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“Striving of the Negro People”

Throughout “Striving of the Negro People” I felt deeply about it and I felt the emotion and that’s when it drew me in. The author W. E. B. DU BOIS felt “the unequal power relations between blacks and whites in American society” (Dubois, p.g. 141). He goes out of his way to stand up for what he feels is right and feels black people are just living in white people’s world. The main issue of this piece is that black Americans are being denied the right the vote and are not getting the rights they deserve. DuBois brings so much emotion out from this and makes you feel his sadness on this topic through just reading it. He says, “for the world I longed for, and all its dazzling opportunities, were theirs, not mine” (Dubois, p.g. 142). This makes it seem like he doesn’t get to live his life freely and just feels like he doesn’t have a purpose. Overall, black Americans are being denied the rights of white Americans, blacks shouldn’t feel shut out from the world, and it is important to speak up for this topic.

This is such an important topic that needs to be addressed. They say in “Striving of the Negro People”, whites would approach Dubois as “I know an excellent colored man in my town” or “do not these Southern outrages make your blood boil?” (Dubois, p.g. 142) He let these sayings just pass him and he would have to “reduce the boiling to a simmer” (Dubois, p.g. 142). Basically, he is having to hold his tongue and whatever they say goes. I feel Dubois is trying to get acrossed that he wants things to change and that whites need to not only just see his views and understand that it is important that black Americans get the same equal rights and respect as they do.

<https://www.theatlantic.com/video/index/554972/web-dubois-striving-negro/>