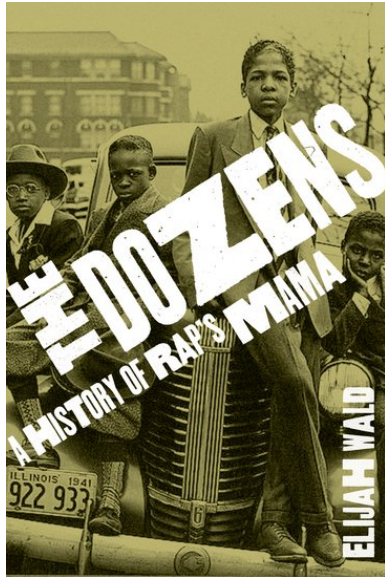


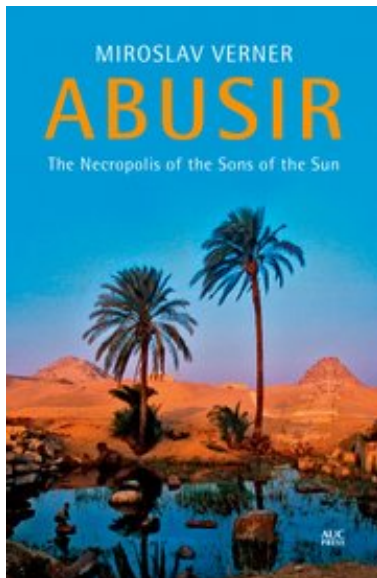
# Relevant Books



Wald, Elijah. *Talking 'Bout Your Mama: The Dozens, Snaps, and the Deep Roots of Rap*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2012, pp.256, 15 b/w photographs, ISBN: 9780199895403.

This work explores one of the most potent sources of rap: the viciously funny, outrageously inventive insult game known as "the dozens." Hence, the traces the tradition of African American street rhyming and verbal combat that has ruled urban neighborhoods since the early 1900s (a basic building block of African-American culture) as he goes back to the dozens' roots, looking at mother-insulting and verbal combat from Greenland to the sources of the Niger, and shows its breadth of influence in the seminal writings of Richard Wright, Langston Hughes, and Zora Neale Hurston; the comedy of Richard Pryor and George Carlin; the humor of the blues; the hip language and competitive jamming of jazz; and in its ultimate evolution into the improvisatory battling of rap. From schoolyard games and rural

work songs to urban novels and nightclub comedy, and pop hits from ragtime to rap, this work also uses the dozens as a lens to provide insight into over a century of African American culture.



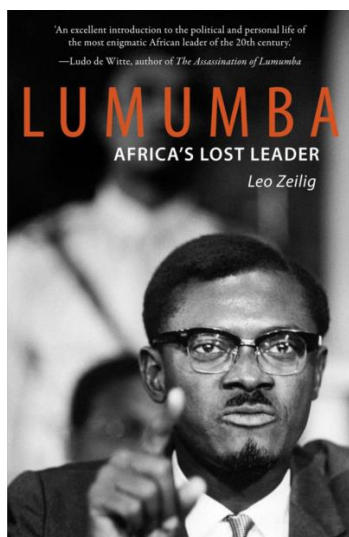
Verner, Miroslav. *Abusir: The Necropolis of the Sons of the Sun*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2017, pp.352, 25 color illus. and line drawings, ISBN: 9789774167904.

This updated study (first published in 2004) documents the uncovering by a team of Czech archaeologists of ancient remains dating from the Old Kingdom to the Late Period in Abusir in the realm of Osiris (God of the dead), and its story in modern archaeology and the buried mysteries that it seeks to uncover at the center of the pyramid field of the Memphite necropolis via a group of pyramids, temples, and tombs named after the nearby village of Abusir that have been overshadowed by the more familiar pyramids at Giza and Saqqara, although for the last fifty years the area has been home to an extensive operation to discover its past.



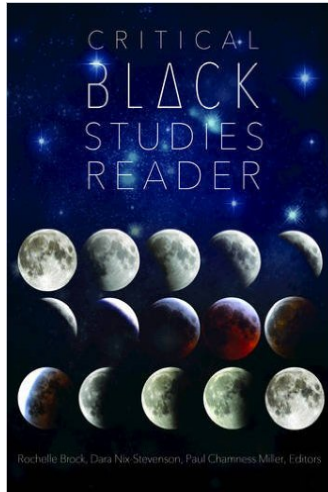
Spencer, Robyn C. *The Revolution Has Come: Black Power, Gender, and the Black Panther Party in Oakland*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2016, pp.280, ISBN: 0822362864.

This book traces the Black Panther Party's organizational evolution in Oakland, California, where hundreds of young people came to political awareness and journeyed to adulthood as members. Challenging the belief that the Panthers were a projection of the leadership, the author draws on interviews with rank-and-file members, FBI files, and archival materials to examine the impact the organization's internal politics and COINTELPRO's (counterintelligence program) political repression had on its evolution and dissolution to show how the Panthers' members interpreted, implemented, and influenced party ideology and programs; initiated dialogues about gender politics; highlighted ambiguities in the Panthers' armed stance; and criticized organizational priorities. The work also centers gender politics and the experiences of women and their contributions to the Panthers and the Black Power movement as a whole to provide a view of the party's organization over its sixteen-year history to outline how the Black Panthers embodied Black Power through the party's international activism, interracial alliances, commitment to address state violence, and desire to foster self-determination in the Black community of Oakland.



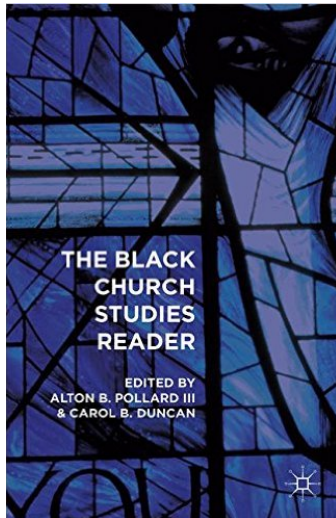
Zeilig, Leo. *Lumumba: Africa's Lost Leader*. London: Haus Publishing Ltd., 2015, pp.198, ISBN: 1908323949.

In this book, revised and updated to include new thinking on the Congo crisis and incorporating material recently released from British intelligence archives, the author tells the story of the Congo in the dying days of colonialism, and of Patrice Lumumba's transition from nationalist to revolutionary to international symbol of African liberation. Lumumba (1925-1961) is perhaps the most famous leader of the African independence movement. After his execution in 1961, when he had been prime minister of the newly liberated Congo for only seven months, he became an icon of anti-imperialist struggle. As the news came out, his picture was brandished in demonstrations in capitals around the world, along with Che Guevara and Mao Zedong. His life and the independence that he sought for the Congo made him a pivotal figure of the 20th century, highlighting ongoing Western colonialism and the problematic nature of the independence granted to huge swathes of the globe after 1945.



