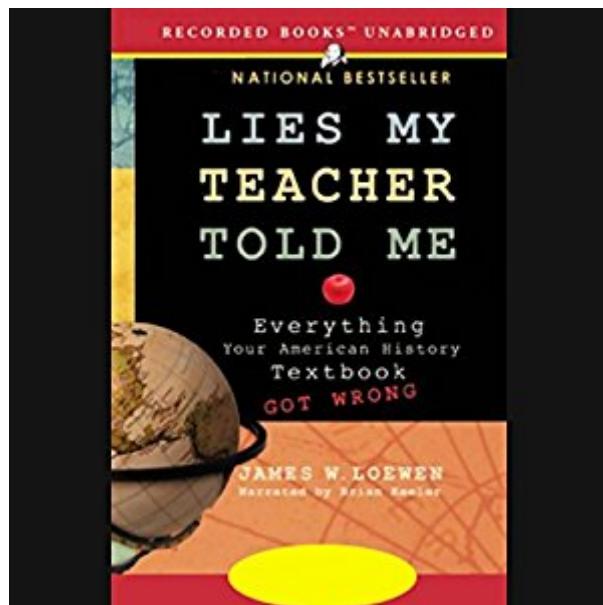


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Lies My Teacher Told Me: Everything Your American History Textbook Got Wrong



Synopsis

A completely revised edition of James W. Loewen's classic retelling of American history, based on six new textbooks and including an all-new chapter on the recent past. Since its first publication in 1995, *Lies My Teacher Told Me* has gone on to win an American Book Award and the Oliver Cromwell Cox Award for Distinguished Anti-Racist Scholarship, and has sold over a million copies in its various editions. What started out as a survey of the twelve leading American history textbooks has ended up being what the San Francisco Chronicle calls "an extremely convincing plea for truth in education." In *Lies My Teacher Told Me*, James W. Loewen brings history alive in all its complexity and ambiguity. Beginning with pre-Columbian history and ranging over characters and events as diverse as Reconstruction, Helen Keller, the first Thanksgiving, and the My Lai massacre, Loewen offers an eye-opening critique of existing textbooks, and a wonderful retelling of American history as it should—and could—be taught to American students. This new edition also features a handsome new cover and a new introduction by the author. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

It's well written and interesting... but like any good history book, can at times be boring. James also won't stop talking in a "holier than thou" approach as to why he feels the education system needs reform. I get it, it's a good message, but he's typically preaching to the choir and we're really just here to get interesting tidbits of untold history. Still, I would recommend it for anyone looking for a "humanized" approach to American history; he is very factual, and doesn't completely destroy our

icons... just points out the faults that we know are always within mankind

If you believe that history should be more than a congratulatory chorus for the United States, then this is the book for you. It explains why so many high school graduates are ignorant about history, and how the truth is skimmed over and overlooked in favor of a bland cocktail of equal parts banality and obfuscation and tedious repetition of "factoids." The interconnectedness that makes history so fascinating is completely missing from any study of history before college level. Certainly, if a subject is interesting enough to spawn thousands of books, hundreds of hours of television and even two television networks, then text book publishers could make it a little bit easier for high school students to stomach.

This gives a much-needed and well-researched perspective to the depth needed to address our country's history. It incorporates first person accounts from multiple perspectives to give a well-rounded idea of the events that have happened. He breaks down a brick wall of concepts I never thought to question when I was in high school. Every page makes me want to run to the library and do more research! Wonderfully written!

I have read thousands of books. I have long since known that the whitewashed history we are taught in school, and validated through the media, is not true history. For example, if we look at what we are taught subjectively, we will realize that European/white history, here and around the world, has been one of death and destruction. These horrid crimes have been done, more often than not, under the guise of Christianity. The amazing part is the descendants of the victims, that are still being victimized, are taught to admire and revere these people. i.e. the forefathers, that raped, tortured and murdered innocent people. This is like teaching Jewish children to admire and revere Hitler. Blatant mis-education should no longer be tolerated. The descendants of the victims become angry when they learn the truth and, in many cases, the descendants of the perpetrators have to suffer through facing the truth about the barbaric deeds of their ancestors. History should be taught as history. That undermines the very foundation of racism. This book, while 'un-teaching' lies taught, teaches truth. I could not believe I had found such a book. History is history pure and simple. What we have been taught are stories, fiction. This book is about truth. This author goes into great detail as to why the truth is important. His insight is astounding.

One of the most important books that I have read. Loewen undertakes a thankless task - reading

and evaluating the most popular textbooks in the United States. He adds his insights from his career as a historian as to why history is presented the way it is to our nation's students. I own two copies of this book - one for me, and one for lending out.

This book has a lot of obscured points in American history. It comes across, at some points, as anti-white or American. It has to do this when the book is pointing out all the points in history where a historic figures failings are ignored and he is turned into a hero. Today you have a lot of people saying that our government is corrupt and they are moving away from the American idea. This book will show you that the American idea has been abused from the beginning. We are all human and the figures of the past are no more noble or honest than they are today.

An excellent book. It clears up a lot of errors in how our history has been presented. The normal history textbooks are a joke and an insult to real historians.

He loved it

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