All That We Can Be: Black Leadership And Racial Integration The Army Way

John Sibley Butler and Charles C. Moskos (Authors)

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The foremost authorities on race relations in the armed forces recount the previously untold success story of how the U.S. Army became the most integrated institution in America. Charles C. Moskos and John Sibley Butler observe that the Army is the only place in America where blacks routinely boss around whites, and in this book they lay out the path by which the Army has promoted excellence across racial lines, while also showing how this military model can be adapted to fit the needs of civilian society. The Army way offers hope for our nation in a troubled time, and by following its example, Americans of all races can truly be all that we can be.
Moskos and Butler point out that what makes the Army unique is that it is the only place in America where blacks routinely boss around whites, and in this book they lay out the path by which the Army has promoted excellence across racial lines. Colin Powell is the most visible symbol of the Army's success, for his career has exemplified the guiding tenets of the Army system of merit-based recruitment, training, and promotion. There are many surprising findings in this book, especially for those who may think of the Army as a hidebound and rigidly hierarchical organization. The Army’s purpose is to defend our country. It can't do it if there is racial strife in the organization. Racists behavior is not in its best interest for defence. If you create an environment where there is a level playing field then everyone has the opportunity to excel. What the Army has done is not unique as Moskos implies. Civilian society can not be compared with the Army because of its unique mission. The Army doesn't change until society tells it to do so. Purchase this book if you are highly optimistic or have your head buried in the sand regarding integration the Army way. Read more. 4 people found this helpful.