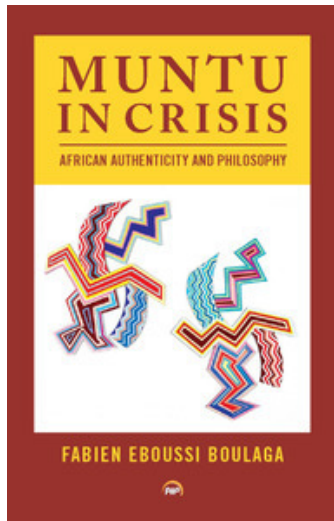
Brock, Rochelle, Dara Nix-Stevenson and Paul Chamness Miller, eds. *Critical Black Studies Reader*. New York: Peter Lang Inc., 2016, pp.282, ISBN: 1433124068.

This contribution works to criticalize and reenvision Black Studies through a critical lens. The book stretches the boundaries of knowledge and understanding of issues critical to the Black experience to create a theoretical grounding that is intersectional in its approach. The notion of the work is that Black Studies is neither singularly grounded in African American Studies nor on traditional notions of the Black experience. The volume also includes seminal works by authors in the field, as a critical endeavor, and the editors have included pieces that address the political issues that intersect with—among others—power, race, class, gender, sexuality, religion, place, and economics. The editors include Rochelle Brock, a Professor and Department Chair of Educational Leadership & Cultural Foundations at the University of North Carolina, Greensboro; Dara Nix-Stevenson, a teacher-scholar-activist who has taught high school biology and environmental science since 1998; and Paul Chamness Miller, a Professor of International Liberal Arts in the English for Academic Purposes program at Akita International University in Japan, and the editor of the journal *Critical Inquiry in Language Studies*.



Pollard, Alton B. and Carol B. Duncan, eds. *The Black Church Studies Reader*. London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2016, pp. 335, ISBN: 1137552875.

This book addresses Black theological studies, from Biblical studies and ethics to homiletics and pastoral care; and it also examines salient themes of social and religious significance such as gender, sexuality, race, social class, health care, and public policy. While the volume centers upon the African American experience and studies, it also attends to broader African continental and African world religious contexts. Thus, the contributors reflect an interdisciplinary blend of Black Church Studies scholars and practitioners as the book seeks to address the following fundamental questions: What constitutes Black Church Studies as a discipline or field of study? What is the significance of Black Church Studies for theological education? What is the relationship between Black Church Studies and the broader academic study of Black religions? What is the relationship between Black Church Studies and local congregations (as well as other faith-based entities)? And as a result, the book's search for the answers to these questions poses an interesting, compelling and illuminating exercise.

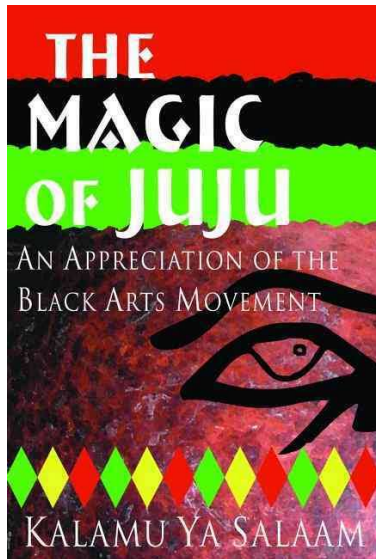


Boulaga, Fabien Eboussi. *Muntu in Crisis: African Authenticity and Philosophy*. Trenton, NJ: Africa World Press, 2014, pp.278, ISBN: 1592219896.

This seemingly overlooked 2014 book (first published in 1977 in French) in African philosophy asks how could Muntu (the human being in the African condition) initiate/found a practice of philosophy that assumes and testifies to the singularity of the African situation today and assert self as subject and object of his/her parole. Second, it asks under which conditions can the practice of philosophy be a praxis of liberation, and discourse to constitute itself for self, by imparting to itself, in form and content, in the language of one's own history, that is the unfolding of its historical reason or reasonable history which set the fundamental and existential questions at the heart of Muntu. Thus, the author works to lay out the

foundations of a rigorous African philosophical practice, free from the burdens of the rationality which, by rejecting sentiment, color, history, accident and the local, that manifested itself as another name of violence or war, not only spiritual, but real. And next, he demounts the grammar and the rhetoric of ethnophilosophy to deconstruct the thrill of the colonized subject claiming to possess philosophies and engagement in the reconstruction of a lost or denied authenticity, while losing sight of suffered alienation. In the same vein, the author rejects the traditionalized philosophy, that is philosophia perennis, intimately linked to the history of the West and to which Muntu must conform by renouncing his/her own memory, traditions and desires. Finally, without pretending to prescribe a method, he shows how, instead of being a dramatization of the situation of the colonized or the allegory of the power of the colonizer, the Muntu practice of philosophy can be a practice of emancipation and freedom, and thus, a creative practice that assumes all historical determinations. The author was born in Cameroun (1934) and is Emeritus Professor of Philosophy at the University of Yaoundé in Cameroun, and the author of numerous books (i.e., *A Recapture of Christianity*, *A contretemps. L'enjeu de Dieu en Afrique*, *La Démocratie de transit au Cameroun*, *L'Affaire de la philosophie africaine. Au-delà des querelles*).

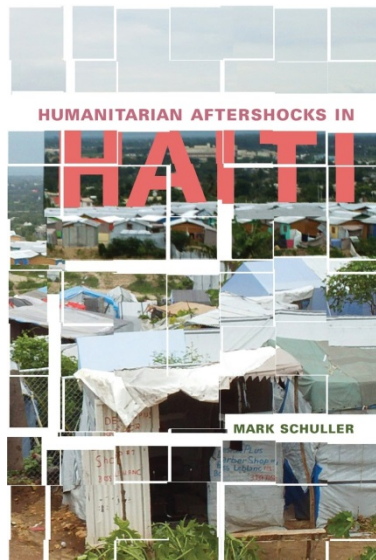




Salaam, Kalamu ya. *The Magic Juju: An Appreciation of the Black Arts Movement*. Chicago: Third World Press, 2016, pp.330, ISBN: 0883781964.

A contextual historical examination of the civil rights movement and the artists who inspired it, this recollection depicts this storied era and how these artists signified the affecting change they helped create. The exploration details the development of the Black Arts Movement--from precursor activities such as the Umbra Workshop to transitional activities such as Ntozake Shange's choreopoem ""for colored girls who considered suicide when the rainbow is enuf""--and gives in-depth information about the role of prominent poets, such as Amiri Baraka, and the influence of Black music. The author is a performance poet, a dramatist, a fiction writer, and a music critic; founder of Nommo Literary Society, founder and former editor of the *Black*

*Collegian* magazine.



