

TWELVE STEPS FOR WHITE AMERICA: FOR A UNITED STATES OF AMERICA #12SWA

San Diego, CA – June 16, 2022 – Cognella Press is proud to announce the forthcoming publication of *Twelve Steps for White America: For a United States of America* and *Twelve Steps for White America: Workbook* by William Watson and featuring workbook contributor **Christine Sleeter**.

About the Book

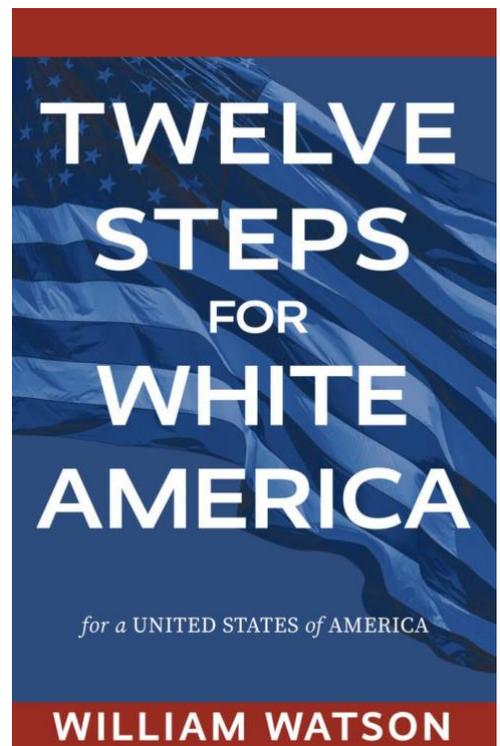
The text answers the revolutionary call of James Baldwin in “The Fire Next Time” for new standards for white Americans. Educator and former psychotherapist William Watson presents a treatment plan for democracy, an innovative framework of steps white Americans can take (and all individuals and organizations can incorporate) to right our nation’s course to peace and prosperity through justice then liberty for all.

The problem: Watson’s *Rigged Advantage Theory* presents U.S. democracy as compromised by advantage rigged to favor some, exploit others, and marginalize many. Rigged advantage operates a whiteness inclusion-collusion that relies on two codependent strategies—white supremacy and anti-Blackness.

The solution: Address elements of dysfunction common to both rigged advantage and alcoholism. Apply 12 steps of known recovery principles to unshackle the past, promote U.S. security and global competitiveness, and eliminate race as a predictor of democracy’s outcomes. *Twelve Steps for White America* maps a pathway to truth, reconciliation, and renewal forged in a crucible of national repentance, atonement, and redemption.

About the Workbook

The workbook presents readers with a user-friendly, graphic-rich toolkit that guides them to learn each step and achieve each step’s learning outcome. (*Step Four is enriched by Christine Sleeter’s specially created assessment that contextualizes family history.*) Advanced Mastery Exercises challenge readers to practice fundamental change principles, counter ideological impermeability, discern the difference between an idealized and realized USA, quantify racial wealth inequality, dismantle the whiteness presumption of whereabouts authority (PWA) over Black Americans, recognize the power dynamics of interruption, practice loving kindness meditation, and implement a daily program of personal practice to consecrate liberty free from rigged advantage.





William Watson

AUTHOR William Watson, Ed.D. first learned democracy watching his Mississippi parents risk their lives (and his) in the 1960s Civil Rights Movement. Defying odds set by poverty and alcoholism, Watson earned degrees in philosophy and comparative religion, anthropology, and counseling psychology before earning a social justice-focused doctorate from San Francisco State University and completing a *Presidential Fellowship for College Excellence* with The Aspen Institute's partnership with Stanford. After prototyping award-winning models of equity innovation in higher education for over 20 years, he founded Waterbrook, a USA democracy project inspired by MLK's *Beloved Community*. Waterbrook works for peace and prosperity through justice *then* liberty for all. Responding to James Baldwin's call in *The Fire Next Time* for new standards for White Americans, Dr. Watson wrote *Twelve Steps for White America: for a United States of America*, a provocative and hopeful treatment plan for democracy that envisions our best days ahead.

For more information visit: williamwatson.org & NALSpeakersBureau.org



Christine Sleeter

CONTRIBUTOR Christine E. Sleeter, Ph.D. is Professor Emerita in the College of Education at California State University Monterey Bay. She is past President of the National Association for Multicultural Education, and past Vice President (Division K) of the American Educational Research Association. Her research focuses on anti-racist multicultural education, ethnic studies, teacher education, and critical family history. She has published over 150 articles and 24 books. Awards for her work include the American Educational Research Association *Social Justice in Education Award*, the Chapman University *Paulo Freire Education Project Social Justice Award*, Kappa Delta Pi *Laureate*, and the National Association for Multicultural Education *Exceptional Service Award*. Dr. Sleeter was inducted into the National Academy of Education in 2020. Her latest book (co-authored with Francesca Lopez) is her fourth book for the James Banks' Teachers College Press series on multicultural education, *Critical Race Theory and its Critics: Implications for Teaching and Research*. For more information visit: christinesleeter.org

Learn more about the **BOOK**

<https://titles.cognella.com/twelve-steps-for-white-america-9781793544988>

Learn more about the **WORKBOOK**

<https://titles.cognella.com/twelve-steps-for-white-america-9781793554826>

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