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## Kwame Anthony Appiah

One of America's Leading Public Intellectuals  
*Cosmopolitanism: Ethics in a World of Strangers*

Called a post-modern Socrates, Kwame Anthony Appiah asks profound questions about identity and ethics in a world where the sands of race, ethnicity, religion and nationalism continue to realign and reform before our eyes. His seminal book *Cosmopolitanism* is a moral manifesto for a world where identity has become a weapon and where difference has become a cause of pain and suffering. In intellectually stimulating language, Appiah challenges you to look beyond the boundaries -- real and imagined -- that divide us, and to see our common humanity.

Appiah is the Laurance S. Rockefeller University Professor of Philosophy at Princeton University. He is also the President of the PEN American Center, the internationally acclaimed literary and human rights association. He was born in London, to a Ghanaian father and a white mother; raised in Ghana; and educated in England, at Cambridge University, where he received a Ph.D. in philosophy. As a scholar of African and African-American studies, he established himself as an intellectual with a broad reach. His classic book *In My Father's House* and his collaborations with Henry Louis Gates, Jr. -- including *The Dictionary of Global Culture* and *Africana* -- are major works of African struggles for self-determination. In 2007, *Cosmopolitanism* won the Arthur Ross Book Award, the most significant prize given to a book on international affairs. In 2009, he was featured in the documentary *Examined Life*, and was named one of *Foreign Policy's* Top 100 public intellectuals.

### Anthony Appiah Speech Topics

#### *Cosmopolitanism: Ethics in a World of Strangers*

In his acerbic lectures, Appiah explores some of the central ethical questions of our time. How is it possible to consider the world a moral community, for instance, when there is so much disagreement about the nature of morality? He offers answers that are grounded in a new ethics (Cosmopolitanism) which celebrates our common humanity, while at the same time offering a practical way to manage our differences. With wit, reason and humanity, he offers a new approach to living a moral life in the modern age -- where the competing claims of "a Clash of Civilizations" on one hand, and a groundless moral relativism on the other, can make such a project seem impossible.