Schuller, Mark. *Humanitarian Aftershocks in Haiti*. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 2016, pp.312, ISBN: 0813574234

This volume captures the voices of those involved in the 2010 Haiti earthquake aid response. Thus, the author led an independent study of eight displaced-persons camps in Haiti, compiling more than 150 interviews ranging from Haitian front-line workers and camp directors to foreign humanitarians and many displaced Haitian people. The result is an account of why the multi-billion-dollar aid response did little to help but also did much harm, triggering a range of unintended consequences, rupturing Haitian social and cultural institutions, and actually increasing violence, especially against women. The book also shows how the Haitian people were removed from any real decision-making, replaced by a top-down, NGO-dominated

system of humanitarian aid, led by an army of often young, inexperienced foreign workers. Ignorant of Haitian culture, these aid workers unwittingly enacted policies that triggered a range of negative results. Haitian interviewees also note that the NGOs “planted the flag,” and often tended to “just do something,” always with an eye to the “photo op”. Worse yet, they blindly supported the eviction of displaced people from the camps, forcing earthquake victims to relocate in vast shantytowns that were hotbeds of violence. The book concludes suggesting that in the future, perhaps most notably that aid workers listen to— and respect the culture of— the victims of catastrophe.

— THE  
— TRANSATLANTIC  
— ZOMBIE

SARAH JULIET LAURO

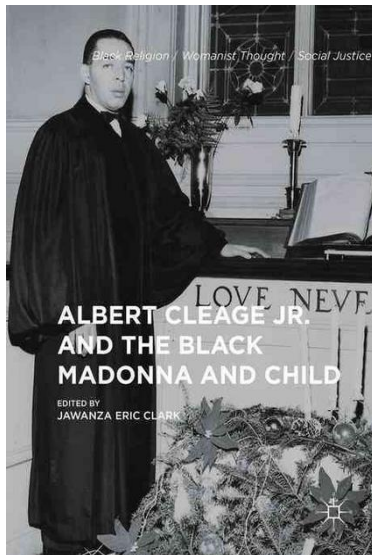


SLAVERY, REBELLION, AND LIVING DEATH

Lauro, Sarah Juliet. *The Transatlantic Zombie: Slavery, Rebellion and Living Death*. Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 2015, pp.284, 12 photos, ISBN: 978-0-8135-6883-6.

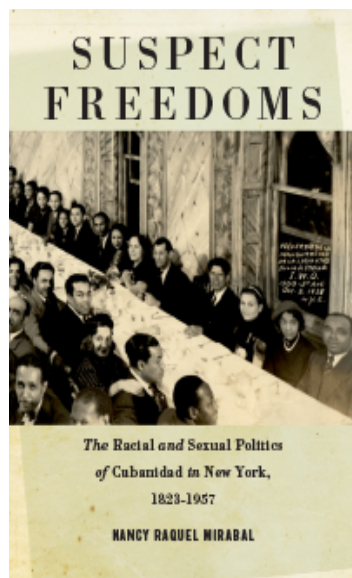
This work provides a history of the zombie, explaining how the myth's migration to the New World was facilitated by the transatlantic enslavement, and reveals the real-world import of storytelling, reminding us of the power of myths and mythmaking, and the high stakes of appropriation and homage. Beginning with an account of a probable ancestor of the zombie found in the Kongolese and Angolan regions of seventeenth-century Africa and ending with a description of the way, in contemporary culture, new media are used to facilitate zombie-themed events, the author plots the zombie's cultural significance through Caribbean literature, Haitian folklore, and American literature, film, and the visual arts. The zombie entered

US consciousness through the American occupation of Haiti, the site of an eighteenth-century rebellion of the enslaved that became a war for independence, thus making the figuration of living death inseparable from its resonances with both slavery and rebellion. Thus, the author also bridges African mythology and U.S. mainstream culture by articulating the ethical complications of the zombie as a cultural conquest that was rebranded for the American cinema. And the book that the zombie is not merely a bogeyman representing the ills of modern society, but a battleground over which a cultural war has been fought between the imperial urge to absorb exotic, threatening elements, and the African world cultural preservation through a strategy of mythic combat.



Clark, Jawanza Eric, ed. *Albert Cleage Jr. and the Black Madonna and Child*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2016, pp.303, 3 color illustrations, ISBN: 9781137546883.

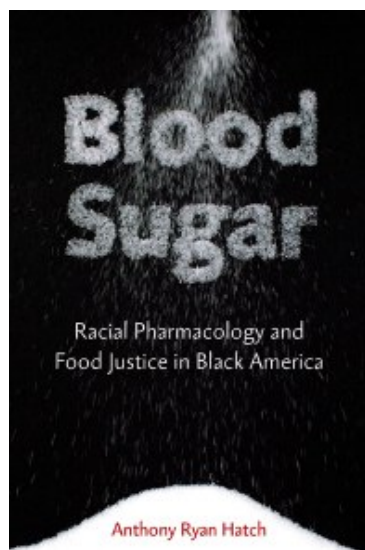
In this collection, Black religious scholars and pastors whose expertise range from theology, ethics, and the psychology of religion, to preaching, religious aesthetics, and religious education, discuss the legacy of Albert B. Cleage Jr. and the idea of the Black Madonna and child. Easter Sunday, 2017 will mark the fifty year anniversary of Albert B. Cleage Jr.'s unveiling of a mural of the Black Madonna and child in his church in Detroit, Michigan. This unveiling symbolized a radical theological departure and disruption. The mural helped symbolically launch Black Christian Nationalism and influenced the Black Power movement in the United States.



Mirabal, Nancy Raquel. *Suspect Freedoms: The Racial and Sexual Politics of Cubanidad in New York, 1823-1957*. New York: New York University Press, 2017, pp.320, 17 halftones, ISBN: 9780814761120.

This book explores Cuban racial and sexual politics in New York during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, and chronicles the largely unexamined and often forgotten history of more than a hundred years of Cuban exile, migration, diaspora, and community formation. Thus, the author delves into the rich cache of primary sources, archival documents, literary texts, club records, newspapers, photographs, and oral histories to place this era within larger theoretical discussions of potential, future, visibility, and belonging, and show how these transformations complicated meanings of territoriality, gender, race, power, and labor. Also, the author argues that slavery, nation, and the fear that Cuba would become “another

Haiti” were critical in the making of early diasporic Cubanidades, and documents how, by the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, Afro-Cubans were authors of their own experiences; organizing movements, publishing texts, and establishing important political, revolutionary, and social clubs.

