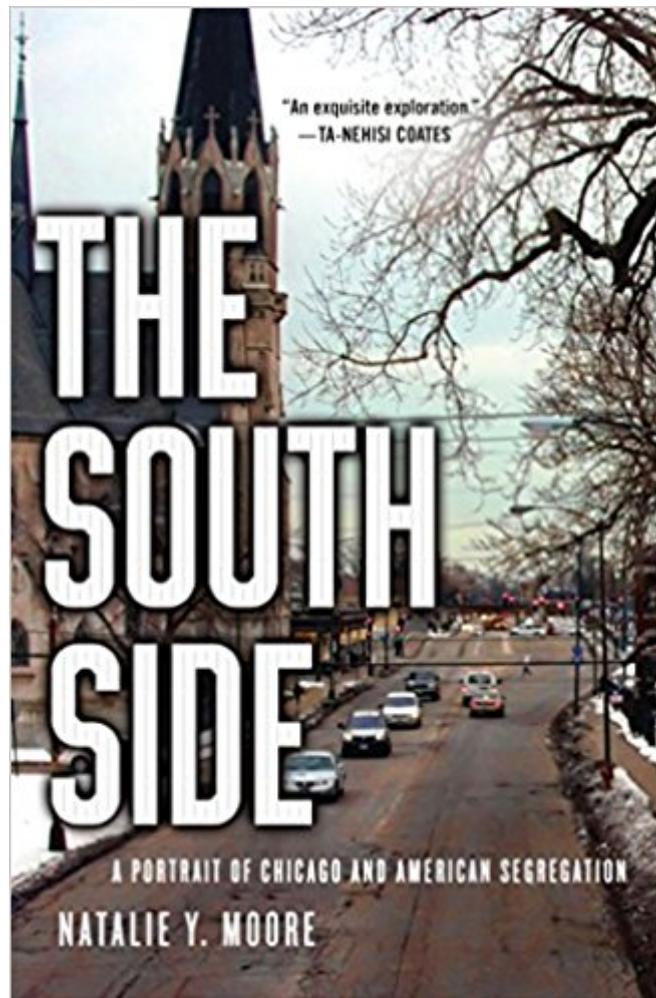




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The South Side: A Portrait Of Chicago And American Segregation



Synopsis

****One of BuzzFeed's 18 Best Nonfiction Books Of 2016**** A lyrical, intelligent, authentic, and necessary look at the intersection of race and class in Chicago, a Great American City In this intelligent and highly important narrative, Chicago-native Natalie Moore shines a light on contemporary segregation in the city's South Side; with a memoirist's eye, she showcases the lives of these communities through the stories of people who reside there. The South Side shows the impact of Chicago's historic segregation - and the ongoing policies that keep the system intact.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

****One of BuzzFeed's 18 Best Nonfiction Books Of 2016**** "Moore, a longtime reporter for WBEZ in Chicago and a native of the Chatham neighborhood on the South Side, digs into the ways that segregation continues to shape the politics of her hometown, as well as her own life." *—The Chicago Crusader* "Moore...weaves her life story through a well-researched account of the policies that have shaped Chicago into a city often described as separate and unequal." *—The Chicago Sun-Times* "A reminder that even though great gains have been made in the development of integrated neighborhoods and suburbs, Chicago is still shackled by the chains of segregation, chains that limit the potential of hundreds of thousands of African-Americans and impoverish the lives of all residents of the region...a clarion call for us to break the chains that bind us and allow our imaginations to be free to take on and change the systemic reality of segregation and its impact on all of us." *—The Chicago Tribune* "What's important about

Natalie Y. Moore's new book is less that it's about Chicago's south side, and more that it's of the south side, deeply and lovingly, in a way journalism about the area rarely is...a powerful political document." [The Chicago Reader](#) "The South Side is a comprehensive iconoclastic investigation of segregated black Chicago, past and present | an essential book for anyone interested in the history and current state of race in the urban U.S."

[ShelfAwareness](#) "Some serious food for thought for dwellers of all US cities." [The New York Post](#) "Recommended reading for anyone who wants to more fully understand the roots of current Chicago issues | Moore's personal reflections are honest and fascinating, making *The South Side* shine."

