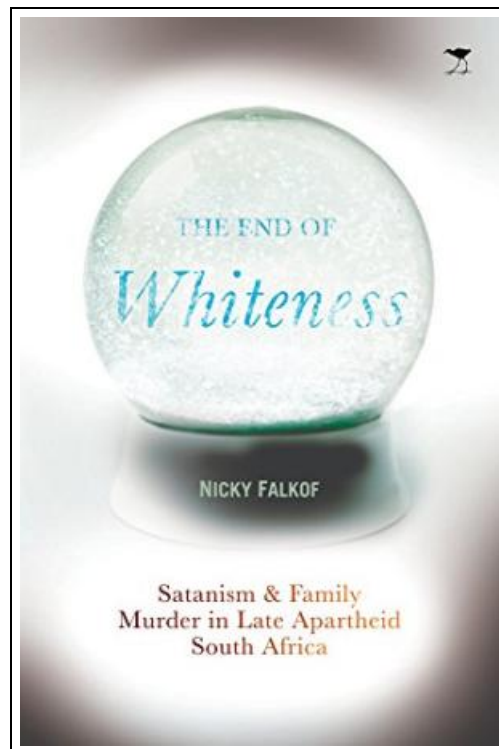


The End of Whiteness: Satanism and Family Murder in Late Apartheid South Africa



Filesize: 9.19 MB

Reviews

It is fantastic and great. Sure, it is perform, nonetheless an amazing and interesting literature. Once you begin to read the book, it is extremely difficult to leave it before concluding.

(Conor Grant)

THE END OF WHITENESS: SATANISM AND FAMILY MURDER IN LATE APARTHEID SOUTH AFRICA

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Jacana Media. Paperback. Condition: New. 240 pages. The aim of the book is to reveal the pathological, paranoid and bizarre consequences that the looming end of apartheid had on white culture in South Africa, and overall to show that whiteness (in SA and in general) is a deeply problematic category that needs to be deconstructed and thoughtfully considered. It discusses two symptoms of this late apartheid cultural hysteria that appeared throughout the contemporary media and in popular literature during the 1980s and 1990s. The Satanic panic revolved around the apparent threat posed by a cult of white Satanists that was never proven to exist but was nonetheless repeatedly accused of conspiracy, murder, rape, drug-dealing, cannibalism and bestiality, and blamed for the imminent destruction of white Christian civilization in South Africa. During the same period an unusually high number of domestic murder-suicides occurred, with parents killing themselves and their children or other family members by gunshot, fire, poison, gas, even crossbows and drownings. This so-called epidemic of family murder was treated by police, press and social scientists as a plague that specifically affected white Afrikaans families. The book analyzes hundreds of contemporary newspaper reports about these two panics, showing their relation to white anxieties about social change, the potential loss of privilege and the destabilisation of the country that was imagined to be an inevitable consequence of majority rule. It uses academic sources and other popular material to back up these claims, making arguments about the nature of whiteness, about the workings of race and nationalism in general, about identity, religion, violence and fear in SA. Structurally, it is divided into two parts, one on each scare. Each is comprised of five chapters: four of context, discussion and analysis and one long chapter that traces the process of the scare in...

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