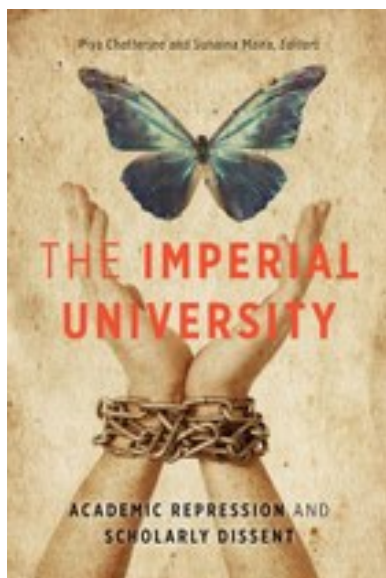


Hatch, Anthony Ryan. *Blood Sugar: Racial Pharmacology and Food Justice in Black America*. Minneapolis, Minnesota: University of Minnesota Press, 2016, pp.184, ISBN: 978-0-8166-9618-5.

This book analyzes and challenges the ways in which “metabolic syndrome” has become a major biomedical category that medical researchers have created to better understand the risks high blood pressure, blood sugar, body fat, and cholesterol pose to people. An estimated sixty million Americans are well on the way to being diagnosed with it. The author argues that the syndrome represents another, very real crisis and that its advent signals a new form of “colorblind scientific racism”—a repackaging of race within biomedical and genomic research. Examining the cultural discussions and scientific practices that target human metabolism of prescription drugs and sugar by African Americans, the author

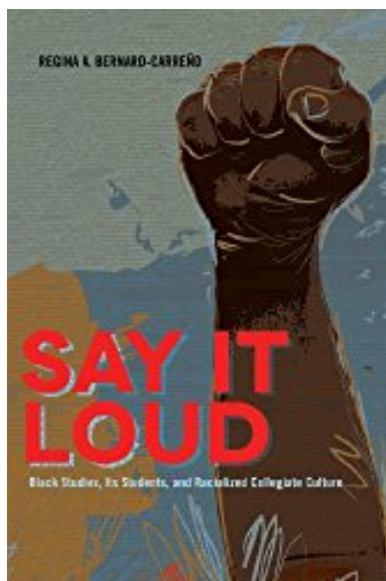
reveals how medical researchers who use metabolic syndrome to address racial inequalities in health have in effect reconstructed race as a fixed, biological, genetic feature of bodies—without incorporating social and economic inequalities into the equation. And just as the causes of metabolic syndrome are framed in racial terms, so are potential drug treatments and nutritional health interventions.





Chatterjee, Piya and Sunaina Maira, eds. *The Imperial University: Academic Repression and Scholarly Dissent*. Minneapolis, Minnesota: University of Minnesota Press, 2014, pp.400, ISBN: 978-0-8166-8090-0.

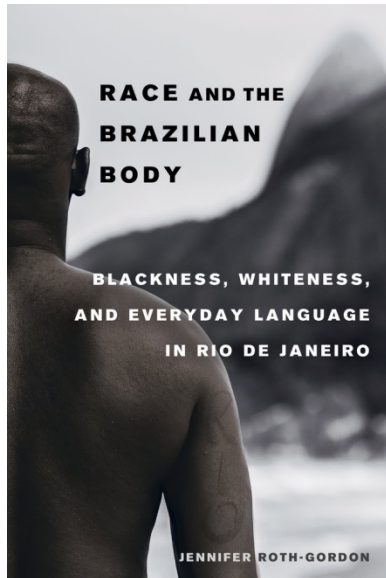
This volume brings together scholars, including some who have been targeted for their open criticism of American foreign policy and settler colonialism, to explore the policing of knowledge by explicitly linking the academy to the broader politics of militarism, racism, nationalism, and neoliberalism that define the contemporary imperial state. Thus, the contributors to this book argue that “academic freedom” is not a sufficient response to the crisis of intellectual repression. Instead, they contend that battles fought over academic containment must be understood in light of the academy’s relationship to U.S. expansionism and global capital. Based on multidisciplinary research, autobiographical accounts, and even performance scripts, this urgent analysis offers sobering insights into such varied manifestations of “the imperial university” as CIA recruitment at Black and Latino colleges, the connections between universities and civilian and military prisons, and the gender and sexual politics of academic repression.



Bernard-Carreño, Regina. *Say It Loud: Black Studies, Its Students, and Racialized Collegiate Culture*. New York: Peter Lang Inc., 2013, pp.118, ISBN: 1433115824.

This work pays homage to the earliest Black Studies programs in the United States, particularly to those programs that spawned from strong pedagogical, revolutionary social movements, and student-based organic and traditional academic practices. Briefly presenting a look at the rich history of the birth of what became a student-led movement for social and intellectual change, the book considers the various plights of Black Studies programs, and how students have been cheated out of the revolutionary academic practices of their predecessors. The book also offers examples of how Black Studies programs can once again take a student-centered approach, one that wishes to seek change not solely for Black students, but for everyone who believes in change at larger, deeper, and more personally-connected levels of learning.





Roth-Gordon, Jennifer. *Race and the Brazilian Body: Blackness, Whiteness, and Everyday Language in Rio de Janeiro*. Oakland: University of California Press, 2017, pp. 248, ISBN: 9780520293809.

Based on spontaneous conversations of shantytown youth hanging out on the streets of their neighborhoods and interviews from the comfortable living rooms of the middle class, the author of this work shows how racial ideas permeate the daily lives of Rio de Janeiro's residents across race and class lines as the book weaves together the experiences of these two groups to explore what the author calls Brazil's "comfortable racial contradiction," where embedded structural racism that privileges whiteness exists alongside a deeply held pride in the country's history of racial mixture and lack of overt racial conflict. This linguistic and ethnographic account describes how *cariocas* (people who live in Rio de Janeiro) "read" the body for racial signs. The amount of whiteness or blackness a body displays is determined not only through observations of phenotypical features—including skin color, hair texture, and facial features—but also through careful attention paid to cultural and linguistic practices, including the use of nonstandard speech commonly described as *gíria* (slang). Thus, vivid scenes from daily interactions illustrate how implicit social and racial imperatives encourage individuals to invest in and display whiteness (by demonstrating a "good appearance"), avoid blackness (a preference challenged by rappers and hip-hop fans), and "be cordial" (by not noticing racial differences). And in this mix, the author suggests that it is through this unspoken racial etiquette that Rio residents determine who belongs on the world famous beaches of Copacabana, Ipanema, and Leblon; who deserves to shop in privatized, carefully guarded, air conditioned shopping malls; and who merits the rights of citizenship.



