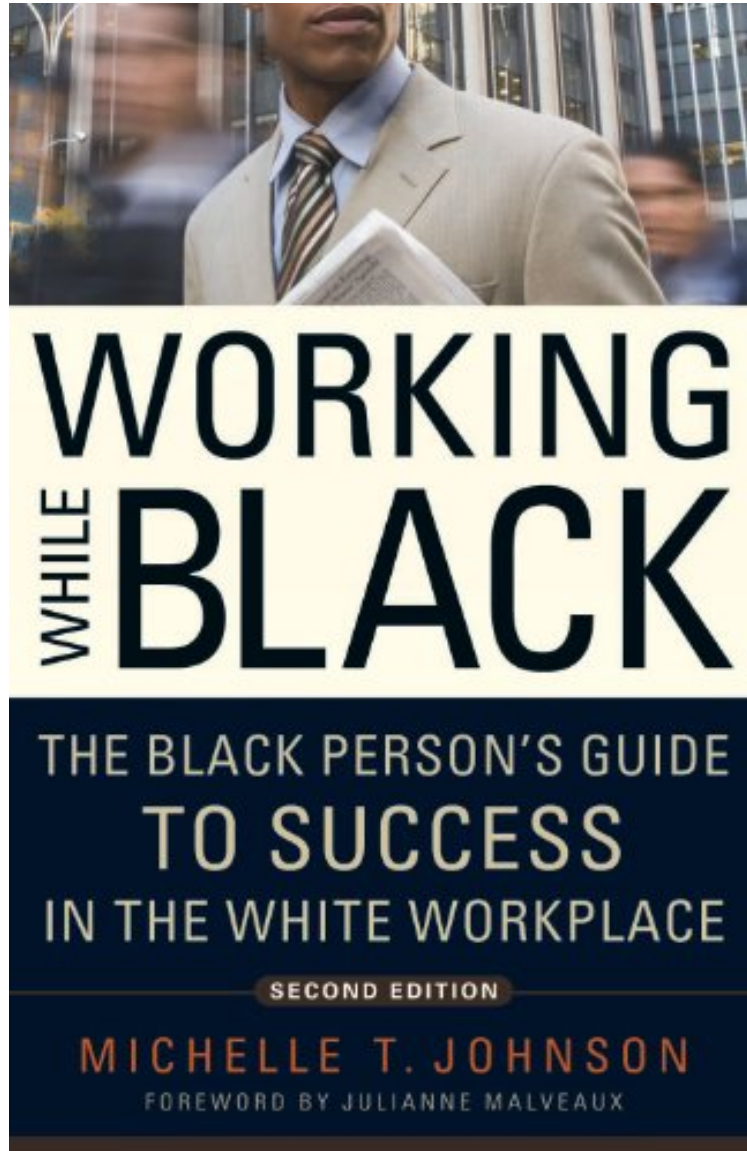


# Working While Black: The Black Person's Guide to Success in the White Workplace

*Michelle T. Johnson*

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**Michelle T. Johnson : Working While Black: The Black Person's Guide to Success in the White Workplace**  
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is abysmal.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great bookBy CustomerGreat book. I work for the federal government and after reading this book gained a wealth of knowledge of working while black in the private sector. I would love to see the author write a book on working while black in the federal government.

This guide offers practical suggestions for black Americans to develop mental awareness, a psychological game plan, and an increased level of business savvy in order to negotiate the minefield of the white work world. Included are commonsense scenarios and real-life solutions that will help every black American evaluate his or her options—;from getting hired to getting fired, from adjusting one's attitude to suing an employer. Tips are offered on how African Americans can fit their styles, mindsets, and history into the workplace, and insight is provided into how best to deal with situations, problems, and issues unique to being black in a white working world. This new edition has been updated to account for changes in social networking, the Obama effect, the economic downturn, and recent court decisions.

From BooklistJohnson, an employment attorney, draws on her personal and professional experiences, as well as those of friends and clients, to offer this guide for black people in workplaces dominated by whites. Acknowledging that in an ideal world such a guide wouldn't be necessary, Johnson highlights the particular issues faced by black Americans, from feelings of loneliness and isolation to concerns about fair treatment. She posits what she calls a "15 percent difference" between blacks and whites that occasionally accounts for friction and explores the contradictory opinions held by most whites and blacks about the need for affirmative action and efforts to develop a color-blind society and workforce. The book aims to increase the reader's awareness of the need to develop strategies for selecting favorable work environments and for getting and keeping a job. Johnson offers advice on the importance of grooming and using appropriate language, making alliances (fitting in without selling out), considering legal options when problems arise, and being healthy and happy on the job and away from the job. Vanessa BushCopyright copy; American Library Association. All rights reserved "This book examines in an insightful way a delicate and difficult issuethe triumph and tragedies of black upward mobility. Don't miss it!" Cornel West, author, Race Matters