ABOUT THE BOOK

Since slavery, legal, political, and societal factors have routinely denied Black women the ability to choose how to feed their babies. The story of the Fultz sisters leads to a wider exploration of what author Andrea Freeman calls food oppression—cooperation between the government and the food, agricultural, and pharmaceutical industries that leads to race, gender, and class health disparities. Freeman explores historical and current beliefs about breastfeeding as well as how law and policy lead to 'first' food oppression. Highlighting the making of a modern public health crisis, the four extraordinary girls whose stories encapsulate a nationwide injustice, and how to fight for a healthier future, Skimmed: Breastfeeding, Race, and Injustice is an urgent call for structural reform rooted in the imperative to create genuine, universal choices about infant feeding.

About the Author

Andrea Freeman is Associate Professor at the University of Hawaii at Mānoa William S. Richardson School of Law. Freeman writes and researches at the intersection of critical race theory and issues of food policy, health, and consumer credit.

She is the pioneer of the theory of “food oppression,” which examines how partnerships between the government and corporations lead to racial and gender health disparities.