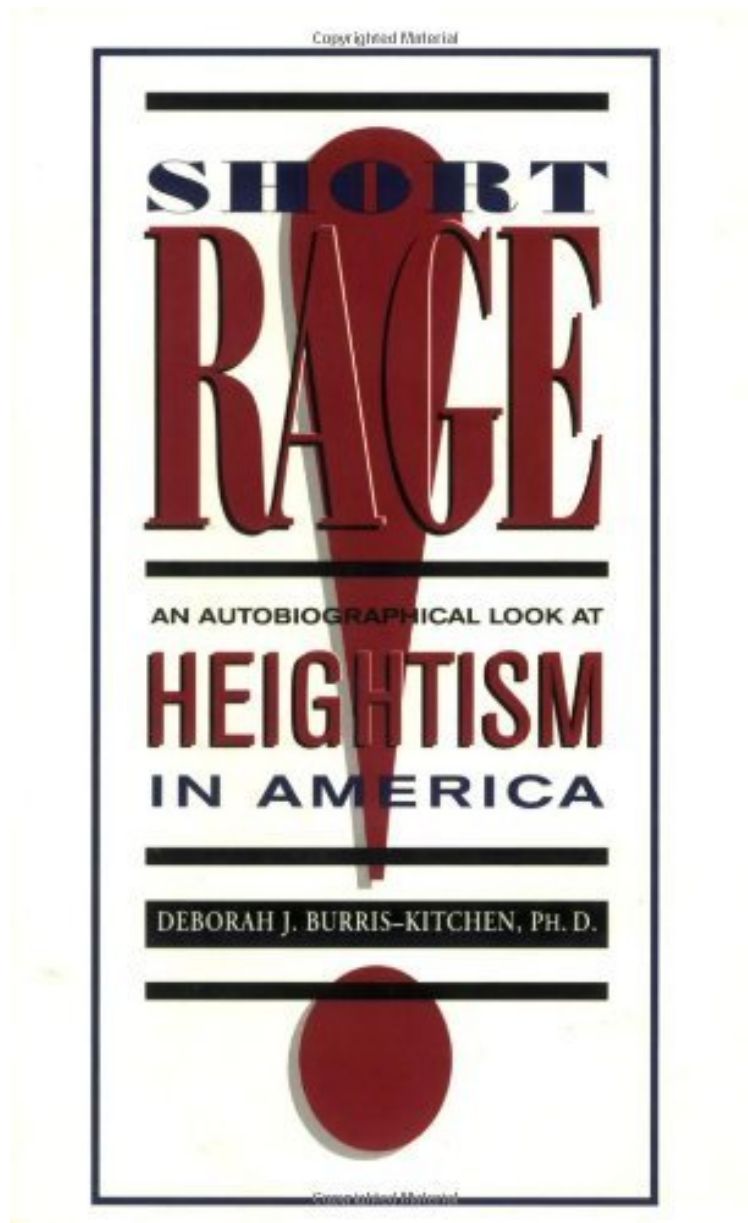


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Short Rage: An Autobiographical Look at Heightism in America

Deborah J. Burris-Kitchen Ph.D.

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Deborah J. Burris-Kitchen Ph.D. : Short Rage: An Autobiographical Look at Heightism in America before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Short Rage: An Autobiographical Look at Heightism in America:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. This book is not for the faint of heart...By Iyesha RoseThis book was absolutely FANTASTIC! It is not for the faint of heart...because it is POWERFUL! I could not put the book down!

This book talks about heightism, racism, social control and every thing else. This author was not afraid to write what was in her heart, and it came across the pages to the reader. She is not a radical, but someone that is a voice for the voiceless, and is very passionate about certain topics and issues within our world. This was not boring at all! I highly recommend! 10 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By deborahAwesome! Best read ever. Right on target. A must read. 6 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Rage is real By Donald J. Pitts Heightism in the U.S. is real. The author describes examples of discrimination and bigotry toward people less tall. Most of what she describes is biographical. I think she fails to uncover or provide analysis as to the sociological causes for this seemingly irrational behavior. Also, she does not seem to understand that heightism and discrimination toward shorter men is much greater than toward shorter women.

The author of this memoir, which is also an insightful critique of American society is an academic sociologist who care and writes about the plight of the working class, the minorities, the disadvantaged, and other who suffer from prejudice in our society. She writes from the vantage point of one who has suffered from bias, for she has had, all her life, had to fight the stigma and disadvantage of being short. Standing four feet, nine inches, she has been patronized, overlooked, rejected, and underestimated consistently. She speaks out for short people, demanding equal respect. In the process she tells a poignant life story and ends by expanding her demand for fair treatment for all the disadvantaged in our society.

From the Publisher A Short Sociologist's Perspective on Social Injustices Short Rage: An Autobiographical Look at Heightism in America is a poignant memoir and a perceptive critique of our society today. It's also a surprising and shocking account of prejudice and how it molds and damages people. The author, Deborah Burris-Kitchen, grew up in a typical midwestern American home. She's blonde. She's the daughter of a minister. She lived in the suburbs of Indianapolis, and she went to junior high and high school. She dated, worked at McDonald's, graduated, and worked in a bank and a bar. She eventually went on to higher education and did well. She earned advanced degrees in sociology and entered an academic career. On the personal side, she survived some failed relationships and then found her ideal mate, married, and adopted a child. All of this may sound trouble-free, but life has been hard work for Deborah Burris-Kitchen. She's what's politely referred to as "vertically challenged," and what is more often called short. Standing four feet nine inches tall, Deborah Burris-Kitchen is the shortest person at any gathering. She has been repeatedly, insistently reminded of this unpleasantness. Schoolmates teased her and physically abused her. Potential boyfriends ignored her. Professionals patronized her. She's been picked up, patted, kidded, and overlooked. People don't take her seriously, whether she's changing her spark plugs or announcing her intention to get an advanced degree. There is a short chapter in Short Rage about the few advantages of being short, such as cheaper clothes and being able to sleep comfortably in small places. These hardly compare with the disadvantages of being unable to reach cupboards or sitting uncomfortably with one's feet not reaching the floor, not to mention being treated like a child. But there has been one very pronounced, dubious positive effect of being short. This condition has given Deborah Burris-Kitchen an acute awareness of the discrimination that permeates American society. Deborah Burris-Kitchen describes herself as an activist. She sees that this nation was forged in violence, exploitation, racism, and the ugly side of capitalism. She knows about the way our nation and our society have treated the racial minorities, the women, the disabled, and the poor. She stands up for the victims: the native Americans, the Latinos, the blacks. She has great sympathy for those who don't fit the American mold. Her understanding may come from good sense and a good heart, but she also acknowledges that her sympathy for the victims comes from personal experience. Short Rage minces no words, and Deborah Burris-Kitchen is right to stand on a soap box; not so she can appear taller, but so more people will hear what she has to say. About the Author Deborah Burris-Kitchen, Ph.D., is Associate Professor of Sociology and Criminology at Tennessee State University in Nashville. She is the author of Female Gang Participation (Edwin Mellen Press, 1997). In 1996-1997 she was awarded an Irvine Grant to study racism in the criminal justice system.