Matera, Marc. *Black London: The Imperial Metropolis and Decolonization in the Twentieth Century*. Oakland: University of California Press, 2015, pp.414, ISBN: 9780520284302.

This history of London in the twentieth century reveals the city as a key site in the development of Black internationalism and anticolonialism to show the significant contributions of people of African descent to London's rich social and cultural history, weaving together the stories of many famous historical figures and presenting their quests for personal, professional, and political recognition against the backdrop of a declining British Empire.



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Cooper, Brittney C. *Beyond Respectability: The Intellectual Thought of Race Women*. Champaign, IL: University of Illinois Press, 2017, pp.208, ISBN: 978-0-252-08248-1.

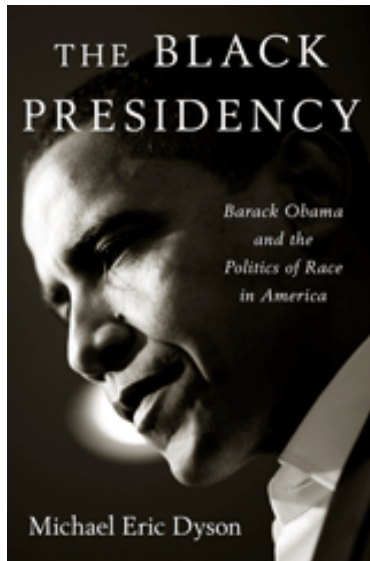
The volume charts the development of African American women as public intellectuals and the evolution of their thought from the end of the 1800s through the Black Power era of the 1970s. Eschewing the Great Race Man paradigm so prominent in contemporary discourse, the author looks at the far-reaching intellectual achievements of female thinkers and activists like Anna Julia Cooper, Mary Church Terrell, Fannie Barrier Williams, Pauli Murray, and Toni Cade Bambara to delve into the processes that transformed these women and others into racial leadership figures, including long-overdue discussions of their theoretical output and personal experiences to suggest that their body of work critically reshaped our understandings of race and gender discourse, and also confronted entrenched ideas of how--and who--produced racial knowledge. The author is an Assistant Professor of Women's and Gender Studies and Africana Studies at Rutgers University; a Black feminist theorist who specializes in the study of Black women's intellectual history, Hip Hop generation feminism, and race and gender representation in popular culture.



Street, Joe. *The Culture War in the Civil Rights Movement*. Gainesville, FL: University Press of Florida, 2017, pp.272, ISBN: 978-0-8130-3196-5.

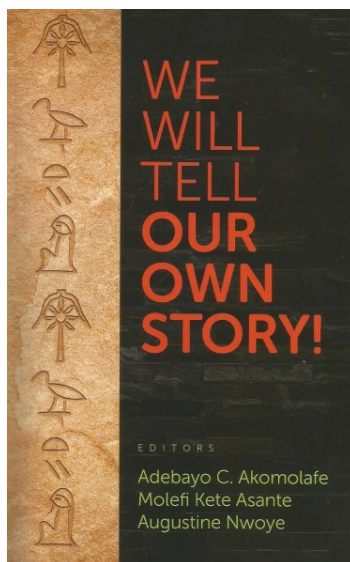
From Aretha Franklin and James Baldwin to Dick Gregory and Martin Luther King, the civil rights movement deliberately used music, art, theater, and literature as political weapons to broaden the struggle and legitimize its appeal. Hence, the author of this work places these cultural forms at the center of the civil rights struggle, arguing that the time has come to recognize the extent to which African American history and culture were vital elements of the movement, calculated to broaden the movement's appeal within the larger Black community as he places considerable emphasis on Amiri Baraka's interpretation of the importance of music and art to the development of Black nationalist thought in the 1960s, especially as expressed in his jazz criticism and plays.

Drawing upon a wide variety of sources, from the Free Southern Theater to freedom songs, from the Cuban radio broadcasts of Robert F. Williams to the art of the Black Panther Party, the author encourages a look at the breadth of forces brought to bear as weapons in the struggle for civil rights, and in doing so, allowing for a reconsideration of the roots of Black Power, recognizing that it emerged both from within and as a critique of the southern integrationist movement.



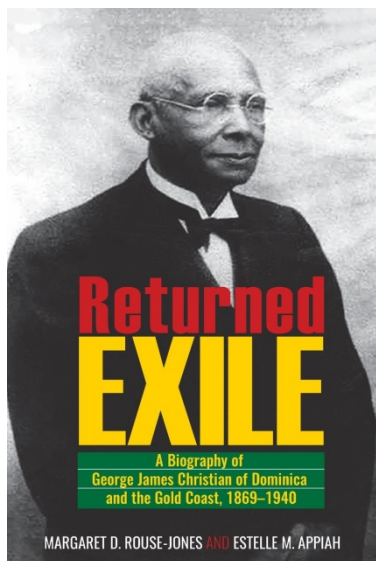
Dyson, Michael Eric. *The Black Presidency: Barack Obama and the Politics of Race in America*. Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2016, pp.368, ISBN: 054438766X.

This work explores how the politics of race have shaped Barack Obama's identity and groundbreaking presidency in how did President Obama deal publicly with race—as the national traumas of Tamir Rice, Trayvon Martin, Michael Brown, Eric Garner, Freddie Gray, and Walter Scott have played out during his tenure, and asks what can we learn from Obama's major race speeches about his approach to racial conflict and the Black criticism it provoked. The author also examines whether Obama's use of his own biracialism as a radiant symbol was driven by a desire to avoid a painful moral reckoning on race. And he sheds light on identity issues within the Black power structure to tell how Obama spurned traditional Black power brokers to significantly reducing their leverage. The author also interviewed President Obama for this book—along with those of Eric Holder, Al Sharpton, Jesse Jackson, Andrew Young, and Maxine Waters, among others to add depth to the nation's first Black presidency. The author is University Professor of Sociology at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. (an affiliate member of the Department of African American Studies, and the author of twenty books.



