Thomas Sowell is a prolific author of books and articles on economics, history, social policy, ethnicity, and the history of ideas. His recent work has focused on cultural history in a world perspective, resulting in a trilogy that includes *Race and Culture* (1994), *Migrations and Culture* (1996), and *Conquests and Cultures* (1998). In 2000, he published *Basic Economics: A Citizen’s Guide to the Economy*, and in 2001, *The Einstein Syndrome: Bright Children Who Talk Late*. His current book project is an empirical study of affirmative action around the world. He has taught economics at various colleges and universities, including Cornell, Amherst, and the University of California, Los Angeles. The holder of a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Chicago, he is a fellow of the American Philosophical Society and the National Academy of Education.