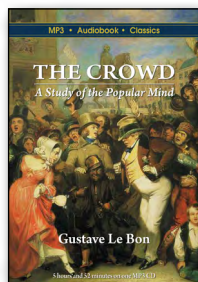


Social Sciences

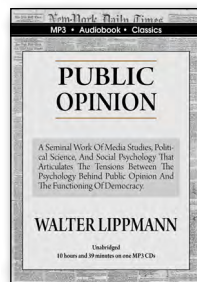


The Crowd: A Study of the Popular Mind

Author: Gustave Le Bon
Read by: Oxenhandler
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 5 hours and 52 minutes
Genre: Non-Fiction, Psychology, Sociology

Catalog: DB-1229
UPC: 0701236969481
MSLP: \$9.99

Published in 1895, *The Crowd: A Study of the Popular Mind* is considered a seminal work in the field of crowd psychology, the first to propose that a crowd is itself a distinct entity that possesses a "collective unconsciousness" and a "magnetic influence" that changes the behavior of its constituents until it becomes governed by a "group mind". This influence robs each of its individual members of their opinions, values and beliefs in the process. He posits three key processes at play - anonymity, contagion, and suggestibility - and described the susceptibility to strong voices, "usually men of action rather than of words ... not gifted with keen foresight... recruited from the ranks of those morbidly nervous excitable half-deranged persons who are bordering on madness." The book became an instant bestseller and was translated in nineteen languages within a year. Its message is especially intriguing today in light of the phenomena observed in virtual groups that emerge on social media.

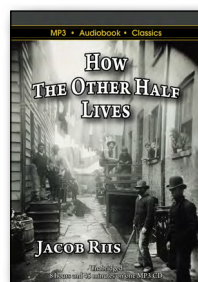


Public Opinion

Author: Walter Lippmann
Read by: progressingamerica
Length: 10 hours and 39 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Political Science, Media Studies, Journalism

Catalog: DB-1200
UPC: 0701236969184
MSLP: \$11.99

The 21st century has produced an exponential growth in the volume and complexity of communications. The growth of social media and decline of mainstream media has given rise to concerns about information "echo chambers", entrenched partisanship, and disagreement on and even dismissal of fundamental facts. Given this, there is no better time to revisit Walter Lippmann's *Public Opinion* (1922). Considered "the founding book of modern journalism" and "the founding book in American media studies", it is an astute analysis of the irrational and self-serving perceptions that drive individual behavior and impede social progress. Lippmann argues that the power of propaganda and the expertise needed to understand public affairs renders traditional ideas of democracy untenable. To combat that, he challenged journalism to engage in the "manufacture of consent", to parse issues and events as accurately and objectively as possible to help society cope and make more effective political decisions. The message resonates today as much as ever, perhaps even more so.

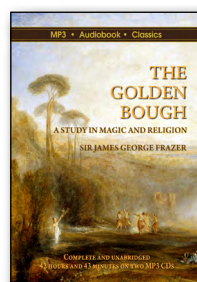


How the Other Half Lives

Author: Jacob Riis (1849 - 1914)
Read by: Multiple readers
Length: 8 hours and 45 minutes
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Genre: Non-Fiction, History, Political Science

Catalog: DB-1135
UPC: 0683422134548
MSLP: \$11.99

How the Other Half Lives: Studies among the Tenements of New York by Jacob Riis documented the squalid living conditions in the New York City tenements in the 1880's. The book evolved from a magazine article in Scribner's magazine in 1889 and is one of the first examples of photojournalism. Riis used the newly invented technique of flash photography to capture images of the dark, unlit corners of the slums and portrayed a world unknown or overlooked by the middle- and upper-classes of society where poor migrants and immigrants lived in unsanitary housing and often worked in sweatshops for pennies a day. He assumed that raising the consciousness of the public about the poor conditions and the crime rate, drunkenness and recklessness that were the consequence would motivate efforts to make improvements. The direct result was a decade of what we would now call "urban renewal" in the Lower East Side, where tenements were torn down, schools reformed, child labor eliminated and sweatshops closed.

