

GARN

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# GADFLY ON THE WALL: A PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHER SPEAKS OUT ON RACISM AND REFORM BY STEVEN SINGER

## Paperback

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## ABOUT THE BOOK

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### **Gadfly On The Wall: A Public School Teacher Speaks Out On Racism And Reform**

Talk, talk, talk. There's an awful lot of talk about public education in America today. Have you ever wondered if even half of it is true? For example, have you ever wondered if our public schools are really failing or if they might actually be some of the best in the world? Have you ever wondered if "School Choice" was actually about giving someone else more options and reducing freedom for you and your children? Ever wondered about the relationship between standardized testing and Nazi eugenics? How about if teachers unions should be doing more to fight for students' civil rights? And now that we're talking about it, why do white people sometimes snicker at black names? And how can you protect your children from toxic testing? Why does Common Core still exist? What's it mean to be racist in America today? And why do the rich need racists?

If so, then you're cordially invited on a fantastic journey where few have gone before: into the mind of a public school teacher. Become a fly on the wall in our public school system. See what few non-professionals have seen before. It's an eye-opening experience guaranteed to ruffle a few feathers, but you've been warned: this is the work of a gadfly.

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“Steve Singer’s book is a roadmap for understanding how school reform is fueled by racism, and is a valuable tool for activists who want to win the fight.” – **Denisha Jones**, Trinity Washington University

“Steven Singer’s writing describes and demolishes the madness of modern education ‘reform.’ It is a breath of fresh air, and should be in every teacher’s lounge and legislative office in the country.” - **Anthony Cody**, Education activist, blogger and teacher

Steve Singer’s Insightful, perceptive, informative and powerful posts are helping to educate, persuade and mobilize people to fight back against the charter school industry and those seeking to privatize public education in the United States.” - **Jonathan Peltó**, Education Bloggers Network.

“Inspiring and infuriating, Steven Singer is one of the best education bloggers of this generation.” - **Julian Vasquez Heilig**, Sacramento State University.

“Steven Singer speaks the truth about the detriment of education ‘deform.’ His voice is a powerful one for children, teachers, and communities.” - **Marla Kilfoyle**, Badass Teachers Association.

“In these troubled and troubling times, there is no one who writes more passionately about public education, teachers, and the struggle for justice and equity than Steve Singer.” - **Peter Greene**, Education blogger and teacher.

“Channeling the justified outrage of a classroom teacher under attack from budget cuts and neoliberal reforms, Steve Singer bears witness to what is happening to his students and our system of public education more broadly.” - **Jessie B. Ramey, Ph.D.**, Chatham University

“Steven Singer is first a parent, second a teacher, third a passionate seeker for social justice, and finally a skilled writer on issues related to public education. His blog *Gadfly on the Wall* has been required reading for all those interested in the war to preserve public education over the last several years. In this collection of essays, Singer’s distinctive voice, steeped in empathy for children and enthusiasm for good teachers and good teaching, shines through as persuasive, provocative and well-informed. All of those interested in the pernicious impact of testing, school choice, and racism on our public education institutions will want to read this book, in fact, anyone who has a child in public schools, hopes to one day send a child to public schools, or has ever attended a public school needs to read this book.” – **Russ Walsh**, Teacher, author of *The Parent’s Guide to Public Education in the 21st Century*, and blogger at Russ on Reading.

