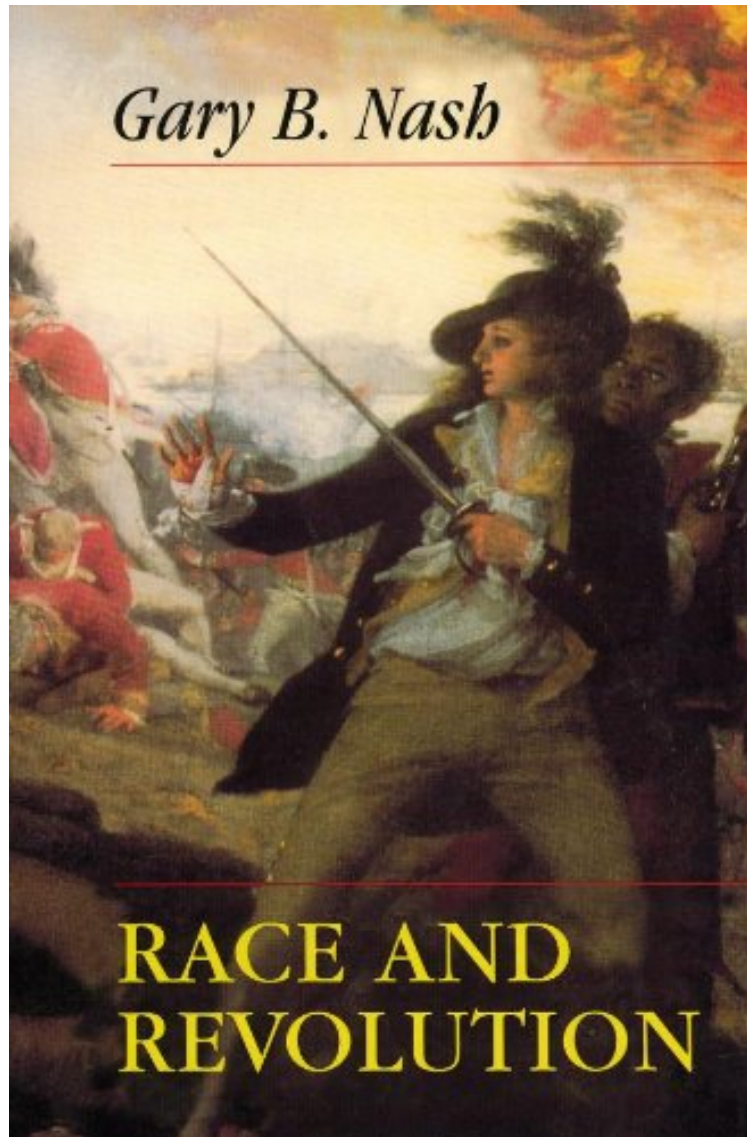


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Race and Revolution (Merrill Jensen Lectures in Constitutional Studies)

Von Gary B. Nash

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Von Gary B. Nash : Race and Revolution (Merrill Jensen Lectures in Constitutional Studies) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Race and Revolution (Merrill Jensen Lectures in Constitutional Studies):

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Excellent on slavery and the American Revolution
Von Ein Kunde
This book is a real eye-opener for anyone, like me, who thought that slavery was not an issue at the time of the American Revolution. Did you think slaves did not understand what was going on? Have a look!

Kurzbeschreibung
The most profound crisis of conscience for white Americans at the end of the eighteenth century became their most tragic failure. *Race and Revolution* is a trenchant study of the revolutionary generation's early efforts to right the apparent contradiction of slavery and of their ultimate compromises that not only left the institution intact but provided it with the protection of a vastly strengthened government after 1788. Reversing the conventional view that blames slavery on the South's social and economic structures, Nash stresses the role of the northern states in the failure to abolish slavery. It was northern racism and hypocrisy as much as southern intransigence that buttressed "the peculiar institution." Nash also shows how economic and cultural factors intertwined to result not in an apparently judicious decision of the new American nation but rather its most significant lost opportunity. *Race and Revolution* describes the free black community's response to this failure of the revolution's promise, its vigorous and articulate pleas for justice, and the community's successes in building its own African-American institutions within the hostile environment of early nineteenth-century America. Included with the text of *Race and Revolution* are nineteen rare and crucial documents—letters, pamphlets, sermons, and speeches—which provide evidence for Nash's controversial and persuasive claims. From the words of Anthony Benezet and Luther Martin to those of Absalom Jones and Caesar Sarter, readers may judge the historical record for themselves. "In reality," argues Nash, "the American Revolution represents the largest slave uprising in our history." *Race and Revolution* is the compelling story of that failed quest for the promise of freedom.

Pressestimmen
A powerful, forthright, and revisionist interpretation . . . thoroughly convincing.--Linda K. Kerber
The best history makes a difference in how we think about and feel the past. *Race and Revolution* is an important, tough-minded, provocative group of essays that contributes to our understanding of the most debilitating virus in the American system. Not only has Gary Nash illuminated the critical challenge of race and slavery in the revolutionary era and 'the most tragic failure' of American leaders, but he has brought to the forefront the long ignored role of black revolutionists in the early struggles for freedom.--Leon F. Litwack, author of *Been In the Storm So Long*
Gary Nash has written a powerful, forthright, and revisionist interpretation of the founding generation and slavery which challenges much received wisdom. I find it thoroughly convincing.--Linda K. Kerber, author of *Women of the Republic*
Race and Revolution is a bold and stirring documentation of the collapse of the devotion for liberty in America in the immediate wake of the American Revolution. While his interpretations will startle some, Gary Nash correctly finds that the demise of efforts to abolish slavery and incorporate blacks in American society proceeded directly from an increasingly conservative, white supremacist North, not a self-serving South. Finally, historians may be taking off the blinders that have perpetually obscured our ability to understand slavery and race as national, not regional problems.--Larry E. Tise, author of *Proslavery: A History of the Defense of Slavery in America*
Race and Revolution should become standard reading in graduate and undergraduate seminars. It is broadly conceived and engages the major historiographical issues in such a way as to suggest new avenues of investigation.--R.J.M. Blackett, author of *Building an Antislavery Wall: Black Americans in the Atlantic Abolitionist Movement*

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