

Edited by Court D. Lewis

Forgiveness Confronts Race, Relationships, and the Social

The Philosophy of Forgiveness - Volume V

SERIES IN PHILOSOPHY OF FORGIVENESS

Summary

'Forgiveness Confronts Race, Relationships, and the Social', Volume V of Vernon Press's The Philosophy of Forgiveness series, is an exercise in listening. Listening to others, and not just waiting for them to stop speaking, requires a willingness to recognize the worth of the other and to believe that what they say is worthy of consideration. Much like reading a book, one must strive to quiet the constant voice in one's head in order to hear and process the information communicated. Listening is not always easy, and it takes considerable practice, but it is one of the most effective means for developing understanding and growing as an intellectual and moral person. Literature dealing with forgiveness lacks many important voices, including those from First Peoples, African American, LatinX, and LGBTQ+, and many others, and the authors of 'Forgiveness Confronts Race, Relationships, and the Social' begin the task of closing these gaps, discussing topics from folk and other social and political issues to racism, systems of oppression, and religion. The authors were asked to explore forgiveness from their own understandings of underrepresented aspects of forgiveness, and readers will hopefully be enlightened and inspired to make their own diverse voices of forgiveness heard, creating a true dialogue of diversity and wisdom.

About the editor

Court D. Lewis is Associate Professor of Philosophy at Pellissippi State Community College, in Knoxville, TN. Specializing in Ethics, Forgiveness, and Justice, Court is the author of 'Repentance and the Right to Forgiveness', Series Editor of Vernon Press's series 'The Philosophy of Forgiveness', and co-editor (with Gregory L. Bock) of 'The Ethics of Anger' and 'Righteous Indignation: Christianity and Anger'. Court is a member of the Concerned Philosophers for Peace, proud father and husband, volunteer, and musician.

"Forgiveness Confronts Race, Relationships, and the Social" is the cutting edge of philosophical exploration of the many facets of forgiveness. In this volume Court Lewis has assembled a rich and diverse collection of essays highlighting many largely overlooked perspectives on forgiveness. The issues addressed in this exciting volume range from the role that forgiveness plays in combating racism to the nature of self-forgiveness to political forgiveness in moving from war to peace. The volume is well thought out and timely. Simply put, "Forgiveness Confronts Race, Relationships, and the Social" is a must-read for anyone interested in the nature of forgiveness.

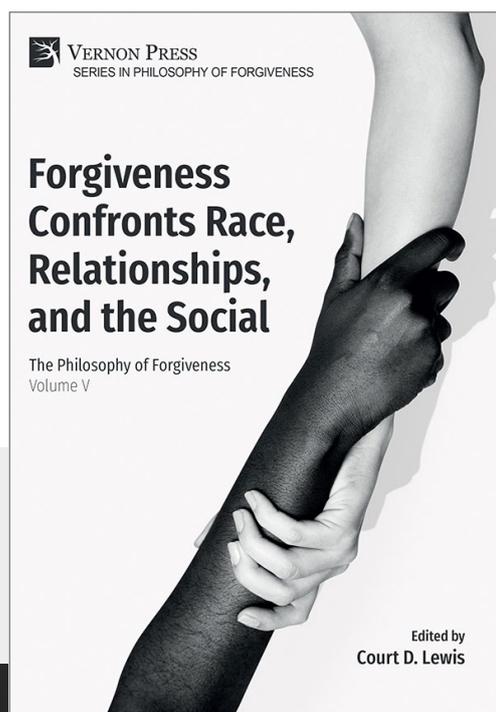
Dr. Kevin McCain

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Court Lewis' worthwhile volume addresses the very important and relevant topic of forgiveness and how it relates to race, parenting, other relationships, and forgiving oneself. It further offers accounts of the nature of forgiveness, its ethical dimensions, and its relevance in the social and political spheres, for example, in postwar situations and an era of political hyper-polarization and tribalism, but also how forgiveness is construed in religious contexts: Christianity, Scientology, and Gnosticism. The contributions to this volume are insightful, scholarly, well-researched, and accessible. In addition, the contributors come from around the globe, which offers a valuable international perspective on forgiveness. The book has a very broad and interdisciplinary appeal for those philosophers and scholars working on the topic of forgiveness, and it is an important contribution to that scholarship. The book's accessibility and readability of the chapters make it appropriate for undergraduate and graduate students. The topic of forgiveness is intrinsically interesting, and virtually all humans must grapple with it at some point in their lives; thus, this volume is a valuable aid to anyone wishing to understand the nature and functionality of forgiveness more deeply.

Dr. Paula Smithka

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