
**Author:** Janie Ward is an associate professor of education and human services at Simmons College in Boston, and coeditor (with Carol Gilligan) of *Mapping the Moral Domain*.

**Summary:** Ward examines identity formation and the moral and psychological development of adolescent African Americans over a period of 15 years. She introduces a four-step program intended to address social negativity by providing strategies for healthy resistance to stereotyping and racism. Ward calls her program *Name it, Read it, Oppose it, and Replace it*.

The book is comprised of four parts. In part one, parents share their experiences growing up black in the 1950s and 1960s and how it informs their parenting. Parts two and three address the resistance of stereotypes and peer pressure. Part four addresses two of the most influential variables besides family: the church and the school. *The Skin We’re In* discusses cultural distinctiveness, cross-cultural progression, and models of integrity and strength for the black adolescent. The author provides insight into the variety of positive and negative influences on the lives of these adolescents.

**Reviewer:** Deseree Edwards has a B.S. in Child Development and Early Childhood Education. She is a former graduate student in Educational Psychology at Northern Illinois University, and works with youth in foster care.