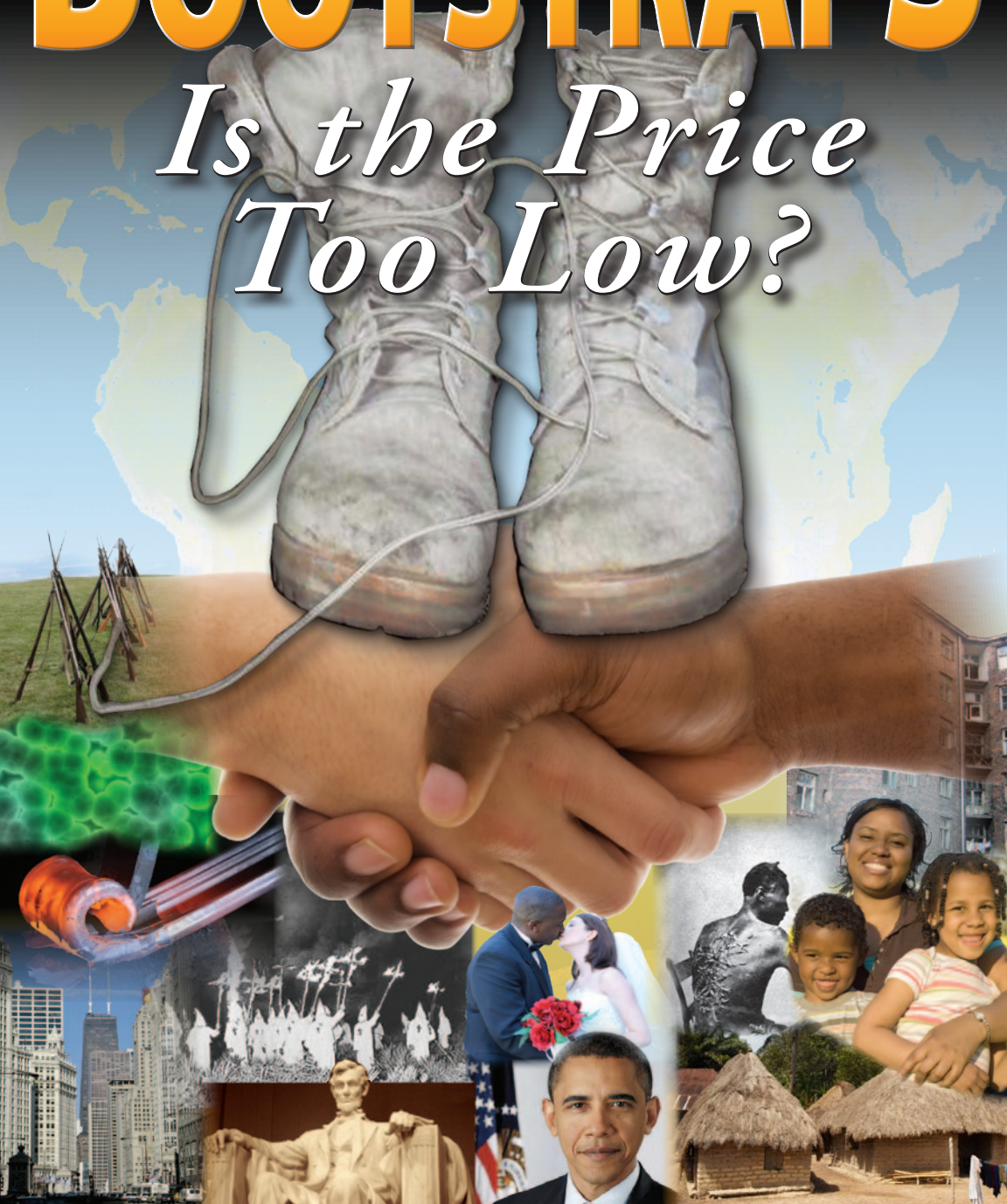


# BOOTSTRAPS

*Is the Price  
Too Low?*



**BRUNO K. MPOY**

## About the Book

Unlike any other book on racial differences and their causes, written by people with monolithic perspectives, Mr. Mpoy relies on his unique background and global experience as he examines hard-to-stomach truths and provides objective answers.

This book distinguishes itself from others such as *Guns, Germs, and Steel* or *What's Race Got to Do with It?* by its unprecedented analysis that highlights new observations, illuminates innovative ideas, and aims to show that disparities between blacks and whites are due to genetic predispositions, not historical injustices or racism.