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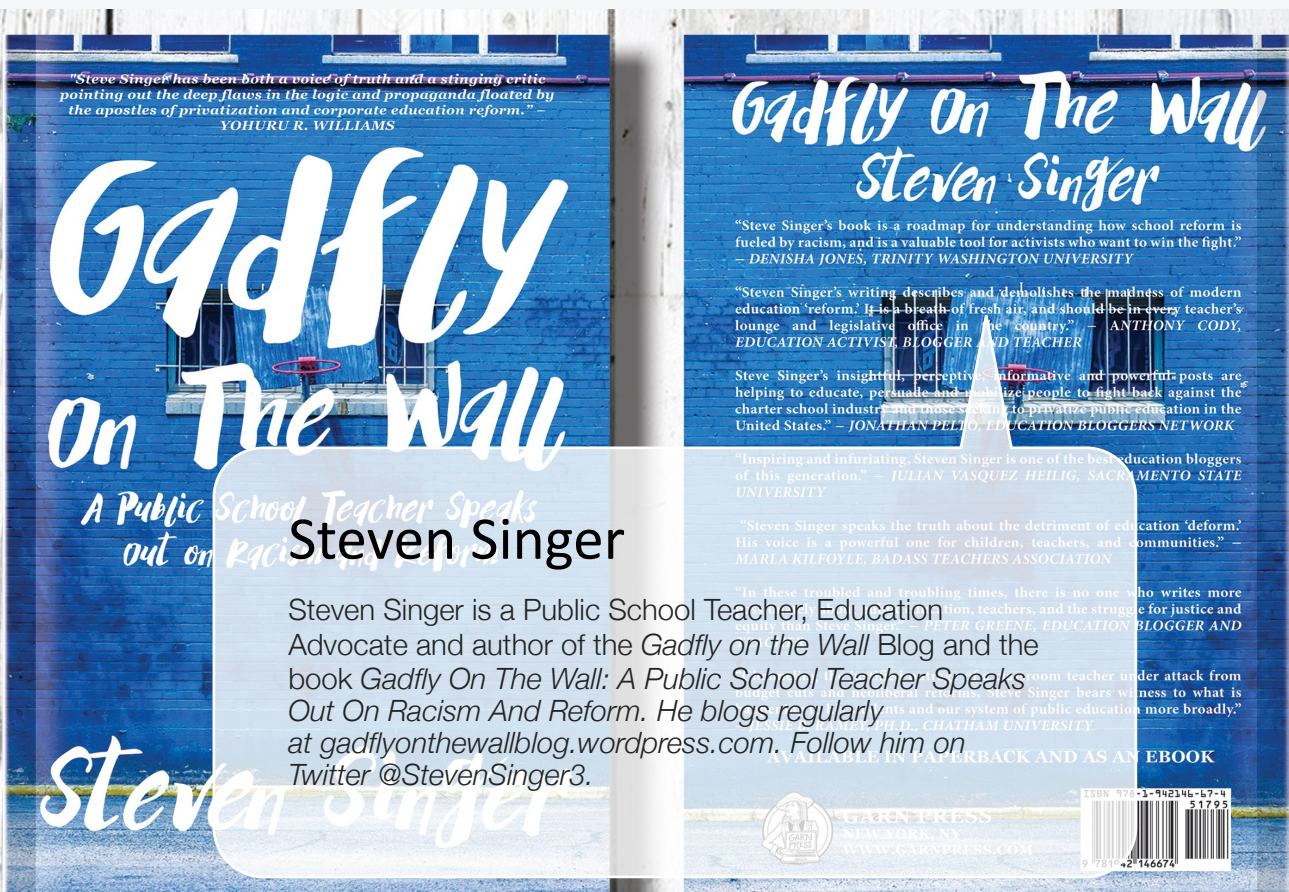


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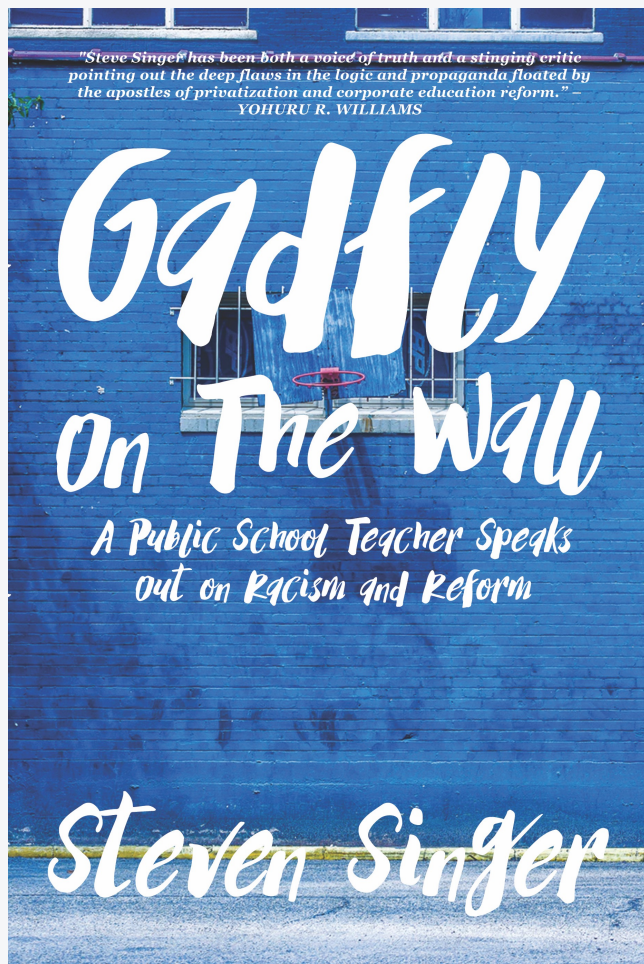
Steven Singer is a Public School Teacher, Education Advocate and author of the *Gadfly on the Wall* Blog and the book *Gadfly On The Wall: A Public School Teacher Speaks Out On Racism And Reform*. He blogs regularly at [gadflyonthewallblog.wordpress.com](http://gadflyonthewallblog.wordpress.com). Follow him on Twitter @StevenSinger3.



Steven Singer is an 8th grade Language Arts teacher in western Pennsylvania. He is a National Board Certified Teacher and has an MAT from the University of Pittsburgh. He is Director of the Research and Blogging Committee for the Badass Teachers Association, and is co-founder of the Pennsylvania-based education budget advocacy group T.E.A.C.H. (Tell Everyone All Cuts Hurt). He ran a successful campaign through Moveon.org against the since repealed Voter ID law in the Keystone State. He joined United Opt Out as an administrator in 2016. He is a member of the Education Bloggers Network. His writing on education and civil rights issues has appeared in *The Washington Post*, *Education Week*, the *LA Progressive*, *Commondreams.org*, *Portside Navigator* and has been featured on Diane Ravitch's site. He blogs at [gadflyonthewallblog.wordpress.com](http://gadflyonthewallblog.wordpress.com). Follow him on Twitter @StevenSinger3.

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