF SLAVERY'S ECONOMIC IMPACT.
1. WHAT ROLE DOES ACCOUNTING PLAY IN UNDERSTANDING THE LEGACY OF SLAVERY? ACCOUNTING PROVIDES THE TOOLS TO QUANTIFY THE ECONOMIC GAINS FROM SLAVERY AND TRACE THEIR IMPACT ON MODERN WEALTH INEQUALITY.
1. WHAT IS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF STUDYING "ACCOUNTING FOR SLAVERY" TODAY? UNDERSTANDING THE ECONOMIC DIMENSIONS OF SLAVERY IS ESSENTIAL FOR ADDRESSING ITS ONGOING EFFECTS ON RACIAL AND ECONOMIC INEQUALITY AND FOR ACHIEVING A MORE JUST AND EQUITABLE SOCIETY.

RELATED ARTICLES:

1. THE ECONOMICS OF SLAVERY IN THE ANTEBELLUM SOUTH: THIS ARTICLE EXAMINES THE ECONOMIC STRUCTURES AND PRACTICES THAT SUPPORTED SLAVERY IN THE PRE-CIVIL WAR SOUTH.

1. THE TRANSATLANTIC SLAVE TRADE: A FINANCIAL ANALYSIS: THIS PIECE ANALYZES THE FINANCIAL FLOWS ASSOCIATED WITH THE TRANSATLANTIC SLAVE TRADE AND ITS IMPACT ON GLOBAL ECONOMIES.
1. THE HIDDEN COSTS OF COTTON: SLAVERY AND THE GLOBAL ECONOMY: THIS ARTICLE EXPLORES THE ROLE OF ENSLAVED LABOR IN THE PRODUCTION OF COTTON AND ITS GLOBAL ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS.
1. REPARATIONS FOR SLAVERY: A MORAL AND ECONOMIC IMPERATIVE: THIS ARTICLE EXAMINES THE ARGUMENTS FOR AND AGAINST REPARATIONS FOR SLAVERY AND THEIR POTENTIAL ECONOMIC IMPACT.
1. THE INTERGENERATIONAL TRANSFER OF WEALTH FROM SLAVERY: THIS ARTICLE EXPLORES THE WAYS IN WHICH WEALTH GENERATED FROM SLAVERY HAS BEEN PASSED DOWN THROUGH GENERATIONS.
1. SLAVERY AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF AMERICAN CAPITALISM: THIS PIECE EXAMINES THE COMPLEX RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SLAVERY AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF AMERICAN CAPITALISM.
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1. ENSLAVED LABOR AND THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION: THIS ARTICLE EXAMINES THE CONTRIBUTION OF ENSLAVED LABOR TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGIES.
1. RECONSTRUCTING THE ECONOMIC HISTORY OF SLAVERY: THIS ARTICLE EXPLORES THE ONGOING EFFORTS TO RECONSTRUCT A MORE COMPLETE AND ACCURATE PICTURE OF SLAVERY'S ECONOMIC IMPACT.

📖 **Accounting for slavery: Accounting for Slavery** Caitlin Rosenthal, 2019-10-15 A Five Books Best Economics Book of the Year A Politico Great Weekend Read "Absolutely compelling." —Diane Coyle "The evolution of modern management is usually associated with good old-fashioned intelligence and ingenuity...But capitalism is not just about the free market; it was also built on the backs of slaves." —Forbes The story of modern management generally looks to the factories of England and New England for its genesis. But after scouring through old accounting books, Caitlin Rosenthal discovered that Southern planter-capitalists practiced an early form of scientific management. They took meticulous notes, carefully recording daily profits and productivity, and subjected their slaves to experiments and incentive strategies comprised of rewards and brutal punishment. Challenging the traditional depiction of slavery as a barrier to innovation, Accounting for Slavery shows how elite planters turned their power over enslaved people into a productivity

advantage. The result is a groundbreaking investigation of business practices in Southern and West Indian plantations and an essential contribution to our understanding of slavery's relationship with capitalism. "Slavery in the United States was a business. A morally reprehensible—and very profitable business...Rosenthal argues that slaveholders...were using advanced management and accounting techniques long before their northern counterparts. Techniques that are still used by businesses today." —Marketplace "Rosenthal pored over hundreds of account books from U.S. and West Indian plantations...She found that their owners employed advanced accounting and management tools, including depreciation and standardized efficiency metrics." —Harvard Business Review

accounting for slavery: Accounting for Slavery Caitlin Rosenthal, 2018-08-27 A Five Books Best Economics Book of the Year A Politico Great Weekend Read "Absolutely compelling." —Diane Coyle "The evolution of modern management is usually associated with good old-fashioned intelligence and ingenuity...But capitalism is not just about the free market; it was also built on the backs of slaves." —Forbes The story of modern management generally looks to the factories of England and New England for its genesis. But after scouring through old accounting books, Caitlin Rosenthal discovered that Southern planter-capitalists practiced an early form of scientific management. They took meticulous notes, carefully recording daily profits and productivity, and subjected their slaves to experiments and incentive strategies comprised of rewards and brutal punishment. Challenging the traditional depiction of slavery as a barrier to innovation, *Accounting for Slavery* shows how elite planters turned their power over enslaved people into a productivity advantage. The result is a groundbreaking investigation of business practices in Southern and West Indian plantations and an essential contribution to our understanding of slavery's relationship with capitalism. "Slavery in the United States was a business. A morally reprehensible—and very profitable business...Rosenthal argues that slaveholders...were using advanced management and accounting techniques long before their northern counterparts. Techniques that are still used by businesses today." —Marketplace "Rosenthal pored over hundreds of account books from U.S. and West Indian plantations...She found that their owners employed advanced accounting and management tools, including depreciation and standardized efficiency metrics." —Harvard Business Review

