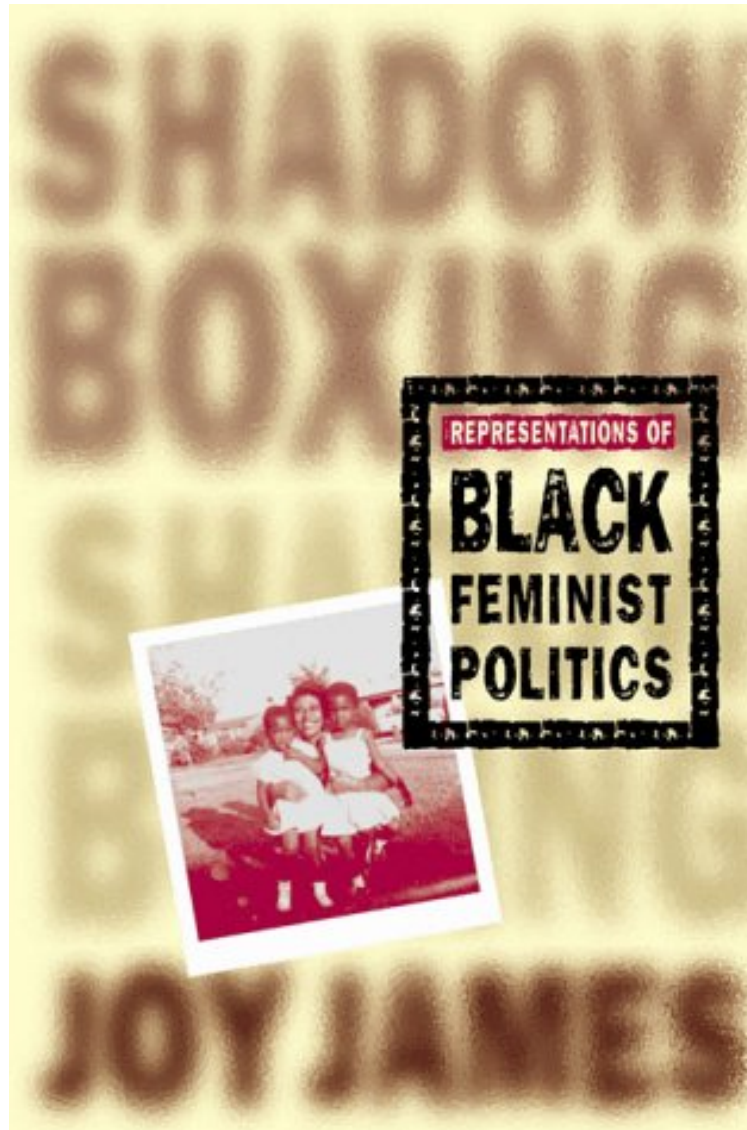


(Download) Shadowboxing: Representations of Black Feminist Politics

Shadowboxing: Representations of Black Feminist Politics

Joy James

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language:EnglishPDF # 1 .88 x 5.82 x 8.551, #File Name: 0312220707240 pages | File size: 46.Mb

Joy James : Shadowboxing: Representations of Black Feminist Politics before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Shadowboxing: Representations of Black Feminist Politics:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A POLITICAL COMMENTARY FROM A FAMOUS BLACK FEMINIST PHILOSOPHERBy Steven H ProppJoy James is Visiting Professor/John B. and John T. McCoy Presidential Professor of the Humanities and College Professor in Political Science at Williams College. She has also written books such as Transcending the Talented Tenth: Black Leaders and American Intellectuals, Resisting State

Violence: Radicalism, Gender, and Race in U.S. Culture, and Spirit, Space and Survival: African American Women in (White) Academe (White Academe). She states in the "Acknowledgements" section of this 1999 book, "Shadowboxing is one of many works refracting 'official' or state politics. Although its author is represented as an individual writer, its insights come from many political and cultural workers." Here are some quotations from the book: "Shadowboxing stands as something of an anomaly in mainstream social and political thought, as well as in black feminist thought. Its discussions seek to unmask political dominance and the limits of liberalism or civil rights advocacy. The book highlights black women's challenges to state power and antiradicalism within conventional politics and within feminist and antiracist politics, as well as describes how cultural stereotypes obscure political agency." (Pg. 8) "Racist and state violence and exploitation as 'public' overshadow the 'private' violence and exploitation within black families in antiracist rhetoric and organizing." (Pg. 68) "Black feminist liberation ideology challenges state power by addressing class exploitation, racism, nationalism, and sexual violence with critiques of and activist confrontations with corporate-state policies." (Pg. 83) "Blacks share with gays and prostitutes the stereotypes of being 'naturally' and primarily sexual. In fetishized representations, they are all aberrational beings who court their own abuse." (Pg. 140) "The walls built by isolationist discourse cause black women who refuse to bind to identities polarized as either 'black' or 'female' to be accused of gender or racial venality." (Pg. 185)

