



Invisible Jim Crow: Contemporary Ideological Threats to the Internal Security of African Americans

By Michael Tillotson

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Unlike previous epochs in the United States, African Americans are not constantly reminded of inequality by fire hoses, attack dogs, lynchings, state sanctioned mob violence and various forms of overt de facto and de jure racial structuring. Because of this, the everyday human events surrounding African American life does not foster a critical consciousness of the enduring contradictions still present in contemporary American society. *Invisible Jim Crow* explores the dominative ideological frameworks in the U.S. from 1980-2007. Starting with an examination of the racialized social, political and economic climate ushered in by the Ronald Reagan administration, the book investigates the late 20th century Republican Revolution and its ideas concerning activist conservatism. The author makes plain the operational framework of this movement and its lingering impact on African Americans in the 21st century. Using an African-centered lens, *Invisible Jim Crow* examines the contemporary influence of the anti-egalitarian elements leading up to the unveiling of Contract with America and the political agenda of the 104th congress. The book explores the neo-liberal/neo-conservative alliance and its strategic use of race and taxes to set the climate for the racialization of welfare reform and the criminalization of anti-poverty programs. The book lays bare the underpinnings of radical conservative ideologies and their influence on the life chances and opportunities of African Americans.

Invisible Jim Crow investigates the role of contemporary public discourse and the creation of discursive communities, specifically as they pertain to the speculation of post-racialism in the public sphere. The book maintains that understanding the role of public discourse and the creation of discursive communities is vital to understanding ideological domination and its impact on African Americans. The book challenges new developments in Black forms of Christianity to determine if they best serve the interests of African Americans. Looking specifically at the so-called Word Church phenomenon, the book illuminates the drawbacks of this theological idea and exposes its danger to collective African American efforts at human agency. This work investigates the contemporary effects of the imposition of the European worldview on the lives of African Americans. The book

maintains that the imposition of the European worldview, which is imposed on African Americans through the operational ethos of American culture, has shifted the intra-racial social landscape of African Americans. *Invisible Jim Crow* introduces the Doctrine of Wellness of Being as a Sankofan retrieval system designed to re-focus and return African Americans back to their original worldview constructs.

"Nothing can keep me away from announcing this book as one of the best treatments of domination in contemporary times." -- Molefi Kete Asante

"Tillotson's critique is sobering" -- Lewis Gordon

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Editorial Review

About the Author

Michael Tillotson is a graduate of Indiana University in Bloomington where he earned his A.A. and B.A. He holds the M.A. in Africana Studies from the State University of New York at Albany. He is a 2008 graduate of Temple University's department of African American Studies where he received his Ph.D. His articles have appeared in the leading scholarly journals in the field of African American Studies: *The Journal of Black Studies*, *Africalogical Perspectives*, *The Journal of Pan African Studies*, *The Journal of African American Studies* and the *Quarterly Review at the Institute of Race and Social Thought*. His current research agenda centers on the intersection of anti-egalitarian ideologies and their influence on the contemporary intra-racial social landscape of African Americans.

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