accounting for slavery: *Slavery's Capitalism* Sven Beckert, Seth Rockman, 2016-07-28 During the nineteenth century, the United States entered the ranks of the world's most advanced and dynamic economies. At the same time, the nation sustained an expansive and brutal system of human bondage. This was no mere coincidence. *Slavery's Capitalism* argues for slavery's centrality to the emergence of American capitalism in the decades between the Revolution and the Civil War. According to editors Sven Beckert and Seth Rockman, the issue is not whether slavery itself was or was not capitalist but, rather, the impossibility of understanding the nation's spectacular pattern of economic development without situating slavery front and center. American capitalism—renowned for its celebration of market competition, private property, and the self-made man—has its origins in an American slavery predicated on the abhorrent notion that human beings could be legally owned and compelled to work under force of violence. Drawing on the expertise of sixteen scholars who are at the forefront of rewriting the history of American economic development, *Slavery's Capitalism* identifies slavery as the primary force driving key innovations in entrepreneurship, finance, accounting, management, and political economy that are too often attributed to the so-called free market. Approaching the study of slavery as the originating catalyst for the Industrial Revolution and modern capitalism casts new light on American credit markets, practices of offshore investment, and understandings of human capital. Rather than seeing slavery as outside the institutional structures of capitalism, the essayists recover slavery's importance to the American economic past and prompt enduring questions about the relationship of market freedom to human freedom. Contributors: Edward E. Baptist, Sven Beckert, Daina Ramey Berry, Kathryn Boodry, Alfred L. Brophy, Stephen Chambers, Eric Kimball, John Majewski, Bonnie Martin, Seth Rockman, Daniel B. Rood, Caitlin Rosenthal, Joshua D. Rothman, Calvin Schermerhorn, Andrew Shankman, Craig Steven Wilder.

accounting for slavery: Five Thousand Years of Slavery Marjorie Gann, Janet Willen, 2012-02-21 When they were too impoverished to raise their families, ancient Sumerians sold their children into bondage. Slave women in Rome faced never-ending household drudgery. The ninth-century Zanj were transported from East Africa to work the salt marshes of Iraq. Cotton pickers worked under terrible duress in the American South. Ancient history? Tragically, no. In our time, slavery wears many faces. James Kofi Annan's parents in Ghana sold him because they could not feed him. Beatrice Fernando had to work almost around the clock in Lebanon. Julia Gabriel was trafficked from Arizona to the cucumber fields of South Carolina. *Five Thousand Years of Slavery* provides the suspense and emotional engagement of a great novel. It is an excellent resource with its comprehensive historical narrative, firsthand accounts, maps, archival photos, paintings and posters, an index, and suggestions for further reading. Much more than a reference work, it is a brilliant exploration of the worst - and the best - in human society.

accounting for slavery: Unfree Markets Justene Hill Edwards, 2021-04-13 The everyday lives of enslaved people were filled with the backbreaking tasks that their enslavers forced them to complete. But in spare moments, they found time in which to earn money and obtain goods for themselves. Enslaved people led vibrant economic lives, cultivating produce and raising livestock to trade and sell. They exchanged goods with nonslaveholding whites and even sold products to their enslavers. Did these pursuits represent a modicum of freedom in the interstices of slavery, or did they further shackle enslaved people by other means? Justene Hill Edwards illuminates the inner workings of the slaves' economy and the strategies that enslaved people used to participate in the market. Focusing on South Carolina from the colonial period to the Civil War, she examines how the capitalist development of slavery influenced the economic lives of enslaved people. Hill Edwards demonstrates that as enslavers embraced increasingly capitalist principles, enslaved people slowly lost their economic autonomy. As slaveholders became more profit-oriented in the nineteenth century, they also sought to control enslaved people's economic behavior and capture the gains. Despite enslaved people's aptitude for enterprise, their market activities came to be one more part of the violent and exploitative regime that shaped their lives. Drawing on wide-ranging archival research to expand our understanding of racial capitalism, *Unfree Markets* shows the limits of the connection between economic activity and freedom.

accounting for slavery: Modern Slavery Kevin Bales, Zoe Trodd, Alex Kent Williamson, 2011-04-01 Written by the world's leading experts and campaigners, *Modern Slavery: A Beginner's Guide* blends original research with shocking first-hand accounts from slaves themselves around the world to reveal the truth behind one of the worst humanitarian crises facing us today. Only a handful of slaves are reached and freed each year, but the authors offer hope for the future with a global blueprint that proposes to end slavery in our lifetime. All royalties will go to Free the Slaves.

accounting for slavery: Capitalism and Slavery Eric Williams, 2014-06-30 Slavery helped finance the Industrial Revolution in England. Plantation owners, shipbuilders, and merchants connected with the slave trade accumulated vast fortunes that established banks and heavy industry in Europe and expanded the reach of capitalism worldwide. Eric Williams advanced these powerful ideas in *Capitalism and Slavery*, published in 1944. Years ahead of its time, his profound critique became the foundation for studies of imperialism and economic development. Binding an economic view of history with strong moral argument, Williams's study of the role of slavery in financing the Industrial Revolution refuted traditional ideas of economic and moral progress and firmly established the centrality of the African slave trade in European economic development. He also showed that mature industrial capitalism in turn helped destroy the slave system. Establishing the exploitation of commercial capitalism and its link to racial attitudes, Williams employed a historicist vision that set the tone for future studies. In a new introduction, Colin Palmer assesses the lasting impact of Williams's groundbreaking work and analyzes the heated scholarly debates it generated when it first appeared.

accounting for slavery: The Half Has Never Been Told Edward E Baptist, 2016-10-25 A groundbreaking history demonstrating that America's economic supremacy was built on the backs of

enslaved people Winner of the 2015 Avery O. Craven Prize from the Organization of American Historians Winner of the 2015 Sidney Hillman Prize Americans tend to cast slavery as a pre-modern institution -- the nation's original sin, perhaps, but isolated in time and divorced from America's later success. But to do so robs the millions who suffered in bondage of their full legacy. As historian Edward E. Baptist reveals in *The Half Has Never Been Told*, the expansion of slavery in the first eight decades after American independence drove the evolution and modernization of the United States. In the span of a single lifetime, the South grew from a narrow coastal strip of worn-out tobacco plantations to a continental cotton empire, and the United States grew into a modern, industrial, and capitalist economy. Told through the intimate testimonies of survivors of slavery, plantation records, newspapers, as well as the words of politicians and entrepreneurs, *The Half Has Never Been Told* offers a radical new interpretation of American history.