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. ... AS
 THOUGH MORE COULD HAVE BEEN SAID ABOUT AN AMAZING GROUP OF BLACK WOMEN
 By Larry Derain Hicks
 I FELT AS THOUGH MORE COULD HAVE BEEN SAID ABOUT AN AMAZING GROUP OF
 BLACK WOMEN. LARRY HICKS

Shadowboxing presents an explosive analysis of the history and practice of black feminism, drawing upon political theory, history, and cultural studies in a sweeping interdisciplinary work. Joy James charts new territory by synthesizing theories of social movements with cultural and identity politics. She brings into the spotlight images of black female agency and intellectualism in radical and anti-radical political contexts, challenging us to rethink our understanding of the changing African presence in American culture. From a comparative look at Ida B. Wells, Ella Baker, Angela Davis, and Assata Shakur to analyses of the black woman in white cinema and the black man in feminist coalitions, James focuses attention on the invisible or the forgotten. Shadowboxing convincingly demonstrates how images of powerful women are either consigned to oblivion or transformed into icons robbed of intellectual power. This daringly original study honors and analyzes the work of black activists and intellectuals and, along the way, redefines the sharp divide between intellectual work and political movements.

From Library Journal
 Using many of the same historical figures found in *Transcending the Talented Tenth* (LJ 11/1/96), James (ethnic studies, Univ. of Colorado at Boulder) rejects the liberalism of conventional black feminism for a radical agenda, which, in the tradition of black feminists Ella Baker and Ida B. Wells, targets capitalism and the state as perpetrators of race, class, and gender oppression. Their legacy of radicalism and activism is juxtaposed to the black feminist praxis and thought of Angela Davis, Assata Shakur, and Elaine Brown. This book successfully demonstrates that black feminism is authentically rooted in the black community. Especially enlightening is James's discussion on "distinctions between black men championing black females as patriarchal protectors and black men championing feminism to challenge sexism." An interdisciplinary and well-analyzed representation of radical black women fighting for rights and visibility. Recommended for women's studies, African American studies, or political collections.
 ASherri Barnes, Long Island Univ. Lib., Brooklyn Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.
 "Remarkable...James reveals a radical tradition that could free us all." - Robin D. G. Kelley
 "With the publication of *Shadowboxing*...Joy James is poised to become a major figure among contemporary black intellectuals." - Mark Anthony Neal, Washington Post Book World
 "A provocative look at the dynamics of race, gender, and radicalism." - Ebony
 "An interdisciplinary and well-analyzed representation of radical black women fighting for rights and visibility." - Library Journal
 From the Publisher
 "Joy James's new book demonstrates how seeing the world's major issues from a black feminist perspective yields new ways of knowing, not only for the academic world but for those of us who are still on the ground. If you want progressive change that can guide you to new ways of thinking/acting, that is *Shadowboxing*." --Barbara Christian
 "This is one of the fundamental intellectual books of our time. A book that is to be read, reread not only for the 'herstory' but for what the book becomes: an historical document that informs, questions, redefines our thinking about issues too serious to be trivialized in non-visionary language. An extraordinary book." --Sonia Sanchez
 "Professor James is indeed a joy to behold! With this book, she rightfully takes her place as one of our nation's most brilliant social critics and feminist theorists." --Michael Eric Dyson
 "As Marx tells us, to be radical is to go to the roots. As Joy James's remarkable book shows us, to find true revolutionaries we must enter the shadows, that difficult semi-visible place where radical, antiracist feminists fight multiple battles at once. Shrouded in reactionary racial, gender, and sexual representations, these radical black women face attacks from all sides--from the racial state to their self-proclaimed allies. James's courageous jousting, however, rips these representations to shreds and reveals a radical tradition that could free us all." --Robin D. G. Kelley, author of *Yo' Mama's DisFunktional!*

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