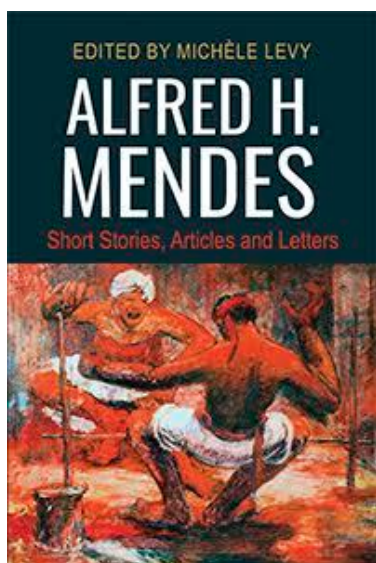
Akomolafe, Adebayo C, Molefi Kete Asante and Augustine Nwoye, eds. *We Will Tell Our Story!* Brooklyn, NY: Universal Write Publications, 2016, pp.402, ISBN: 0615283136. An anthology consisting of thirteen authors focused on African scholar discourse and input in higher education in Africa and elsewhere inspired by Bayo Akomolafe at a conference on decolonizing the university in June 2013 in Panang, Malaysia. Some of the voices in the book are from Tsitsi Dangarembga suggesting that Zimbabwe must develop psycho-technologies to create a new identity; Ijeoma Clement-Akomolafe who argues that modern schooling is part of an ecosystem of imperialism and a key component in the formulaic application of conditions imposed by a particular culture; and Ama Mazama states that the Eurocentric meta-paradigm can only produce imperialistic studies, there it is imperative that African scholars engage in studies that truly illuminate and enhance African lives.





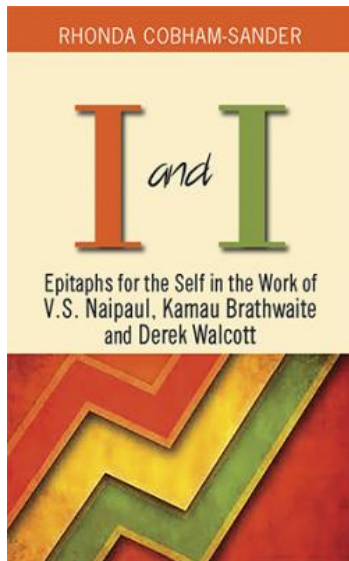
Rouse-Jones, Margaret D. and Estelle M. Appiah, eds. (foreword by Kwesi Kwaa Prah). *Returned Exile: A Biography of George James Christian of Dominica and the Gold Coast, 1869-1940*. Kingston, Jamaica: University of the West Indies Press, 2016, pp. 300, ISBN: 978-976-640-588-5.

This is the first full-length biography of George James Christian, originally from Dominica. He qualified as a barrister-at-law in London, participated in the first Pan African conference and migrated to the Gold Coast in 1902 where he made his home and developed an extended family (he ensured that his children were well educated and they followed his tradition of service to the community). Shortly after his arrival in the Gold Coast, he established a legal practice that successfully served a wide range of clients. His friendship with the renowned Dr. James Kwegyir Aggrey, as expressed in their correspondence during the establishment of Achimota College, together with a discussion of the experience of his children as staff and students there, provide fresh data on the institution. The book also sheds light on Christian's service in the Legislative Council, his role as honorary consul for Liberia, his involvement as a Freemason, businessman and philanthropist. The editors include a, now retired, was University/Campus Librarian, University of the West Indies, St Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago (Margaret D. Rouse-Jones) and now retired former Director of Legislative Drafting (Attorney-General's Department, Ministry of Justice) in Ghana, Estelle M. Appiah, the granddaughter of George James Christian.



Levy, Michèle, ed. *Alfred. H. Mendes: Short Stories, Articles and Letters*. Kingston, Jamaica: University of the West Indies Press, 2016, pp. 240, ISBN: 978-976-640-609-7.

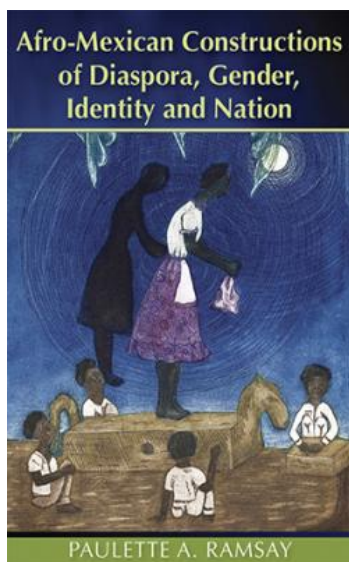
This work comprises thirteen stories, and articles and letters from the 1920s to the 1960s, including two letters to Mendes from the Trinidadian activist and Pan Africanist George Padmore, supported by an introduction, explanatory notes and a short glossary. The works include two autobiographical stories set in New York City during the Great Depression. Mendes's first foreign publication, "Lai John", co-authored with fellow *Beacon* writer Algernon Wharton, appears for the first time since 1930, the first of a number of stories which Mendes wrote about Chinese immigrants. In short, this book outlines Alfred H. Mendes, a prominent member of the *Beacon* group of intellectuals whose aim in the 1930s was the development and promotion of a Trinidad-centred literature. He was a friend and colleague of the *Beacon*'s editor Albert Gomes, and of C.L.R. James and Ralph de Boissière.



Cobham-Sander, Rhonda, ed. *I and I: Epitaphs for the Self in the Work of V.S. Naipaul, Kamau Brathwaite and Derek Walcott*. Kingston, Jamaica: University of the West Indies Press, 2016, pp. 272, ISBN: 978-976-640-576-2.

When V.S. Naipaul, Kamau Brathwaite and Derek Walcott published their first literary efforts there was no such thing as a Caribbean literary tradition. By the end of the twentieth century their work had begun to set the standard for literary production across the English-speaking world and they knew it would outlive them. The epitaphs for themselves and others written into their later works are meant to pre-empt their judgment by others, to tutor us in the proper ways of reading their achievements and to insert into the literary tradition, against the odds, a record of their subjectivity. This endless tautological conversation of I and I conceals a drift towards aesthetic stagnation but it has allowed all three authors the

license to experiment with new forms and to face up to issues that in their earlier work they were too insecure or too inexperienced to confront. The close readings by the author are from Naipaul's *A Way in the World*, Brathwaite's *Barabajan Poems* and Walcott's *Omeros*, and thus, demonstrate how the project of writing one's critical epitaph becomes an overriding thematic concern as well as an important source of stylistic innovation in the work of the three writers. The editor is the Emily C. Jordan Folger Professor of English and Black Studies at Amherst College in Massachusetts.



Ramsay, Paulette A. *Afro-Mexican Constructions of Diaspora, Gender, Identity and Nation*. Kingston, Jamaica: University of the West Indies Press, 2016, ISBN: 978-976-640-579-3.