accounting for slavery: *Racism in America* Harvard University Press, 2020-08-06 Racism in America has been the subject of serious scholarship for decades. At Harvard University Press, we've had the honor of publishing some of the most influential books on the subject. The excerpts in this volume—culled from works of history, law, sociology, medicine, economics, critical theory, philosophy, art, and literature—are an invitation to understand anti-Black racism through the eyes of our most incisive commentators. Readers will find such classic selections as Toni Morrison's description of the Africanist presence in the White American literary imagination, Walter Johnson's depiction of the nation's largest slave market, and Stuart Hall's theorization of the relationship between race and nationhood. More recent voices include Khalil Gibran Muhammad on the pernicious myth of Black criminality, Elizabeth Hinton on the link between mass incarceration and 1960s social welfare programs, Anthony Abraham Jack on how elite institutions continue to fail first-generation college students, Mehrsa Baradaran on the racial wealth gap, Nicole Fleetwood on carceral art, and Joshua Bennett on the anti-Black bias implicit in how we talk about animals and the environment. Because the experiences of non-White people are integral to the history of racism and often bound up in the story of Black Americans, we have included writers who focus on the struggles of Native Americans, Latinos, and Asians as well. *Racism in America* is for all curious readers, teachers, and students who wish to discover for themselves the complex and rewarding intellectual work that has sustained our national conversation on race and will continue to guide us in future years.

accounting for slavery: *Modernity Disavowed* Sibylle Fischer, 2004-04-30 *Modernity Disavowed* is a pathbreaking study of the cultural, political, and philosophical significance of the Haitian Revolution (1791-1804). Revealing how the radical antislavery politics of this seminal event have been suppressed and ignored in historical and cultural records over the past two hundred years, Sibylle Fischer contends that revolutionary antislavery and its subsequent disavowal are central to the formation and understanding of Western modernity. She develops a powerful argument that the denial of revolutionary antislavery eventually became a crucial ingredient in a range of hegemonic thought, including Creole nationalism in the Caribbean and G. W. F. Hegel's master-slave dialectic. Fischer draws on history, literary scholarship, political theory, philosophy, and psychoanalytic theory to examine a range of material, including Haitian political and legal documents and nineteenth-century Cuban and Dominican literature and art. She demonstrates that at a time when racial taxonomies were beginning to mutate into scientific racism and racist biology, the Haitian revolutionaries recognized the question of race as political. Yet, as the cultural records of neighboring Cuba and the Dominican Republic show, the story of the Haitian Revolution has been told as one outside politics and beyond human language, as a tale of barbarism and unspeakable violence. From the time of the revolution onward, the story has been confined to the margins of history: to rumors, oral histories, and confidential letters. Fischer maintains that without accounting for revolutionary antislavery and its subsequent disavowal, Western modernity—including its hierarchy of values, depoliticization of social goals having to do with racial differences, and privileging of claims of national sovereignty—cannot be fully understood.

accounting for slavery: *Reckoning with Slavery* Jennifer L. Morgan, 2021-04-26 In

Reckoning with Slavery Jennifer L. Morgan draws on the lived experiences of enslaved African women in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries to reveal the contours of early modern notions of trade, race, and commodification in the Black Atlantic. From capture to transport to sale to childbirth, these women were demographically counted as commodities during the Middle Passage, vulnerable to rape, separated from their kin at slave markets, and subject to laws that enslaved their children upon birth. In this way, they were central to the binding of reproductive labor with kinship, racial hierarchy, and the economics of slavery. Throughout this groundbreaking study, Morgan demonstrates that the development of Western notions of value and race occurred simultaneously. In so doing, she illustrates how racial capitalism denied the enslaved their kinship and affective ties while simultaneously relying on kinship to reproduce and enforce slavery through enslaved female bodies.

accounting for slavery: *Moral Contagion* Michael A. Schoeppner, 2019-01-17 During the Antebellum era, thousands of free black sailors were arrested for violating the Negro Seamen Acts. In retelling the harrowing experiences of free black sailors, *Moral Contagion* highlights the central roles that race and international diplomacy played in the development of American citizenship.

accounting for slavery: *John Rawls* Andrius Gališanka, 2019-05-01 An engaging account of the titan of political philosophy and the development of his most important work, *A Theory of Justice*, coming at a moment when its ideas are sorely needed. It is hard to overestimate the influence of John Rawls on political philosophy and theory over the last half-century. His books have sold millions of copies worldwide, and he is one of the few philosophers whose work is known in the corridors of power as well as in the halls of academe. Rawls is most famous for the development of his view of “justice as fairness,” articulated most forcefully in his best-known work, *A Theory of Justice*. In it he develops a liberalism focused on improving the fate of the least advantaged, and attempts to demonstrate that, despite our differences, agreement on basic political institutions is both possible and achievable. Critics have maintained that Rawls’s view is unrealistic and ultimately undemocratic. In this incisive new intellectual biography, Andrius Gališanka argues that in misunderstanding the origins and development of Rawls’s central argument, previous narratives fail to explain the novelty of his philosophical approach and so misunderstand the political vision he made prevalent. Gališanka draws on newly available archives of Rawls’s unpublished essays and personal papers to clarify the justifications Rawls offered for his assumption of basic moral agreement. Gališanka’s intellectual-historical approach reveals a philosopher struggling toward humbler claims than critics allege. To engage with Rawls’s search for agreement is particularly valuable at this political juncture. By providing insight into the origins, aims, and arguments of *A Theory of Justice*, Gališanka’s *John Rawls* will allow us to consider the philosopher’s most important and influential work with fresh eyes.

accounting for slavery: *Slavery and the Enlightenment in the British Atlantic, 1750-1807* Justin Roberts, 2013-07-08 This book focuses on how Enlightenment ideas shaped plantation management and slave work routines. It shows how work dictated slaves’ experiences and influenced their families and communities on large plantations in Barbados, Jamaica, and Virginia. It examines plantation management schemes, agricultural routines, and work regimes in more detail than other scholars have done. This book argues that slave workloads were increasing in the eighteenth century and that slave owners were employing more rigorous labor discipline and supervision in ways that scholars now associate with the Industrial Revolution.

