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NPR People

Juan Williams, NPR Biography

Senior Correspondent, Morning Edition



Photo: Cade Martin

Juan Williams, one of America's leading journalists, is a senior correspondent. He also works on documentaries and participates in NPR's efforts to explore television opportunities. Knowledgeable and charismatic, Williams brings insight and depth—hallmarks of NPR programs—to a wide spectrum of issues and ideas.

From 2000 - 2001, Williams hosted NPR's national call-in show *Talk of the Nation*. In that role, he brought the program to cities and towns across America for monthly radio "town hall" meetings before live audiences. The town hall meetings were a part of "The Changing Face of America," a year-long NPR series focused on how Americans are dealing with rapid changes in society and culture as the United States enters the 21st century. The series, supported by a grant from the Pew Charitable Trusts, involves monthly pieces airing on *Morning Edition* and *All Things Considered*, as well as *Talk of the Nation*.

Williams is the author of the critically acclaimed biography *Thurgood Marshall: American Revolutionary*, which was released in paperback in February 2000. He is also the author of the nonfiction bestseller *Eyes on the Prize: America's Civil Rights Years, 1954-1965*, the companion volume to the critically acclaimed television series. *This Far by Faith: Stories from the African American Religious Experience* appeared in February 2003. This book was the basis for a six-part public broadcasting TV documentary that aired in June 2003. In 2004, Williams became involved with AARP's Voices of Civil Rights project, leading a veteran team of reporters and editors in the production of *My Soul Looks Back in Wonder: Voices of the Civil Rights Experience*. The book presents the harrowing and haunting eyewitness accounts of some 50 activists who served as foot soldiers and field generals in the Civil Rights Movement. In his 2006 book, *Enough*, Williams makes the case that while there is still racism, it is way past time for black Americans to open their eyes to the "culture of failure" that exists within their community.

During his 21-year career at *The Washington Post*, Williams served as an editorial writer, op-ed columnist, and White House reporter. He has won an Emmy award for TV documentary writing and won widespread critical acclaim for a series of documentaries including "Politics - The New Black Power." Articles by Williams have appeared in magazines ranging from *Newsweek*, *Fortune*, and *The Atlantic Monthly* to *Ebony*, *Gentlemen's Quarterly*, and *The New Republic*.

Williams continues to be a contributing political analyst for the Fox News Channel and a regular panelist on *Fox News Sunday*. He has also appeared on numerous television programs, including *Nightline*, *Washington Week in Review*, *Oprah*, CNN's *Crossfire* (where he frequently served as co-host), and *Capitol Gang Sunday*.

A graduate of Haverford College, Williams received a B.A. in philosophy in 1976. Currently, he sits on a number of boards, including the Haverford College Board of Trustees, the Aspen Institute of Communications and Society Program, Washington Journalism Center, and the New York Civil Rights Coalition.