This study analyses cultural and literary material produced by Afro-Mexicans on the Costa Chica de Guerrero y Oaxaca, Mexico, to undermine and overturn claims of mestizaje or Mexican homogeneity. Hence, the interdisciplinary research draws on several theoretical constructs: cultural studies, linguistic anthropology, masculinity studies, gender studies, feminist criticisms, and broad postcolonial and postmodernist theories, especially as they relate to issues of belonging, diaspora, cultural identity, gender, marginalization, subjectivity and nationhood. The author points to the need to bring to an end all attempts at extending the discourse, whether for political or other reasons, that there are no identifiable Afro-descendants in Mexico. The undeniable existence of

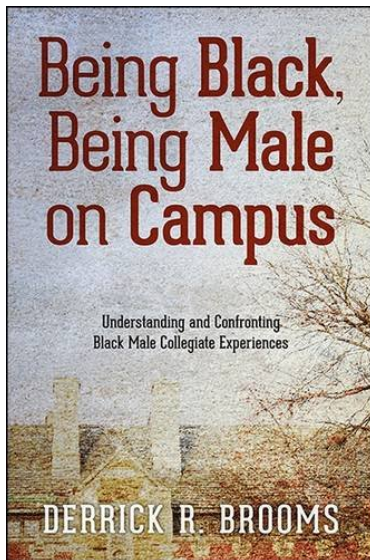
distinctively Mexicans of African heritage and their contributions to Mexican multiculturalism is patently recorded in the book.



Philp, Geoffrey. *Dub Wise*. Leeds, UK: Peepal Tree Press, 2010, pp., 72, ISBN: 1845231716.

This collection of poems displays an unabashed sense of humanity, considered political sensibility, capacity to treat domestic matters with deft lyrical power, and the constant and shaping presence of the mythos of reggae and Third World spirituality. This work demonstrates a sharply honed technical mastery, communicating a deepening consciousness of what it means to be in midlife as it uses the concepts of family, migration, home, and loss to establish the metaphor of “Dub,” the Jamaican musical invention that champions urbanity, and embrace the influence and history, improvisation, and above all, a commitment to the delight of the people. Set to explore themes of Caribbean identity in a postcolonial framework, the work speaks of modern-day environmental, spiritual, and political concerns to incorporate

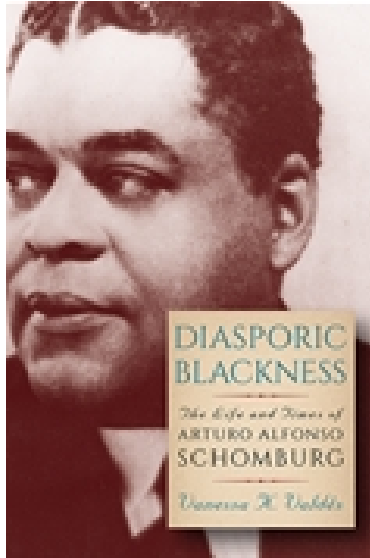
dimensions of reggae and the Rastafari movement to express stories of history, place, and the human condition.



Brooms, Derrick R. *Being Black, Being Male on Campus: Understanding and Confronting Black Male Collegiate Experiences*. Albany, New York: State University of New York Press, 2017, pp.252, ISBN-10: 1438463995.

This work uses in-depth interviews to investigate the collegiate experiences of Black male students at historically White institutions framed through Critical Race Theory and Blackmaleness to provide analysis on the utility and importance of Black Male Initiatives. Hence, the book explores Black men's perceptions, identity constructions, and ambitions, while it speaks meaningfully to how race and gender intersect as they influence students' experiences. The author is an Assistant Professor of Sociology at the University of Louisville.

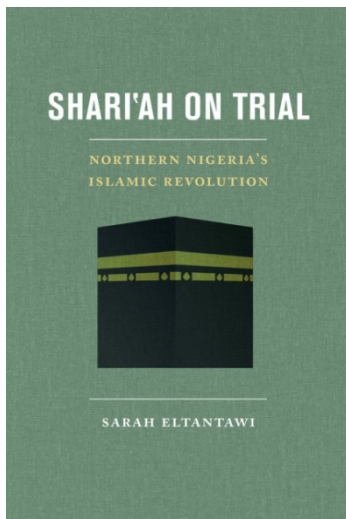




Valdés, Vanessa K. *Diasporic Blackness: The Life and Times of Arturo Alfonso Schomburg*. Albany, New York: State University of New York Press, 2017, pp. 192, ISBN: 978-1-4384-6513-5.

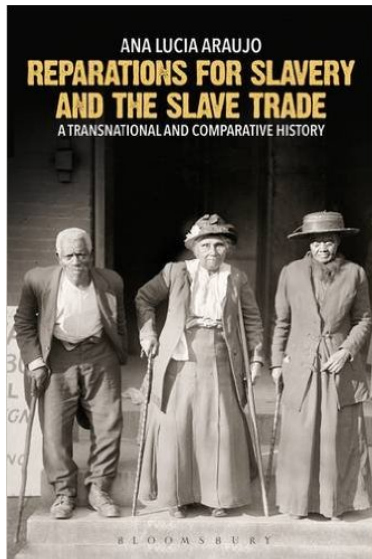
This book examines the life of Arturo Alfonso Schomburg through the lens of both Blackness and *latinidad*. *Schomburg was* a Puerto Rican-born scholar of African heritage who was a well-known collector and archivist whose personal library was the basis of the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture at the New York Public Library. He was an autodidact who matched wits with university-educated men and women, as well as a prominent Freemason, a writer, and an institution-builder. While he spent much of his life in New York City, Schomburg was intimately involved in the cause of Cuban and Puerto Rican independence. In the aftermath of the Spanish-Cuban-American War of 1898, he would go on to cofound the Negro Society for

Historical Research and lead the American Negro Academy, all the while collecting and assembling books, prints, pamphlets, articles, and other ephemera produced by Black men and women from across the Americas and Europe. His curated library collection at the New York Public Library emphasized the presence of African peoples and their descendants throughout the Americas and would serve as an indispensable resource for the luminaries of the Harlem Renaissance, including Langston Hughes and Zora Neale Hurston. Thus, this work offer a sustained look at the life of one of the most important figures of early twentieth-century New York City in the first book-length examination of Schomburg's life to suggests new ways of understanding the intersections of Blackness and *latinidad*. The author is an Associate Professor of Spanish and Portuguese at the City College of New York, City University of New York.



Eltantawi, Sarah. *Shari'ah on Trial: Northern Nigeria's Islamic Revolution*. Oakland, CA: University of California Press, 2017, pp. 272, ISBN: 9780520293786.

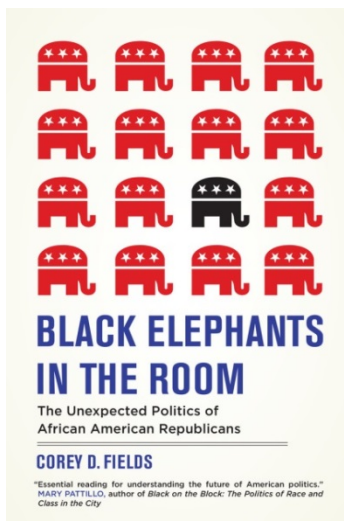
This work is an account of how Northern Nigerians reached a point of desperation that they demanded the return of the strictest possible shari'ah law, and thus, analyzes changing conceptions of Islamic theology and practice as well as Muslim and British interactions dating back to the colonial period to explain the resurgence of shari'ah, with implications for Muslim-majority countries around the world. The author is an Assistant Professor of Comparative Religion at Evergreen State College.