accounting for slavery: *Born in Blackness: Africa, Africans, and the Making of the Modern World, 1471 to the Second World War* Howard W. French, 2021-10-12 Revealing the central yet intentionally obliterated role of Africa in the creation of modernity, *Born in Blackness* vitally reframes our understanding of world history. Traditional accounts of the making of the modern world afford a place of primacy to European history. Some credit the fifteenth-century Age of Discovery and the maritime connection it established between West and East; others the accidental unearthing of the “New World.” Still others point to the development of the scientific method, or the spread of Judeo-Christian beliefs; and so on, ad infinitum. The history of Africa, by contrast, has long

been relegated to the remote outskirts of our global story. What if, instead, we put Africa and Africans at the very center of our thinking about the origins of modernity? In a sweeping narrative spanning more than six centuries, Howard W. French does just that, for *Born in Blackness* vitally reframes the story of medieval and emerging Africa, demonstrating how the economic ascendancy of Europe, the anchoring of democracy in the West, and the fulfillment of so-called Enlightenment ideals all grew out of Europe's dehumanizing engagement with the "dark" continent. In fact, French reveals, the first impetus for the Age of Discovery was not—as we are so often told, even today—Europe's yearning for ties with Asia, but rather its centuries-old desire to forge a trade in gold with legendarily rich Black societies sequestered away in the heart of West Africa. Creating a historical narrative that begins with the commencement of commercial relations between Portugal and Africa in the fifteenth century and ends with the onset of World War II, *Born in Blackness* interweaves precise historical detail with poignant, personal reportage. In so doing, it dramatically retrieves the lives of major African historical figures, from the unimaginably rich medieval emperors who traded with the Near East and beyond, to the Kongo sovereigns who heroically battled seventeenth-century European powers, to the ex-slaves who liberated Haitians from bondage and profoundly altered the course of American history. While French cogently demonstrates the centrality of Africa to the rise of the modern world, *Born in Blackness* becomes, at the same time, a far more significant narrative, one that reveals a long-concealed history of trivialization and, more often, elision in depictions of African history throughout the last five hundred years. As French shows, the achievements of sovereign African nations and their now-far-flung peoples have time and again been etiolated and deliberately erased from modern history. As the West ascended, their stories—siloed and piecemeal—were swept into secluded corners, thus setting the stage for the hagiographic "rise of the West" theories that have endured to this day. "Capacious and compelling" (Laurent Dubois), *Born in Blackness* is epic history on the grand scale. In the lofty tradition of bold, revisionist narratives, it reframes the story of gold and tobacco, sugar and cotton—and of the greatest "commodity" of them all, the twelve million people who were brought in chains from Africa to the "New World," whose reclaimed lives shed a harsh light on our present world.

accounting for slavery: *They Were Her Property* Stephanie E. Jones-Rogers, 2019-02-19 Winner of the Los Angeles Times Book Prize in History: a bold and searing investigation into the role of white women in the American slave economy "Stunning."—Rebecca Onion, Slate "Makes a vital contribution to our understanding of our past and present."—Parul Sehgal, New York Times "Bracingly revisionist. . . . [A] startling corrective."—Nicholas Guyatt, New York Review of Books Bridging women's history, the history of the South, and African American history, this book makes a bold argument about the role of white women in American slavery. Historian Stephanie E. Jones-Rogers draws on a variety of sources to show that slave-owning women were sophisticated economic actors who directly engaged in and benefited from the South's slave market. Because women typically inherited more slaves than land, enslaved people were often their primary source of wealth. Not only did white women often refuse to cede ownership of their slaves to their husbands, they employed management techniques that were as effective and brutal as those used by slave-owning men. White women actively participated in the slave market, profited from it, and used it for economic and social empowerment. By examining the economically entangled lives of enslaved people and slave-owning women, Jones-Rogers presents a narrative that forces us to rethink the economics and social conventions of slaveholding America.

accounting for slavery: Sick from Freedom Jim Downs, 2012-05-01 Bondspeople who fled from slavery during and after the Civil War did not expect that their flight toward freedom would lead to sickness, disease, suffering, and death. But the war produced the largest biological crisis of the nineteenth century, and as historian Jim Downs reveals in this groundbreaking volume, it had deadly consequences for hundreds of thousands of freed people. In *Sick from Freedom*, Downs recovers the untold story of one of the bitterest ironies in American history—that the emancipation of the slaves, seen as one of the great turning points in U.S. history, had devastating consequences for innumerable freed people. Drawing on massive new research into the records of the Medical

Division of the Freedmen's Bureau-a nascent national health system that cared for more than one million freed slaves-he shows how the collapse of the plantation economy released a plague of lethal diseases. With emancipation, African Americans seized the chance to move, migrating as never before. But in their journey to freedom, they also encountered yellow fever, smallpox, cholera, dysentery, malnutrition, and exposure. To address this crisis, the Medical Division hired more than 120 physicians, establishing some forty underfinanced and understaffed hospitals scattered throughout the South, largely in response to medical emergencies. Downs shows that the goal of the Medical Division was to promote a healthy workforce, an aim which often excluded a wide range of freedpeople, including women, the elderly, the physically disabled, and children. Downs concludes by tracing how the Reconstruction policy was then implemented in the American West, where it was disastrously applied to Native Americans. The widespread medical calamity sparked by emancipation is an overlooked episode of the Civil War and its aftermath, poignantly revealed in *Sick from Freedom*.

