

The book was found

# Habeas Viscus: Racializing Assemblages, Biopolitics, And Black Feminist Theories Of The Human



## Synopsis

Habeas Viscus focuses attention on the centrality of race to notions of the human. Alexander G. Weheliye develops a theory of "racializing assemblages," taking race as a set of sociopolitical processes that discipline humanity into full humans, not-quite-humans, and nonhumans. This disciplining, while not biological per se, frequently depends on anchoring political hierarchies in human flesh. The work of the black feminist scholars Hortense Spillers and Sylvia Wynter is vital to Weheliye's argument. Particularly significant are their contributions to the intellectual project of black studies vis-à-vis racialization and the category of the human in western modernity. Wynter and Spillers configure black studies as an endeavor to disrupt the governing conception of humanity as synonymous with white, western man. Weheliye posits black feminist theories of modern humanity as useful correctives to the "bare life and biopolitics discourse" exemplified by the works of Giorgio Agamben and Michel Foucault, which, Weheliye contends, vastly underestimate the conceptual and political significance of race in constructions of the human. Habeas Viscus reveals the pressing need to make the insights of black studies and black feminism foundational to the study of modern humanity.

## Book Information

Paperback: 224 pages

Publisher: Duke University Press Books (August 20, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0822357011

ISBN-13: 978-0822357018

Product Dimensions: 5.9 x 0.6 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (7 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #36,015 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #68 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Women's Studies > Feminist Theory](#) #216 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Specific Demographics > African-American Studies](#) #10852 in [Books > Reference](#)

## Customer Reviews

I'll provide a slight variation on of a previous review:Habeas Viscus takes western-white-European philosophers like Agamben, Foucault, Deleuze and Guattari, etc, and makes them relevant, period. Because these philosophers have presume a subject who is fully-human (aka white, aka Western,

whatever), they fail to understand the sociopolitical order as it is, they fail to problematize the "genres of the Human", as Sylvia Wynter puts it. By putting these poststructuralist philosophers in conversation with various black thinkers and thinkers of color - Weheliye draws on the work of Hortense Spillers and Sylvia Wynters primarily, but they're not alone - Weheliye takes the abstract, narrow, identitarian philosophers, and brings them back into the fleshy world of humans. Weheliye's interrogating the question of the Human is brilliant, and while he does not have all the answers (he doesn't pretend to), this is certainly a book that prompts discussion and further inquiries, which was his goal. Well done, Weheliye. This book ought to be engaged with widely, by anyone who is interested in philosophy, politics, racism, or humans.

Expertly written piece, if not dense in some areas. Blasts through the prison of "Man" and envisions alterior futures and ways of being in the lived experiences of oppressed peoples.

Weheliye's book is a must read for anyone in humanist/post humanist studies or critical race studies.

"Habeas Viscus takes western-white-european philosophers like Agamben, Foucault, Heidegger, Deluze and others and makes them relevant to discussions of race. Traditionally, these white philosophies abstracts questions of race, but Weheliye infuses and forefronts race into these theories.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Habeas Viscus: Racializing Assemblages, Biopolitics, and Black Feminist Theories of the Human  
Gender and Sexuality in Twentieth-Century Chinese Literature and Society (Suny Series in Feminist Criticism and Theory) (Suny Series in Feminist Criticism & Theory) Terrorist Assemblages: Homonationalism in Queer Times (Next Wave: New Directions in Women's Studies) Biopolitics: An Advanced Introduction Nursing Theories and Nursing Practice (Parker, Nursing Theories and Nursing Practice) Middle Range Theories: Application to Nursing Research (Peterson, Middle Range Theories) Nursing: Human Science And Human Care (Watson, Nursing: Human Science and Human Care) Human Liberation in a Feminist Perspective--A Theology Twelve Theories of Human Nature Spooky Action at a Distance: The Phenomenon That Reimagines Space and Time-and What It Means for Black Holes, the Big Bang, and Theories of Everything Embodied Avatars: Genealogies of Black Feminist Art and Performance (Sexual Cultures) Pauli Murray: The Autobiography of a Black Activist, Feminist, Lawyer, Priest, and Poet Human Caring Science: A

Theory of Nursing (Watson, Nursing: Human Science and Human Care) Women in Shaker Community and Worship: A Feminist Analysis of the Uses of Religious Symbolism (Studies in Women and Religion) Feminist Bible Studies in the Twentieth Century: Scholarship and Movement (Bible and Women 9.1) Social and Political Philosophy: Classical Western Texts in Feminist and Multicultural Perspectives Sexual Ethics And Islam: Feminist Reflections on Qur'an, Hadith, and Jurisprudence An Introduction to Language Processing with Perl and Prolog: An Outline of Theories, Implementation, and Application with Special Consideration of English, French, and German (Cognitive Technologies) Power of Feminist Art: The American Movement of the 1970's History and Impact Sister Outsider: Essays and Speeches (Crossing Press Feminist Series)

[Dmca](#)