The Program for Humanities in Medicine Spiro Lecture Series presents…

Harriet A. Washington

National Book Critics Circle Award-winner
Author of A Terrible Thing to Waste: Environmental Racism and the Assault on the American Mind; Infectious Madness: The Surprising Science of How We "Catch" Mental Illness; and Medical Apartheid: The Dark History of Medical Experimentation on Black Americans from Colonial Times to the Present

The Brain Thieves:
Heavy Metals, Pathogens and Other Enemies of Cognition

“Harriet Washington explores how environmental racism damages young minds, particularly the minds of impoverished African American children who are exposed inordinately to toxins and pathogens in marginalized communities. She writes lucidly of how pollutants such as heavy metals and neurotoxins injure developing brains and recounts vividly case after case of the devastating cost to human brains and bodies. As she demolishes racist notions of inherited intelligence, she describes the medical consequences of horrific environmental catastrophes that have largely been forgotten or overlooked. Revelatory and compelling, Harriet Washington’s A Terrible Thing to Waste is the Silent Spring for the 21st century.”

-- Robin Lindley, JD, Features Editor, History News Network

Thursday, September 5, 2019
5:00 – 6:00 PM
Cohen Auditorium
Yale Child Study Center
NIHB, E-02
230 South Frontage Road, New Haven

Additional event: Panel discussion on Friday, Sept. 6 at noon (lunch served). Location: TBA
“Race, Neighborhoods, Toxins, and Public Health” Harriet Washington; Elihu Ruben, Associate Professor of Architecture and American Studies at Yale; and Mikki Meadows, Professor of Nursing at Quinnipiac University

This talk is cosponsored by Democracy in America/320 York Humanities.
The talk and panel discussion are free & open to the public. Light fare will be available.

For more info: facebook.com/YaleHumanitiesinMedicine; medicine.yale.edu/humanitiesinmedicine