accounting for slavery: Disposable People Kevin Bales, 2012-04-23 Slavery is illegal throughout the world, yet more than twenty-seven million people are still trapped in one of history's oldest social institutions. Kevin Bales's disturbing story of slavery today reaches from brick kilns in Pakistan and brothels in Thailand to the offices of multinational corporations. His investigation of conditions in Mauritania, Brazil, Thailand, Pakistan, and India reveals the tragic emergence of a new slavery, one intricately linked to the global economy. The new slaves are not a long-term investment as was true with older forms of slavery, explains Bales. Instead, they are cheap, require little care, and are disposable. Three interrelated factors have helped create the new slavery. The enormous population explosion over the past three decades has flooded the world's labor markets with millions of impoverished, desperate people. The revolution of economic globalization and modernized agriculture has dispossessed poor farmers, making them and their families ready targets for enslavement. And rapid economic change in developing countries has bred corruption and violence, destroying social rules that might once have protected the most vulnerable individuals. Bales's vivid case studies present actual slaves, slaveholders, and public officials in well-drawn historical, geographical, and cultural contexts. He observes the complex economic relationships of modern slavery and is aware that liberation is a bitter victory for a child prostitute or a bonded miner if the result is starvation. Bales offers suggestions for combating the new slavery and provides examples of very positive results from organizations such as Anti-Slavery International, the Pastoral Land Commission in Brazil, and the Human Rights Commission in Pakistan. He also calls for researchers to follow the flow of raw materials and products from slave to marketplace in order to effectively target campaigns of naming and shaming corporations linked to slavery. *Disposable People* is the first book to point the way to abolishing slavery in today's global economy. All of the author's royalties from this book go to fund anti-slavery projects around the world.

accounting for slavery: Specters of the Atlantic Ian Baucom, 2005-12-16 In September 1781, the captain of the British slave ship *Zong* ordered 133 slaves thrown overboard, enabling the ship's owners to file an insurance claim for their lost "cargo." Accounts of this horrific event quickly became a staple of abolitionist discourse on both sides of the Atlantic. Ian Baucom revisits, in unprecedented detail, the *Zong* atrocity, the ensuing court cases, reactions to the event and trials, and the business and social dealings of the Liverpool merchants who owned the ship. Drawing on the work of an astonishing array of literary and social theorists, including Walter Benjamin, Giovanni Arrighi, Jacques Derrida, and many others, he argues that the tragedy is central not only to the trans-Atlantic slave trade and the political and cultural archives of the black Atlantic but also to the history of modern capital and ethics. To apprehend the *Zong* tragedy, Baucom suggests, is not to come to terms with an isolated atrocity but to encounter a logic of violence key to the unfolding history of Atlantic modernity. Baucom contends that the massacre and the trials that followed it bring to light an Atlantic cycle of capital accumulation based on speculative finance, an economic cycle that has not yet run its course. The extraordinarily abstract nature of today's finance capital is the late-eighteenth-century system intensified. Yet, as Baucom highlights, since the late 1700s, this

rapacious speculative culture has had detractors. He traces the emergence and development of a counter-discourse he calls melancholy realism through abolitionist and human-rights texts, British romantic poetry, Scottish moral philosophy, and the work of late-twentieth-century literary theorists. In revealing how the Zong tragedy resonates within contemporary financial systems and human-rights discourses, Baucom puts forth a deeply compelling, utterly original theory of history: one that insists that an eighteenth-century atrocity is not past but present within the future we now inhabit.

accounting for slavery: *The Ledger and the Chain* Joshua D. Rothman, 2021-04-20 An award-winning historian reveals the harrowing forgotten story of America's internal slave trade—and its role in the making of America. Slave traders are peripheral figures in most histories of American slavery. But these men—who trafficked and sold over half a million enslaved people from the Upper South to the Deep South—were essential to slavery's expansion and fueled the growth and prosperity of the United States. In *The Ledger and the Chain*, acclaimed historian Joshua D. Rothman recounts the shocking story of the domestic slave trade by tracing the lives and careers of Isaac Franklin, John Armfield, and Rice Ballard, who built the largest and most powerful slave-trading operation in American history. Far from social outcasts, they were rich and widely respected businessmen, and their company sat at the center of capital flows connecting southern fields to northeastern banks. Bringing together entrepreneurial ambition and remorseless violence toward enslaved people, domestic slave traders produced an atrocity that forever transformed the nation.

accounting for slavery: *American Taxation, American Slavery* Robin L. Einhorn, 2008-05-15 For all the recent attention to the slaveholding of the founding fathers, we still know remarkably little about the influence of slavery on American politics. *American Taxation, American Slavery* tackles this problem in a new way. Rather than parsing the ideological pronouncements of charismatic slaveholders, it examines the concrete policy decisions that slaveholders and non-slaveholders made in the critical realm of taxation. The result is surprising—that the enduring power of antigovernment rhetoric in the United States stems from the nation's history of slavery rather than its history of liberty. We are all familiar with the states' rights arguments of proslavery politicians who wanted to keep the federal government weak and decentralized. But here Robin Einhorn shows the deep, broad, and continuous influence of slavery on this idea in American politics. From the earliest colonial times right up to the Civil War, slaveholding elites feared strong democratic government as a threat to the institution of slavery. *American Taxation, American Slavery* shows how their heated battles over taxation, the power to tax, and the distribution of tax burdens were rooted not in debates over personal liberty but rather in the rights of slaveholders to hold human beings as property. Along the way, Einhorn exposes the antidemocratic origins of the popular Jeffersonian rhetoric about weak government by showing that governments were actually more democratic—and stronger—where most people were free. A strikingly original look at the role of slavery in the making of the United States, *American Taxation, American Slavery* will prove essential to anyone interested in the history of American government and politics.

accounting for slavery: *Necropolis* Kathryn Olivarius, 2022-04-19 Introduction: A rising necropolis -- Patriotic fever -- Danse macabre -- Immunocapital -- Public health, private acclimation -- Denial, delusion, and disunion -- Incumbent arrogance -- Epilogue: Fever and folly.