Araujo, Ana Lucia. *Reparations for Slavery and the Slave Trade: A Transnational and Comparative History*. New York: Bloomsbury Academic, 2017, pp.256, 135001060X.

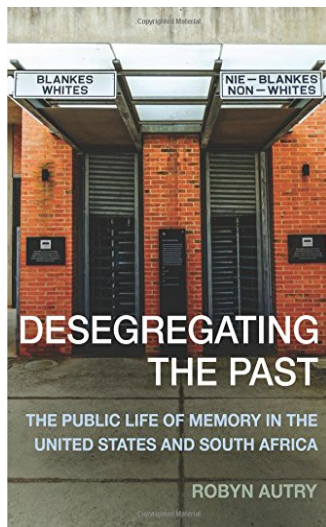
This book presents a narrative history of the demands of financial, material, and symbolic reparations for slavery and the European Atlantic slave trade. It explores written primary sources in several languages, including abolitionist pamphlets, parliamentary debates, petitions by the former enslaved, newspaper articles, congressional bills, as well as public discourses by Black activists and politicians in Europe, Africa, and the Americas. The book draws from a transnational approach, associating social and cultural history, in order to grasp a transatlantic system that interconnected three continents for more than three hundred years. The various chapters examine the multiple dimensions of the demands of financial, material, and symbolic reparations,

including the period of slavery, the emancipation era, the post-abolition period, and the present. In retrospect, slavery and the European Atlantic slave trade are among the most heinous crimes against humanity committed in the modern era. Yet, to this day no former slave society in the Americas has paid reparations to former the enslaved or their descendants. European countries have never compensated their former colonies in the Americas, whose wealth relied on slave labor, to a greater or lesser extent. And likewise, no African nation ever obtained any form of reparations for the European Atlantic slave trade. By focusing on the voices of various social actors who identified themselves as the victims of the European Atlantic slave trade and slavery, this book shows why the demands of reparations have been emphasized or dismissed in public debates held in former slave societies. The author is a Professor of History at Howard University.



Fields, Corey D. *Black Elephants in the Room: The Unexpected Politics of African American Republicans*. Oakland, CA: University of California Press, 2016, pp. 29, ISBN: 9780520291904.

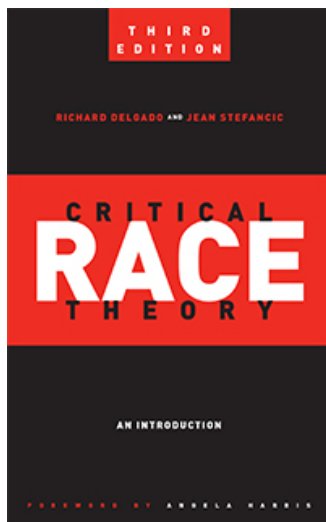
This book considers how race structures the political behavior of African American Republicans and discusses the dynamic relationship between race and political behavior in the purported “post-racial” context of US politics. Drawing on vivid first-person accounts, the book sheds light on the different ways Black identity structures African Americans' membership in the Republican Party, and the importance of understanding both the meanings African Americans attach to racial identity and the political contexts in which meanings are developed and expressed.



Autry, Robyn. *Desegregating the Past: The Public Life of Memory in the United States and South Africa*. New York, NY: Columbia University Press, 2017, pp.272, ISBN: 0231177585

In this work the author consults museum archives, conducts interviews with staff, and recounts the public and private battles fought over the creation and content of history museums. Despite vast differences in the development of South African and U.S. society, a common set of ideological, political, economic, and institutional dilemmas arising out of the selective reconstruction of the past are found. Hence, the book argues that the scale at which violent racial pasts have been incorporated into South African national historical narratives is lacking and considers why this is the case by tracking the production and display of historical representations of racial pasts at museums in both countries and what it reveals about underlying social anxieties, unsettled emotions, and aspirations surrounding

contemporary social fault lines around race.



Delgado, Richard and Jean Stefancic (foreword by Angela Harris). *Critical Race Theory: An Introduction*. New York, NY: New York University Press, 2017, pp. 224, ISBN: 9781479802760.

Since the publication of the first edition of *Critical Race Theory* in 2001, the U.S. has lived through two economic downturns, an outbreak of terrorism, and the onset of an epidemic of hate directed against immigrants, especially undocumented Latinos and Middle Eastern people. On a more hopeful note, the country elected and re-elected its first Black president and has witnessed the impressive advance of gay rights. As a field, critical race theory has taken note of all these developments, and this primer does so as well; it covers a range of emerging new topics and events, and addresses the rise of a fierce wave of criticism from right-wing websites, think tanks, and foundations, some of which insist that America is now colorblind and

has little use for racial analysis and study. Thus, this work argues that critical race theory is essential for understanding developments in this burgeoning field of study, as this third edition also covers how other societies and disciplines adapt its teachings. Richard Delgado is the John J. Sparkman Chair of Law at the University of Alabama; Jean Stefancic is Professor and Clement Research Affiliate at the University of Alabama, and Angela Harris is a Distinguished Professor of Law at the University of California Davis School of Law.





da Cruz , Domingos. *Angola Amordaçada: A Imprensa ao Serviço do Autoritarismo*, 2016, pp.160 [Português], ISBN: 9789897022289.

This work explores freedom of expression and the press in Angola, within the scope of democratization as the center of its debate, laying emphasis on the relationship that has been established between government and public press. The starting point of the research is the contributions of liberal political philosophy about the concepts of democracy, freedom of expression and press, and other related facilities, within the democratization process in Angola. It is dedicated to Norberto Bobbio's ideas about liberal democracy, especially the limits of power, individual rights as the key to understanding the relationship between citizens and representatives, pluralism, constitutional contract, the State as a lesser evil, equality, tolerance etc. It relates Bobbio's theoretical contributions with John Stuart Mill's, Maia Rousiley's and Jürgen Habermas' to highlight the place that freedom of expression and press occupies in the democratic regime, identifying their functions. Part of the contributions of political philosophy and legal liberals about the freedoms of expression and press was molded on the Public International Law and International Law of Human Rights, with a strong presence of the international community. Therefore, it is another reference that serves as a barometer for this work to evaluate how Angola is situated in this respect. This review focuses on the analysis of a variety of barriers to such freedoms, also observed by national and international institutions that are engaged with the issue of press freedom.