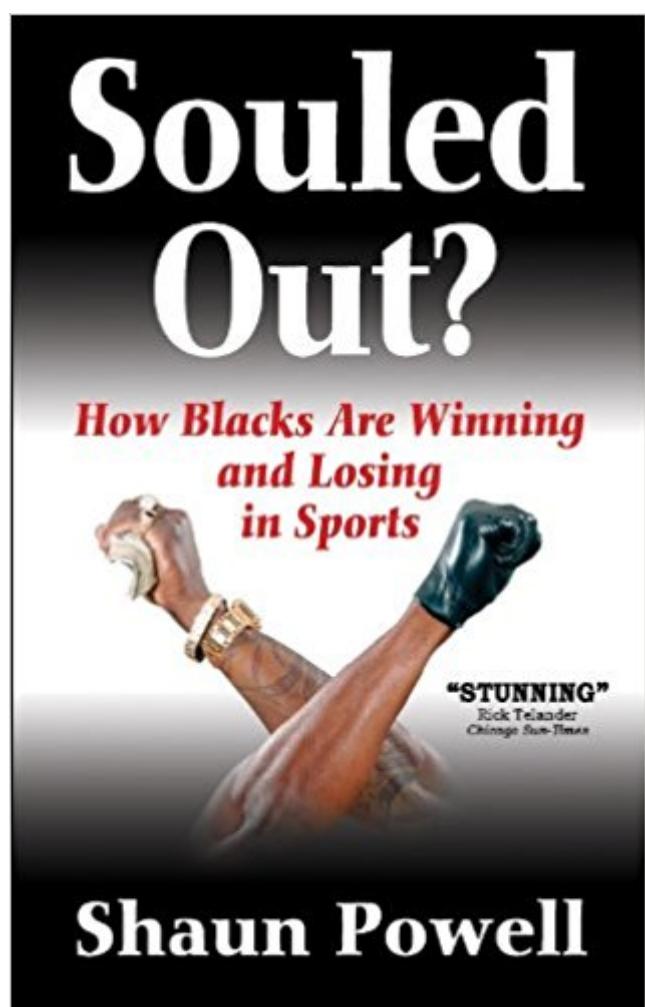


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# Souled Out? How Blacks Are Winning And Losing In Sports



## **Synopsis**

Souled Out? That's the question author Shaun Powell poses and ultimately answers with regard to the nature of blacks' participation in American sports. Neither blacks nor whites—athletes, coaches, administrators, owners, media, parents, and yes, even fans—are without blame for race still being an issue in the athletic arena. And Powell, perhaps like you, is fed up with the excuses. Souled Out? boldly addresses the following dilemmas and more:-Do today's black athletes and coaches have the purpose to follow the leads of pioneers like Jackie Robinson, Althea Gibson, Robert Johnson, or Tony Dungy?-Is Muhammad Ali's great legacy being misused to justify the behavior of today's prima donnas and their preconceived, self-centered celebrations? -Why, with tremendous models like Jackie Joyner-Kersee, Venus and Serena Williams, and Candace Parker, is black female participation not more encouraged across a wide array of sports? -Are portrayals of professional black athletes, centered on gaining luxury possessions and material wealth rather than giving back to the community, ensuring that a me-first mind-set carries over to the next generation of athletes? -Will more blacks break through the glass ceiling in coaching and sports management positions to achieve strong decision-making roles?-Can negative attitudes about race, held by segments inside and outside the black community, be overcome so that faster and enduring progress can be made in the future? Powell's answers will surprise, anger, please, and most of all challenge you.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

""Souled Out? "is absolutely must reading for anyone sincerely interested in developments at the interface of race, sport and society. In this regard, the book clearly portrays where we are as a society and where we are headed as a nation relative to these issues." Harry Edwards, PhDSports Sociologist, Professor EmeritusDepartment of SociologyUniversity of California Berkeley ""Souled Out? "is a joy to read. Shaun Powell is the right man at the right time on the right topicrace, sport, and society." Rick TelanderColumnist, "Chicago Sun-Times"Author, "Heaven Is A Playground" ""Here is what you get with Shaun Powell: thoughtful, considerate, provocative, original commentary." Souled Out? "is classic Shaun Powell. He tells us where we came from, where we are today and where we are headed in his unique, straightforward dare I say so' way." Jerry ReeseGeneral Manager, New York Giants ""Shaun has a way of reaching parts of your brain that previously went untapped. You read" Souled Out? "and you will see." Terence MooreColumnist, "Atlanta Journal-Constitution" ""Shaun Powell speaks the truth about how people felt on pivotal topics -- but didn't want to say themselves. This book will get you to think." Curtis SymondsChief Operating Officer, Washington MysticsFormer executive at Black Entertainment Television (BET)

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just finished the book. i want to echo everything that was said in the other reviews. this is a great and important book that looks beneath the phony glamorous facade of sports. i highly reccomend it to everyone interested in american culture. the book was overwhelmingly compelling to the point

that i ripped through it eager to learn as much as possible. the style of writing and content were completely engrossing and full of important analysis and revelations. highly recommended to anyone sick of the destructive aspects of our sports-road to riches culture who senses that there is so much more really going on in the world of sports. i hope he writes more books soon.

Amazing work. Shaun does a great job of taking a deeper look at what plagues black society and the lives of most African Americans. Highly recommend this well-written, educated work.

Purchased this book for a special young man in my life who I thought would benefit from such a book. As it turned out he enjoyed the selection and looks forward to other books similar to this subject matter.

I couldn't find it at first but then found it. Thanks.

Great book and very educational

I gave this to my nephew to do a paper and his teacher said it was a excellent resource to use.

I enjoyed reading William Rhoden's "Million Dollar Slaves" last year, but it read more like a history lesson than does Shaun Powell's excellent page-turner. While Powell offers some historical perspective on the state of black athletes in America, "Souled Out" is primarily driven by present-day issues. This is a big reason for my enjoying his book so much. This is an engrossing, thoughtful read by a terrific writer and the book should encourage lively debate around many dinner tables, water coolers, and football tailgates this season. Sports fans of every stripe will find this to be a great read spanning a variety of important issues. I could not put it down! A+

First of all, I'm not a sports fan, but I'm aware enough of the world around me to know Muhammad Ali from Howard Cossell. The raised fists on the cover of "Souled Out?" took me straight to the opening pages. I was hooked. As a white male, how could I put down a book in which the author confesses in the first pages that Tommy Smith's courageously defiant raised fist made him, the author as a young man, want to go out and punch the first white kid he met? As someone who doesn't follow sports, I can't argue with Powell's thesis, but I can tell you that his argument captivated me. "Souled Out?" opens up and teases out social issues with important and far-reaching

implications that go far beyond sports. It remains clear and compelling throughout, even to a non-sports-fan. I closed "Souled Out?" with a deeper appreciation for the complexity of the challenges facing black athletes in America.

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