accounting for slavery: *A Mind to Stay* Sydney Nathans, 2017-02-20 The exodus of millions of African Americans from the rural South is a central theme of black life and liberation in the twentieth century. *A Mind to Stay* offers a counterpoint to the narrative of the Great Migration. Sydney Nathans tells the rare story of people who moved from being enslaved to becoming owners of the very land they had worked in bondage, and who have held on to it from emancipation through the Civil Rights era. The story began in 1844, when North Carolina planter Paul Cameron bought 1,600 acres near Greensboro, Alabama, and sent out 114 enslaved people to cultivate cotton and enlarge his fortune. In the 1870s, he sold the plantation to emancipated black families who worked there. Drawing on thousands of letters from the planter and on interviews with descendants of those

who bought the land, Nathans unravels how and why the planter's former laborers purchased the site of their enslavement, kept its name as Cameron Place, and defended their homeland against challengers from the Jim Crow era to the present day. Through the prism of a single plantation and the destiny of black families that dwelt on it for over a century and a half, *A Mind to Stay* brings to life a vivid cast of characters and illuminates the changing meaning of land and landowning to successive generations of rural African Americans. Those who remained fought to make their lives fully free—for themselves, for their neighbors, and for those who might someday return.

accounting for slavery: *Maladies of Empire* Jim Downs, 2021-01-12 A sweeping global history that looks beyond European urban centers to show how slavery, colonialism, and war propelled the development of modern medicine. Most stories of medical progress come with ready-made heroes. John Snow traced the origins of London's 1854 cholera outbreak to a water pump, leading to the birth of epidemiology. Florence Nightingale's contributions to the care of soldiers in the Crimean War revolutionized medical hygiene, transforming hospitals from crucibles of infection to sanctuaries of recuperation. Yet histories of individual innovators ignore many key sources of medical knowledge, especially when it comes to the science of infectious disease. Reexamining the foundations of modern medicine, Jim Downs shows that the study of infectious disease depended crucially on the unrecognized contributions of nonconsenting subjects—conscripted soldiers, enslaved people, and subjects of empire. Plantations, slave ships, and battlefields were the laboratories in which physicians came to understand the spread of disease. Military doctors learned about the importance of air quality by monitoring Africans confined to the bottom of slave ships. Statisticians charted cholera outbreaks by surveilling Muslims in British-dominated territories returning from their annual pilgrimage. The field hospitals of the Crimean War and the US Civil War were carefully observed experiments in disease transmission. The scientific knowledge derived from discarding and exploiting human life is now the basis of our ability to protect humanity from epidemics. Boldly argued and eye-opening, *Maladies of Empire* gives a full account of the true price of medical progress.

accounting for slavery: *A White-Collar Profession* Theresa A. Hammond, 2003-01-14 Among the major professions, certified public accountancy has the most severe underrepresentation of African Americans: less than 1 percent of CPAs are black. Theresa Hammond explores the history behind this statistic and chronicles the courage and determination of African Americans who sought to enter the field. In the process, she expands our understanding of the links between race, education, and economics. Drawing on interviews with pioneering black CPAs, among other sources, Hammond sets the stories of black CPAs against the backdrop of the rise of accountancy as a profession, the particular challenges that African Americans trying to enter the field faced, and the strategies that enabled some blacks to become CPAs. Prior to the 1960s, few white-owned accounting firms employed African Americans. Only through nationwide networks established by the first black CPAs did more African Americans gain the requisite professional experience. The civil rights era saw some progress in integrating the field, and black colleges responded by expanding their programs in business and accounting. In the 1980s, however, the backlash against affirmative action heralded the decline of African American participation in accountancy and paved the way for the astonishing lack of diversity that characterizes the field today.

accounting for slavery: *The Economics of Slavery* John R. Meyer, 2017-07-28 How are economists and historians to explain what happened in history? What statistical inferences can be drawn from historical data? The authors believe that explanation in history can be identified with the problems of prediction in a probabilistic universe. Using this approach, the historian can act upon his a priori information and his judgment of what is unique and particular in each past event, even with data hitherto considered to be intractable for statistical treatment. In essence, the book is an argument for and a demonstration of the point of view that the restricted approach of measurement without theory is not necessary in history, or at least not necessary in economic history. After two chapters of theoretical introduction, the authors explore the meanings and implications of evidence, explanation and proof in history by applying econometric methods to the analysis of three major

problems in 19th century economic history--the profitability of slavery in the antebellum South, income growth and development in the United States during the 1800's, and The Great Depression in the British economy; also included is a postscript on growth reassessing some current arguments in the light of the findings of these papers. The book presents an original and provocative approach to historical problems that have long plagued economists and historians and provides the reader with a new approach to these and similar questions.

accounting for slavery: The Political Economy of Slavery Eugene D. Genovese, 1989 A stimulating analysis of the society and economy in the slave south.

accounting for slavery: A World Transformed James Walvin, 2022-05-17 First published in Great Britain in 2022 by Robinson--Title page verso

accounting for slavery: The Making of New World Slavery Robin Blackburn, 1997 At the time when European powers colonized the Americas, the institution of slavery had almost disappeared from Europe itself. Having overcome an institution widely regarded as oppressive, why did they sponsor the construction of racial slavery in their new colonies? Robin Blackburn traces European doctrines of race and slavery from medieval times to the early modern epoch, and finds that the stigmatization of the ethno-religious Other was given a callous twist by a new culture of consumption, freed from an earlier moral economy. The Making of New World Slavery argues that independent commerce, geared to burgeoning consumer markets, was the driving force behind the rise of plantation slavery. The baroque state sought—successfully—to batten on this commerce, and—unsuccessfully—to regulate slavery and race. Successive chapters of the book consider the deployment of slaves in the colonial possessions of the Portuguese, the Spanish, the Dutch, the English and the French. Each are shown to have contributed something to the eventual consolidation of racial slavery and to the plantation revolution of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. It is shown that plantation slavery emerged from the impulses of civil society rather than from the strategies of the individual states. Robin Blackburn argues that the organization of slave plantations placed the West on a destructive path to modernity and that greatly preferable alternatives were both proposed and rejected. Finally he shows that the surge of Atlantic trade, premised on the killing toil of the plantations, made a decisive contribution to both the Industrial Revolution and the rise of the West.

accounting for slavery: You Are All Free Jeremy D. Popkin, 2010-08-30 The events leading to the abolition of slavery in the French colony of Saint-Domingue in 1793, and in France.