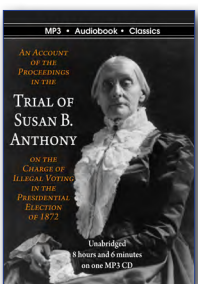


The Golden Bough: A Study in Magic and Religion

Author: Sir James G. Frazer (1854 - 1941)
Read by: Multiple readers
Format: 2 MP3 CDs in DVD case
Length: 42 hours 44 minutes
Genre: Myths, Legends & Fairy Tales; Anthropology

Catalog: DB-2005
UPC: 0683422134982
MSLP: \$16.99

The Golden Bough: A Study in Magic and Religion is a wide-ranging study of mythology and religion spanning most of recorded history and the known world. The focus is on the similarities and shared elements that exist in different cultures in fertility rites, human and animal sacrifices, rituals of dying and reviving gods and kings, and the significance of trees, plants and animals. The book had its origin in an examination of The Golden Bough, a painting by J. M. W. Turner illustrating an incident in *The Aeneid* and grew into an encyclopedic study first published in two volumes in 1890. The scope of the material combined with rigorous scholarship and keen insight made the book an important influence on the emerging discipline of anthropology. It is now seen as a foundational work in the history of ideas and is often cited as an inspiration to much of Modernist literature, influencing major writers from T. S. Eliot, James Joyce, and Sigmund Freud to Joseph Campbell and Camille Paglia, to name just a few.



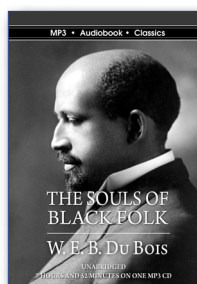
The Trial of Susan B. Anthony

Author: Anonymous
Read by: Maria Kaspar
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 8 hours and 6 minutes
Genre: History

Catalog: DB-1195
UPC: 0701236969139
MSLP: \$9.99

When the Fourteenth Amendment was ratified in 1868, women's suffragists interpreted the equal protection clause as an implicit guarantee of a woman's right to vote. Four years later, fifty women led by Susan B. Anthony attempted to vote in the 1872 Presidential election in Rochester, New York. Fourteen were arrested for casting illegal ballots. Expecting a sympathetic jury in Rochester, the prosecution moved the venue. The case was assigned to a judge with no trial experience.

Miss Anthony was not allowed to speak until after the verdict. After two days Judge Hunt directed the jury to deliver a guilty verdict. Miss Anthony, asked if she had anything to say, responded with "the most famous speech ever given in the history of the agitation for women's suffrage." When the sentence of a \$100 fine was delivered, she said "I shall never pay a dollar of your unjust penalty", and she never did. The proceedings of that trial, including her famous speech, are read here by Maria Kaspar.



The Souls of Black Folk

Author: W.E.B. Du Bois (1868 - 1963)
Read by: Toria's Uncle
Format: MP3 CD in DVD case
Length: 7 hours and 22 minutes
Genre: Non-Fiction, History, Sociology

Catalog: DB-1150
UPC: 0683422134654
MSLP: \$11.99

The Souls of Black Folk is a fundamental work in three distinct areas: it is a classic in the annals of American Literature, a seminal work in the discipline of sociology, and a cornerstone of Afro-American literature. Published in 1903, the book is a collection of essays that cover the various aspects of the black experience. In it he introduces the metaphor of the veil as a visual symbol of the color line and the corresponding idea of "double-consciousness" that describes the reality of constantly perceiving one's self both subjectively and through the eyes of others. In addition to sections on history, education, the sociology of the black community, and the role of the black church, there are narratives of the lives of individuals, a short story, and a closing chapter on black music. The importance and the impact of the book cannot be overstated. In *Living Black History*, Du Bois's biographer, Manning Marable, observes: "The Souls of Black Folk... helped to create the intellectual argument for the black freedom struggle in the twentieth century... justified the pursuit of higher education for Negroes and thus contributed to the rise of the black middle class."