[Associated Press](#) "Moore strikes an admirable balance between palpable love for Chicago's diversities and clear-eyed anger at the powerful forces dividing America's third-largest city into different worlds." [Pacific Standard](#) "As questions and criticism about race in America rightfully continue to dominate the national conversation, this book brings the problem right to home. Moore, the South Side bureau reporter for WBEZ, explores how institutionalized segregation continues to keep predominantly black neighborhoods at an economic and educational disadvantage." [RedEye](#) "An excellent work for all readers interested in knowing more about important, ongoing urban issues." [Library Journal](#) "Thoughtful and clarifying investigation | Moore refines our perception of the realities of segregation and the many possible paths to change."

[Booklist](#) "Natalie Moore's *The South Side* is an exquisite exploration of a portion of Chicago that has long embodied the problems and promise of black America. Moore brings her considerable gifts as a journalist and historian to bear along with her knowledge as a South Side native. Moore's latest is essential to anyone attempting to understand race in Chicago, our most American of cities." [Ta-Nehisi Coates](#), author of *Between the World and Me* "Moore has captured the rhythm of Chicago, its beauty and heartbreak, and its racial demons and activist angels with such vibrant prose and personality that she has achieved that rare literary feat: it is both a page-turner and magnum opus. By traveling to the South Side with her, we not only understand why it has been able to produce some of our nation's most exceptional African American leaders, but also how its ongoing racial segregation haunts and harms the vast majority of Chicagoans today."

[Salamishah Tillet](#), Associate Professor of English and Africana Studies, University of Pennsylvania "In a highly readable, conversational style, Moore demonstrates refreshing candor about how racial inequality infuses every aspect of daily life." [Kirkus Reviews](#)

NATALIE Y. MOORE is the South Side bureau reporter for WBEZ, the NPR-member station in Chicago, where she's known as the South Side Lois Lane. Before joining WBEZ, she covered Detroit City Council for Detroit News. She worked as an education reporter for the St. Paul Pioneer Press and a reporter for the Associated Press in Jerusalem. Her work has been published in Essence, Black Enterprise, the Chicago Reporter, In These Times, the Chicago Sun-Times and the Chicago Tribune. She lives in Chicago.

Where to start? As a white south-sider in an interracial marriage living in the Beverly/Morgan Park neighborhood this book really hit close to home. I'm not naive about racism in our neighborhood or the city at large, but the continuing institutional racism described just wears on you. Moore does a great job of mixing autobiographical info with broader neighborhood data to really give you a feel of the city. Hearing about her struggles in Bronzeville was a bit heartbreaking. I haven't spent much time in the neighborhood and feel a bit guilty for neglecting it. I was heartened to hear about her reception in Bridgeport, I've experienced much the same in my time there. I don't drink but can vouch for Maria's. All in all a must read for any Chicagoan from the north, west, or south sides. My only real criticism is that it really could have used more content on the Hispanic population of our side of town. Moore acknowledges this, so no stars off, but in mentioning the decline of black political power from the Washington administration this is a key point. That chapter was phenomenal in any case. This review has meandered enough. Read the book.

This book has given me a new perspective on segregation/integration in Chicago. I especially appreciate learning historical information about Chicago during the 1930's - 50's. Finally, information about the dismantling of the Robert Taylor, Cabrini Green and State St. Housing Projects was most reveling! Thanks for your research and personal insight.

This book seems well researched and is interestingly written. Mrs. Moore provides salient analysis of the issues of racism and segregation in Chicago and other places. Her writing humanizes and puts a face on the people whose lives are sometime reduced to newspaper headlines and sound bites. The content is historical, but it's current and relevant. It's a must read for anyone who thinks he or she understands why Chicago is the way that it is. I purchased the Kindle edition, but I intend to buy the book to add to my library.

As a white reader living in a very privileged community, this book was a true eye opener to how

important of an issue this is. I would recommend this book to anyone anywhere over the age of 13.

Really good view on the issues (and some potential solutions) affecting the South Side of Chicago. Brought in history, anecdotal stories, and studies to describe how things got to where they are, how people live their lives, and what it means for the south side and the broader Chicagoland area.

Really enlightening.

This is a tour de force, and should be widely acclaimed. She writes with love of the South side, with deep historical insight about the toll of segregation, the leaders who have made a difference, and rich stories about the lives of every day citizens. A must read!

I recommend this book: very interesting & well-written; challenging & encouraging & informative. I'm very glad that I watched the interview with Natalie Moore on "Chicago Tonight".

Amazing read, loved it. Would highly recommend for anyone who is interested in reading about Chicago's long history of segregation and its impact in today's Chicago.

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