accounting for slavery: The Great Stain Noel Rae, 2018-02-20 “Eyewitness testimonies to the culture and commerce of slavery . . . coupled with smart commentary” from an acclaimed historian. “Essential.” (Kirkus Reviews) In this important book, Noel Rae integrates firsthand accounts into a narrative history that brings the reader face to face with slavery’s everyday reality. From the travel journals of sixteenth-century Spanish settlers who offered religious instruction and “protection” in exchange for farm labor, to the diaries of Reverend Cotton Mather, to Central Park designer Frederick Law Olmsted’s travelogue about the “cotton states,” to an 1880 speech given by Frederick Douglass, Rae provides a comprehensive portrait of the antebellum history of the nation. Most significant are the testimonies from former slaves themselves, ranging from the famous Solomon Northup to the virtually unknown Mary Reynolds, who was sold away from her mother as child. Drawing on thousands of original sources, The Great Stain tells of a society based on the exploitation of labor and fallacies of racial superiority. Meticulously researched, this is a work of history that is profoundly relevant to our world today. “Noel Rae expertly assembles the most consequential accounts from the era of the American slave trade. . . . A vivid and comprehensive picture.” —Ibram X. Kendi, National Book Award-winning author of Stamped From the Beginning: The Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America “Uniquely immediate, multivoiced, specific, arresting, and illuminating.” —Booklist “Many histories have been written of slavery in America, but far too few have let the participants, and particularly the victims, speak so directly for themselves. Rae has helped to fill that historical vacuum in this important work, and the voices are intense, eloquent, and haunting.” —National Book Review

accounting for slavery: The Cambridge World History of Slavery: Volume 3, AD 1420-AD 1804 David Eltis, Stanley L. Engerman, Keith R. Bradley, Paul Cartledge, Seymour Drescher, 2011-07-25 The various manifestations of coerced labour between the opening up of the Atlantic world and the formal creation of Haiti.

accounting for slavery: American Capitalism Sven Beckert, Christine Desan, 2018-02-06 The United States has long epitomized capitalism. From its enterprising shopkeepers, wildcat banks, violent slave plantations, huge industrial working class, and raucous commodities trade to its world-spanning multinationals, its massive factories, and the centripetal power of New York in the world of finance, America has come to symbolize capitalism for two centuries and more. But an understanding of the history of American capitalism is as elusive as it is urgent. What does it mean to make capitalism a subject of historical inquiry? What is its potential across multiple disciplines, alongside different methodologies, and in a range of geographic and chronological settings? And how does a focus on capitalism change our understanding of American history? *American Capitalism* presents a sampling of cutting-edge research from prominent scholars. These broad-minded and rigorous essays venture new angles on finance, debt, and credit; women's rights; slavery and political economy; the racialization of capitalism; labor beyond industrial wage workers; and the production of knowledge, including the idea of the economy, among other topics. Together, the essays suggest emerging themes in the field: a fascination with capitalism as it is made by political authority, how it is claimed and contested by participants, how it spreads across the globe, and how it can be reconceptualized without being universalized. A major statement for a wide-open field, this book demonstrates the breadth and scope of the work that the history of capitalism can provoke.

accounting for slavery: *South to Freedom* Alice L Baumgartner, 2020-11-10 A brilliant and surprising account of the coming of the American Civil War, showing the crucial role of slaves who escaped to Mexico. The Underground Railroad to the North promised salvation to many American slaves before the Civil War. But thousands of people in the south-central United States escaped slavery not by heading north but by crossing the southern border into Mexico, where slavery was abolished in 1837. In *South to Freedom*, historian Alice L. Baumgartner tells the story of why Mexico abolished slavery and how its increasingly radical antislavery policies fueled the sectional crisis in the United States. Southerners hoped that annexing Texas and invading Mexico in the 1840s would stop runaways and secure slavery's future. Instead, the seizure of Alta California and Nuevo México upset the delicate political balance between free and slave states. This is a revelatory and essential new perspective on antebellum America and the causes of the Civil War.

accounting for slavery: *Complicity* Anne Farrow, Joel Lang, Jenifer Frank, 2007-12-18 A startling and superbly researched book demythologizing the North's role in American slavery "The hardest question is what to do when human rights give way to profits. . . . *Complicity* is a story of the skeletons that remain in this nation's closet."—San Francisco Chronicle The North's profit from—indeed, dependence on—slavery has mostly been a shameful and well-kept secret . . . until now. *Complicity* reveals the cruel truth about the lucrative Triangle Trade of molasses, rum, and slaves that linked the North to the West Indies and Africa. It also discloses the reality of Northern empires built on tainted profits—run, in some cases, by abolitionists—and exposes the thousand-acre plantations that existed in towns such as Salem, Connecticut. Here, too, are eye-opening accounts of the individuals who profited directly from slavery far from the Mason-Dixon line. Culled from long-ignored documents and reports—and bolstered by rarely seen photos, publications, maps, and period drawings—*Complicity* is a fascinating and sobering work that actually does what so many books pretend to do: shed light on America's past.

accounting for slavery: *Black Ghost of Empire* Kris Manjapra, 2022-04-19 If the 1619 Project illuminated the ways in which life in the United States has been shaped by the existence of slavery, this "historical, literary masterpiece" (Kiese Laymon, author of *Heavy*) focuses on emancipation and how its afterlife further codified the racial caste system—instead of obliterating it. To understand why the shadow of slavery still haunts us today, we must look closely at the way it ended. Between the 1770s and 1880s, emancipation processes took off across the Atlantic world. But

far from ushering in a new age of human rights and universal freedoms, these emancipations further codified the racial caste systems they claimed to disrupt. In this paradigm-altering book, acclaimed historian and professor Kris Manjapra identifies five types of emancipations across the globe and reveals that their perceived failures were not failures at all, but the predictable outcomes of policies designed first and foremost to preserve the status quo of racial oppression. In the process, Manjapra shows how, amidst this unfinished history, grassroots Black organizers and activists have become custodians of collective recovery and remedy; not only for our present, but also for our relationship with the past. *Black Ghost of Empire* will rewire readers' understanding of the world in which we live. Timely, lucid, and crucial to our understanding of contemporary society, this book shines a light into the gap between the idea of slavery's end and the reality of its continuation—exposing to whom a debt was paid and to whom a debt is owed.