Using real life events, Mr. Mpoy brilliantly demonstrates that blaming whites is an injustice. He delves into international political economy as he concludes with practical solutions for bridging this gap between blacks and whites, eradicating poverty, and promoting social justice, love and peace.

“Entertaining, impressive, articulate and well researched...”

–Dr. Matt Fullerty, Professorial Lecturer of English,  
The George Washington University, Washington, DC

“This book needs to be written...”

–Dr. George Ayittey, Distinguished Professor of Economics,  
American University, Washington, DC

“Provocative, phenomenal, candid and brilliantly captivating analysis...”

–Dr. Nathaniel Sims, retired Professor of Education and Afro-American Studies  
and a lawyer, Washington, DC

“Worth reading and brings to light reasons for continuing to maintain an open dialogue about these important and delicate issues the author raises in the book...”

–Dr. Gerald P. Perman, Clinical Professor in Psychiatry and the Behavioral Sciences,  
The George Washington University Medical Center, Washington, DC

“Powerfully thought-provoking and persuasively blunt...”

–E. Ned Sloan, Civil Rights Attorney, Washington, DC

## About the Book

Some people believe that the disparities between whites and blacks are a result of widespread historical injustice, especially slavery and colonialism. Others believe that blacks are lazy and want money without working and an education without studying. What do you believe?

In 2003, in New Haven, Connecticut, black American firefighters flunked an exam to get a promotion, while whites passed the same test. One black firefighter said that blacks flunked the test not because they aren't as intelligent as whites, but because of creepy factors (“hidden biases”). What are these creepy factors and do they really explain why whites consistently out-perform blacks on standardized tests? Is cultural bias really the creepy factor?

In March 2010, U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan said that the disparities between whites and blacks in academic achievement are “the civil rights issue of our time.” Are they a civil rights issue or a genetic predisposition issue?

Are both the Washington, DC government and DC public school district corrupt and incompetent because of a cultural bias and historical injustice? How about African governments? In 2010, Haiti's earthquake killed over 220,000 people and left over one million homeless. Also in 2010, Chile's much stronger earthquake killed less than 1000. What explains the difference? Are whites more intelligent than blacks? What is the role of genes in explaining these differences? The author engages you in a real-life candid racial dialogue that takes you through a stimulating journey that answers these questions.



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## About the Author

Mr. Bruno Mpoy went to Churchill High School in Potomac, Maryland. He holds a B.S. in Economic Development from West Virginia University Tech in Montgomery, WV and a M.S. in Finance from American University in Washington, DC. He received a certificate in Comparative Economic and Political Systems from the Fund for American Studies through Georgetown University in Washington, DC. He is currently a candidate for M.A. in Special Education at The George Washington University in Washington, DC. He is a special education teacher and a legal researcher, writer and strategist. He worked for five years for an international trade association in Washington, DC, where he provided support for lobbying the US federal government. He has worked at a law firm in Washington, DC for seven years. Mr. Mpoy has traveled extensively and has lived in Belgium, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, South Africa, and the United States.

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## Introduction

It's telling that I managed to go through high school, undergraduate and graduate school in America without a single black American friend, save a black American ex-wife. I now have many black American friends. I am proud of having earned their friendships.

I came to the United States in 1984. My eldest brother, who has a law degree from Yale University and works as a lawyer at the World Bank, brought me to the US. I lived with him, his wife and four children in Potomac, Maryland. Potomac is a rich suburb of Washington, DC. I don't recall having had any neighbors who were black. I recall that some of the white high school students at the school I attended, Winston Churchill, drove BMWs and Mercedes.

There were a handful of black American students at Winston Churchill. They segregated themselves. At the time, I didn't think anything of it. I hadn't become racist yet. It didn't occur to me that I had to make an effort to join black American students in their little corner. I didn't make an effort to join any other students. I talked to students who talked to me and liked students who liked me. Those were the students who were my friends. They were mainly white American. A few were Brazilian; a few others were from other Latin American countries. Although I clearly noticed the physical differences among people, I didn't think anything of them. I didn't identify anyone, including myself, by his

or her skin color or physical attributes. John was John and Jennifer was Jennifer; nothing more, except his or her personality and character that embodied who John or Jennifer was. Today, I see people as white, black, North Asian, South Asian, Latino, Native American, European, black African, North African, black American, white American, Mexican American, mixed, etc. It is impossible not to attribute certain qualities and characteristics to people when you see them *not* as individuals but as members of a certain ethnic or racial group. There is no question that I have become racist. The question is *how* I became racist.