

# **NIGGER**

The Strange Career of  
a Troublesome Word

**RANDALL KENNEDY**



Pantheon Books, New York

BOOKNOTES  
BRIAN P. LAMB  
C-SPAN AIR DATE

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*Nigger -  
as -  
insult*

656. Randall Kennedy

Nigger: The Strange Career of a Troublesome Word

Taped: 12/27/01

Aired: 3/03/01

Tape #: 168015

H. Ray Brown - judge in the 60's  
What is Title 7 of Civil Rights Act -

Julius Fisher - black painter at 1944  
Washington Cathedral

<sup>P80</sup> Ralph Ellison - American Negro tradition

Lyndon Johnson appoints Thur. Mar. p53  
Chris Rock p41

Richard Pryor / Chevy Chase

Lenny Bruce - July 2001

Sexes/Wetis - 84 Mike 50 wetbacks  
gook - 90 honky 286 niggers - 4,219

Frederick Douglass  
Richard Wright

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  5. Racism—United States—Psychological aspects.
  6. English language—United States—Slang—Social aspects.
  7. English language—United States—Slang—Psychological aspects.
  8. Invective—United States—Psychological aspects.
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First Edition

2 4 6 8 9 7 5 3 1

P133

Merrill Webster - John Morse

1997 Delphine Abraham

2000 signatures in a month

- 137 Huck Fins - nigger appears 215 times
- 142 Keith Dambrot - Central Mich V. 1993
- 147 Ken Hardy - Jefferson Comm. College 1998
- 148 White teachers in Gould, Arkansas 1988

Prof. Charles Lawrence

Mari Matsuda

Prof. <sup>Julius</sup> Delgado

- 163 Amos in Andy - NAACP denounced it (168)  
 but Roy Wilkins  
 liked it
- Bill Cosby
- ER Slupp

Robert C Byrd a lot of white niggers

20 The word niggerly - David Howard  
 Julius Malumy

117 Tawana Brantley

1930 NYT announces no longer  
 using ~~A~~ in small N  
 in Negro

D. Columbia, S.C. father - postman  
mother - a teacher  
lived in D.C.

grad Princeton  
1977  
Oxford Rhodes S.

St. Albans  
wife - doctor  
Bingham and women's  
his older brother Henry  
district court judge in D.C.  
sister Angela - lawyer - public  
defender

Yale Law  
Clerk to  
Thur. Marshall  
began teaching at  
Harvard 1993

a picture of Louis Armstrong in his office  
not 1st person to use Nigger in title

LATIN word - niger  
Bill Cosby refuses to use it.  
Chris Rock - the opposite

Erroll McDonald - Pantheon's senior editor  
one of few blacks in book publishing

original subtitle "A problem in American Culture"  
Dick Gregory's 1964 Autobiog. Nigger