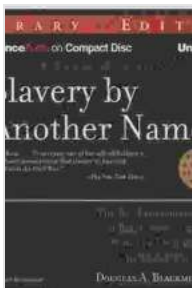


Unveiling the Hidden Legacy of Slavery: 'Slavery by Another Name'

In the aftermath of the American Civil War, it was widely believed that slavery had been abolished. However, as historian Douglas A. Blackmon reveals in his Pulitzer Prize-winning book 'Slavery by Another Name,' the bitter truth was far from it. Blackmon's groundbreaking research uncovers a system of forced labor that emerged in the American South, continuing the legacy of slavery under the guise of a new name.

The Post-Emancipation Era With the passage of the Thirteenth Amendment in 1865, slavery was officially declared illegal in the United States. However, former slave owners and their allies in the South were determined to find ways to maintain their grip on the free labor force they had long depended on. They devised a system of legal loopholes, economic coercion, and extralegal violence to enslave African Americans for decades after the war.



Slavery by Another Name: The Re-Enslavement of Black Americans from the Civil War to World War II

by Douglas A. Blackmon

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 4063 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Print length : 498 pages



The Emergence of Convict Leasing One of the most insidious forms of post-emancipation slavery was convict leasing. States in the South enacted black codes that criminalized minor offenses for African Americans, resulting in their mass incarceration. These prisoners were then leased out to private contractors, who used them as unpaid labor on plantations, mines, and other industries. The convict leasing system became a lucrative business, enriching white landowners and politicians while perpetuating the exploitation of African Americans.

The Use of Sharecropping Another form of forced labor that emerged in the post-emancipation era was sharecropping. Under this system, African Americans rented land from white landowners and were paid a share of the crops they produced. However, the terms of these contracts were often stacked against the sharecroppers, leaving them perpetually indebted to the landowners. Sharecropping kept African Americans tied to the land and trapped in a cycle of poverty, effectively enslaving them to the white landowners.

Debt Peonage In addition to convict leasing and sharecropping, debt peonage was another means by which African Americans were forced into labor. Indebted to white merchants or landowners, African Americans were coerced into working to pay off their debts. This system often resulted in extended periods of servitude and subjected workers to harsh conditions and violence.

The Consequences of Post-Emancipation Slavery The system of forced labor that existed in the American South after the Civil War had devastating consequences for African Americans. It denied them their basic rights, limited their economic opportunities, and instilled a pervasive climate of fear and oppression. The legacy of post-emancipation slavery continues to shape racial inequality and social injustice in the present day.

'Slavery by Another Name' is a groundbreaking and meticulously researched book that shines a light on a dark chapter in American history. Douglas A. Blackmon's work exposes the horrors of forced labor in the American South and demonstrates how the legacy of slavery continues to impact society today. By understanding the history of post-emancipation slavery, we can better address the persistent racial disparities and work towards a more just and equitable future.



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