

---

---

DINESH D'SOUZA'S  
**WHAT'S SO**  
**GREAT ABOUT**  
**AMERICA**

---

---

A REPLY, REFUTATION  
AND **REBUTTAL**

— BY —

HAROLD PALMER

TIME  BOOKS

---

---

Dinesh D'Souza's  
WHAT'S SO GREAT ABOUT AMERICA:  
A Reply, Refutation and Rebuttal



DINESH D'SOUZA'S  
**WHAT'S** SO  
**GREAT** ABOUT  
**AMERICA**

A REPLY, REFUTATION  
AND **REBUTTAL**

BY  
HAROLD PALMER

TIME  BOOKS

Dinesh D'Souza's  
WHAT'S SO GREAT ABOUT AMERICA:  
A Reply, Refutation and Rebuttal

© 2016 by TellerBooks™. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, including photocopying, recording, or copying to any storage and retrieval system, without express written permission from the copyright holder.

ISBN (13) (Paperback): 978-1-68109-019-1  
ISBN (10) (Paperback): 1-68109-019-8  
ISBN (13) (Kindle): 978-1-68109-020-7  
ISBN (10) (Kindle): 1-68109-020-1  
ISBN (13) (ePub): 978-1-68109-021-4  
ISBN (10) (ePub): 1-68109-021-X

Time Books™  
*an imprint of* TellerBooks™  
TellerBooks.com/Time\_Books



[www.TellerBooks.com](http://www.TellerBooks.com)

Manufactured in the U.S.A.

**DISCLAIMER:** The opinions, views, positions and conclusions expressed in this volume reflect those of the individual author and not necessarily those of the publisher or any of its imprints, editors or employees.

## ABOUT THE IMPRINT

The *Reply, Refutation and Rebuttal* Series™ of Time Books™ publishes monographs and treatises that reply to contemporary perspectives on political, philosophical and religious issues.

Complete your collection with the following titles:

- Dinesh D'Souza's *What's So Great About America: A Reply, Refutation and Rebuttal*
- Dr. Gregory Boyd's *Myth of a Christian Nation: A Reply, Refutation and Rebuttal*
- Dr. Mel White's *What the Bible Says and Doesn't Say About Homosexuality: A Reply, Refutation and Rebuttal*
- Dr. H. M. Baagil's *Muslim-Christian Dialogue: A Reply, Refutation and Rebuttal*
- *The Communist Manifesto* of Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels: A Reply, Refutation and Rebuttal



The mission of Time Books™ is to reintroduce time-tested values and truths to modern debates on political, economic, and moral issues. The imprint focuses on books and monographs dealing with society, ethics, and public policy.



# CONTENTS

ABOUT THE IMPRINT.....	5
CONTENTS .....	7
<b>CHAPTER 1. OVERVIEW.....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>CHAPTER 2. SLAVERY IN AMERICA .....</b>	<b>11</b>
I. SLAVERY WAS RAMPANT ALL OVER THE WORLD .....	11
A. D’Souza’s Argument .....	11
B. Palmer’s Reply.....	11
II. THE “THREE-FIFTHS” CLAUSE WAS ANTISLAVERY IN ITS NATURE .....	14
A. D’Souza’s Argument .....	14
B. Palmer’s Reply.....	15
III. IMPRACTICALITY OF FREEING ALL OF THE SLAVES IMMEDIATELY .....	16
A. D’Souza’s Argument .....	16
B. Palmer’s Reply.....	16
IV. THE FRAMERS’ DILEMMA: HOW TO UPHOLD DEMOCRACY AND YET ABOLISH SLAVERY .....	19
A. D’Souza’s Argument .....	19
B. Palmer’s Reply.....	19
V. THE CONSTITUTION WAS NEUTRAL ON THE QUESTION OF SLAVERY.....	21
A. D’Souza’s Argument .....	21
B. Palmer’s Reply.....	21
<b>CHAPTER 3. AMERICA’S TREATMENT OF THE     NATIVE AMERICANS, RACISM AND MORAL     CORRUPTION .....</b>	<b>23</b>
I. AMERICA’S TREATMENT OF THE NATIVE AMERICANS.....	23



A. D'Souza's Argument .....	23
B. Palmer's Reply.....	24
II. RACISM.....	25
A. D'Souza's Argument .....	25
B. Palmer's Reply.....	27
III. AMERICA'S MORALLY-DECADENT CULTURE.....	29
A. D'Souza's Argument .....	29
B. Palmer's Reply.....	30
<b>CHAPTER 4. CONCLUSION .....</b>	<b>31</b>

## CHAPTER 1. OVERVIEW

Is America a nation like any other, with a past marked by injustice and oppression? Or is America a shining city on a hill, marked by exceptionalism, one where the lamp of liberty and democracy burns brightly? Dinesh D’Souza has written *What’s So Great About America* to respond to America’s critics, who “deny that there is anything unique about America” (p. 162). These critics include “multiculturalists who allege historical racism and the ongoing oppression of minorities; ... Third World intellectuals who deplore the legacy of colonialism; ... Western leftists who see America as a force for evil in the world; and ... Islamic fundamentalists and cultural conservatives who view America as culturally decadent and morally degenerate” (p. 163). In answering these critics, D’Souza argues that America is not only good, but that it is a great nation marked by exceptionalism and the vindication of values universal to mankind.

To execute a successful book, D’Souza must refute the accounts of America’s critics on three points key to their argument: (i) America’s oppression of the Native Americans; (ii) slavery; and (iii) historic discrimination of African Americans and other minorities. Finally, in order to refute the criticisms of cultural conservatives who deplore America as “culturally decadent and

morally degenerate,” he must prove that American society is, despite its appearance, a virtuous society.

D’Souza makes a strong case for America, arguing that it is a free and prosperous society with unlimited opportunity for those seeking a better life. Yet despite his enthusiasm for America, his treatment of America’s “sins,” each of which is further discussed below, is inadequate, one-sided and does not result in the vindication of America from the claims of her critics.