accounting for slavery: The 1619 Project Nikole Hannah-Jones, *The New York Times Magazine*, 2024-06-04 #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • NAACP IMAGE AWARD WINNER • A dramatic expansion of a groundbreaking work of journalism, *The 1619 Project: A New Origin Story* offers a profoundly revealing vision of the American past and present. “[A] groundbreaking compendium . . . bracing and urgent . . . This collection is an extraordinary update to an ongoing project of vital truth-telling.”—*Esquire* NOW AN EMMY-NOMINATED HULU ORIGINAL DOCUSERIES • FINALIST FOR THE KIRKUS PRIZE • ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR: *The Washington Post*, NPR, *Esquire*, *Marie Claire*, *Electric Lit*, *Ms. magazine*, *Kirkus Reviews*, *Booklist* In late August 1619, a ship arrived in the British colony of Virginia bearing a cargo of twenty to thirty enslaved people from Africa. Their arrival led to the barbaric and unprecedented system of American chattel slavery that would last for the next 250 years. This is sometimes referred to as the country's original sin, but it is more than that: It is the source of so much that still defines the United States. *The New York Times Magazine's* award-winning 1619 Project issue reframed our understanding of American history by placing slavery and its continuing legacy at the center of our national narrative. This book substantially expands on that work, weaving together eighteen essays that explore the legacy of slavery in present-day America with thirty-six poems and works of fiction that illuminate key moments of oppression, struggle, and resistance. The essays show how the inheritance of 1619 reaches into every part of contemporary American society, from politics, music, diet, traffic, and citizenship to capitalism, religion, and our democracy itself. This book that speaks directly to our current moment, contextualizing the systems of race and caste within which we operate today. It reveals long-glossed-over truths around our nation's founding and construction—and the way that the legacy of slavery did not end with emancipation, but continues to shape contemporary American life. Featuring contributions from: Leslie Alexander • Michelle Alexander • Carol Anderson • Joshua Bennett • Reginald Dwayne Betts • Jamelle Bouie • Anthea Butler • Matthew Desmond • Rita Dove • Camille T. Dungy • Cornelius Eady • Eve L. Ewing • Nikky Finney • Vievee Francis • Yaa Gyasi • Forrest Hamer • Terrance Hayes • Kimberly Annece Henderson • Jeneen Interlandi • Honorée Fanonne Jeffers • Barry Jenkins • Tyehimba Jess • Martha S. Jones • Robert Jones, Jr. • A. Van Jordan • Ibram X. Kendi • Eddie Kendricks • Yusef Komunyakaa • Kevin M. Kruse • Kiese Laymon • Trymaine Lee • Jasmine Mans • Terry McMillan • Tiya Miles • Wesley Morris • Khalil Gibran Muhammad • Lynn Nottage • ZZ Packer • Gregory Pardlo • Darryl Pinckney • Claudia Rankine • Jason Reynolds • Dorothy Roberts • Sonia Sanchez • Tim Seibles • Evie Shockley • Clint Smith • Danez Smith • Patricia Smith • Tracy K. Smith • Bryan Stevenson • Nafissa Thompson-Spires • Natasha Trethewey • Linda Villarosa • Jesmyn Ward

accounting for slavery: United States Code United States, 2013 The United States Code is the official codification of the general and permanent laws of the United States of America. The Code was first published in 1926, and a new edition of the code has been published every six years since 1934. The 2012 edition of the Code incorporates laws enacted through the One Hundred Twelfth Congress, Second Session, the last of which was signed by the President on January 15, 2013. It does not include laws of the One Hundred Thirteenth Congress, First Session, enacted between January 2, 2013, the date it convened, and January 15, 2013. By statutory authority this edition may

be cited U.S.C. 2012 ed. As adopted in 1926, the Code established prima facie the general and permanent laws of the United States. The underlying statutes reprinted in the Code remained in effect and controlled over the Code in case of any discrepancy. In 1947, Congress began enacting individual titles of the Code into positive law. When a title is enacted into positive law, the underlying statutes are repealed and the title then becomes legal evidence of the law. Currently, 26 of the 51 titles in the Code have been so enacted. These are identified in the table of titles near the beginning of each volume. The Law Revision Counsel of the House of Representatives continues to prepare legislation pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 285b to enact the remainder of the Code, on a title-by-title basis, into positive law. The 2012 edition of the Code was prepared and published under the supervision of Ralph V. Seep, Law Revision Counsel. Grateful acknowledgment is made of the contributions by all who helped in this work, particularly the staffs of the Office of the Law Revision Counsel and the Government Printing Office--Preface.

accounting for slavery: The Color of Money Mehrsa Baradaran, 2017-09-14 "Read this book. It explains so much about the moment...Beautiful, heartbreaking work." —Ta-Nehisi Coates "A deep accounting of how America got to a point where a median white family has 13 times more wealth than the median black family." —The Atlantic "Extraordinary...Baradaran focuses on a part of the American story that's often ignored: the way African Americans were locked out of the financial engines that create wealth in America." —Ezra Klein When the Emancipation Proclamation was signed in 1863, the black community owned less than 1 percent of the total wealth in America. More than 150 years later, that number has barely budged. The Color of Money seeks to explain the stubborn persistence of this racial wealth gap by focusing on the generators of wealth in the black community: black banks. With the civil rights movement in full swing, President Nixon promoted "black capitalism," a plan to support black banks and minority-owned businesses. But the catch-22 of black banking is that the very institutions needed to help communities escape the deep poverty caused by discrimination and segregation inevitably became victims of that same poverty. In this timely and eye-opening account, Baradaran challenges the long-standing belief that black communities could ever really hope to accumulate wealth in a segregated economy. "Black capitalism has not improved the economic lives of black people, and Baradaran deftly explains the reasons why." —Los Angeles Review of Books "A must read for anyone interested in closing America's racial wealth gap." —Black Perspectives

accounting for slavery: The Oxford Handbook of Slavery in the Americas Robert L. Paquette, Mark Michael Smith, 2016-01-28 A series of penetrating, original, and authoritative essays on the history and historiography of the institution of slavery in the New World, written by a team of leading international contributors.

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