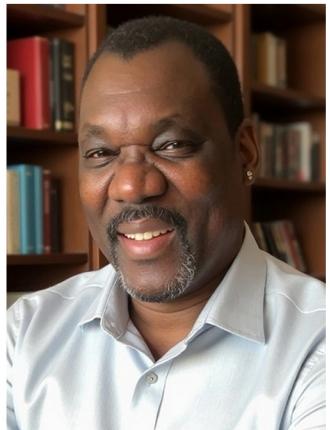


**"Brilliant Minds, Ignorant Minds"** is a novel by first time author, Vernon M. O'Garra. It chronicles the story of Miles Livingston and his battle against racial discrimination in healthcare, focusing on his experiences at a Municipal Hospital. Despite holding a master's degree in healthcare administration and extensive experience, Miles faced persistent barriers to advancement as an African American male. Beginning with his childhood, growing up in the suburbs of New York to his college years at HBCU, Lincoln University (MO) in the 1970s and early career as a DJ and promoter, the narrative follows Livingston's transition into a career in healthcare. Throughout his journey, he observed a troubling pattern: while African American women and other minorities advanced into management positions, Black men were systematically excluded.

**"Brilliant Minds, Ignorant Minds"** is not just a story about a lawsuit, it's a compelling narrative about how racism has shaped an African American man who is fighting for racial equality in his everyday life and inside the Corporate American workplace. He offers guidance for other Black men navigating corporate America, including the importance of documentation, strategic networking, and preparing for retaliation when challenging discrimination. The title reflects the contrast between the "brilliant minds" who create and maintain discriminatory systems and their "ignorant" inability to recognize and address racial bias. The author argues that until Corporate America genuinely commits to including Black men in leadership positions, companies will continue to miss valuable talent and perspectives. He calls for fundamental changes in how corporations' approach racial equity, particularly regarding the advancement of Black men into leadership positions. Follow Livingston on his journey as he strives to advance to the level that his qualifications warranted despite the extensive system of racial discrimination working against him. Did he win or did he lose?



Vernon M. O'Garra is a seasoned healthcare finance professional and emerging writer based in New York. With over two decades of expertise, Vernon offers a distinct reflective lens to his writing, crafting thought-provoking commentary on healthcare policy featured in various esteemed publications.

Vernon's dedication goes beyond his professional career; he's a passionate volunteer for multiple healthcare initiatives, assisting countless individuals in navigating access to healthcare. Armed with a master's in health care administration, he has made significant contributions to professional healthcare associations, championing innovation and positive change in the industry.



# BRILLIANT MINDS IGNORANT MINDS

VERNON M. O'GARRA

