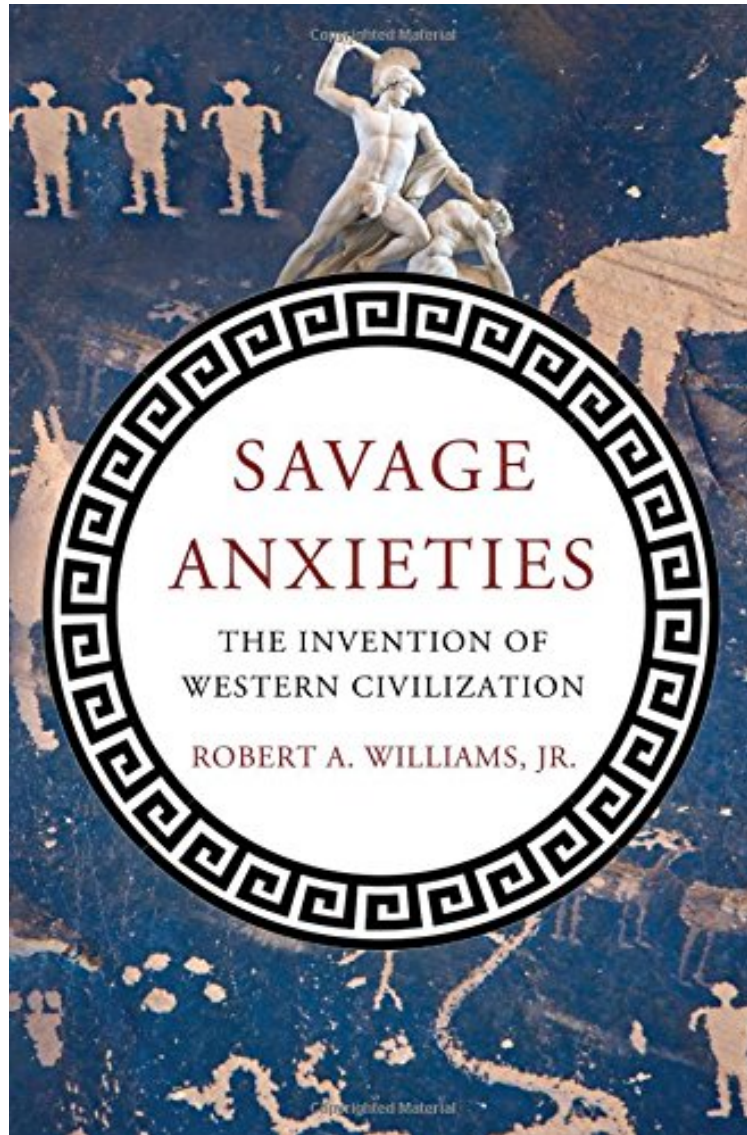


[Free read ebook] Savage Anxieties: The Invention of Western Civilization

## Savage Anxieties: The Invention of Western Civilization

*Robert A. Williams Jr*

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**Robert A. Williams Jr : Savage Anxieties: The Invention of Western Civilization** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Savage Anxieties: The Invention of Western Civilization:

32 of 33 people found the following review helpful. Solid scholarship, highly readable By D. W. Chambers Robert Williams is a major scholar, and this book will only enhance his already considerable reputation. This is one of those grand histories of European thought that begins with the ancient Greek invention of the idea of the savage, following

the development of this concept right down to the present, where it is still being used "to justify violations of the most basic human rights". His analytical and carefully reasoned account is essential to understanding the modern perpetuation of stereotypes, especially in the Native American context. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. a disturbing conundrum By michael b. rosenzweig The author uses his clear erudition to force the reader to face the hard question of one's baked in prejudices that are used by "special interests" to enrich themselves at the expense of the powerless. A more broadly applicable question in this country than just Indian rights. The book reads a bit like a legal brief but the author's deep knowledge of the history and his revealing the clay feet of our leading lights in our part of this history make it worth reading. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. A clearly written summary (~250 pgs) of how ideas regarding ... By Bobo A clearly written summary (~250 pgs) of how ideas regarding the simple, uncivilized, lawless, propertyless, pure, uncorrupted, erotic and exotic savage, perceived as outside of, and threatening to, western civilization, has influenced how europeans and their settlers justified and understood expansion against, and suppression of, the 'savages' from ancient Athens to modern America, Australia and Canada.

From one of the world's leading experts on Native American law and indigenous peoples' human rights comes an original and striking intellectual history of the tribe and Western civilization that sheds new light on how we understand ourselves and our contemporary society. Throughout the centuries, conquest, war, and unspeakable acts of violence and dispossession have all been justified by citing civilization's opposition to these differences represented by the tribe. Robert Williams, award winning author, legal scholar, and member of the Lumbee Indian Tribe, proposes a wide-ranging reexamination of the history of the Western world, told from the perspective of civilization's war on tribalism as a way of life. Williams shows us how what we thought we knew about the rise of Western civilization over the tribe is in dire need of reappraisal.

Armed with guns, horses, and machines, European settlers relentlessly mowed down, pushed aside, and in some cases enslaved peaceful natives they found living in the new worlds they were overrunning. Reaching back to antiquity, they resurrected myths about one-eyed giants and other monsters to rationalize the harsh treatment they were visiting on Indians and Mexicans. Later, they would deploy very similar rhetorical strategies to justify extermination and enslavement in other parts of the world. The suspicion grows that Western agents are the savages and the peace-loving natives the superior race. Savage Anxieties explains how, like bad money driving out good, a savage society will win every time. Richard Delgado, professor, Seattle University School of Law and author of Critical Race Theory About the Author Robert A. Williams, Jr. is a member of the Lumbee Indian Tribe as well as the professor of law and director of the Indigenous Peoples Law and Policy Program at the University of Arizona. He is the author of the classic work on Indian rights under US law, *The American Indian in Western Legal Thought*, which won the Gustavus Meyer human rights award recently. The recipient of awards from the MacArthur, Ford, and Soros foundations, Williams is also well known for his work defending tribal groups before the United Nations and the Supreme Court.