

Annotated Table of Contents: *Redefining Black Power*

Foreword

By Brian De Shazor

The Redefining Black Power Project was born in the vaults of the Pacifica Radio Archives, the oldest public radio collection in the United States. Director Brian De Shazor shares how the voice of activist Fannie Lou Hamer laid the foundation for the Pacifica Radio Archives and City Lights Books collaboration.

Introduction

By Joanne Griffith

In the opening pages of *Redefining Black Power*, international journalist Joanne Griffith outlines the key questions addressed by the book's contributors, offers some historical context to the project, and provides her own insights into the global impact of the Obama presidency.

1: The Movement for the Expansion and Deepening of Democracy in America:

A Conversation of Context with Dr. Vincent Harding

With a wisdom and clarity that only comes with years of presence on the front line of change, Dr. Vincent Harding, a historian, scholar, activist and speechwriter for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., outlines the fundamentals of democracy and what the election of President Obama really means to activists who walked alongside Dr. King.

2. What about the Brother at the Bottom of the Well?

Law in the Age of Obama with Professor Michelle Alexander

Drawing on research from her seminal work, *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Color Blindness*, legal scholar and activist, Professor Michelle Alexander examines the past, present and future impact of the prison system on African American society.

3. Dollars and Sense? Race, Recession and Recovery:

Racial equality and economic parity with Dr. Julianne Malveaux

With record levels of poverty and unemployment among African Americans, economist and President of Bennett College, Dr. Julianne Malveaux analyzes the economic inequalities that exist across black America and the challenges facing African American leaders to close the financial divide.

4. Barack Obama: The New Crack?

A Story of Revolution with Ramona Africa

Defining herself as a "revolutionary," Ramona Africa, communication minister for the Philadelphia based MOVE movement, offers an alternative view on the Obama presidency, as someone who chooses to exist outside the democratic process.

5. Probing the President: The Media's Paralysis of Analysis?

Race, the press and the White House with Linn Washington, Jr.

The media's role as a political watchdog has been challenged during the Obama presidency according to veteran journalist, Linn Washington, Jr. *The Philadelphia Tribune* columnist opines on the challenges facing news organizations as they cover race-related stories and the future problems being created by a lack of critical analysis of President Obama's policies.

6. It Matters What Needs to be Done:

Politics and Green Activism with Van Jones

An activist with an insight into the Obama White House, Rebuild the Dream movement co-founder and president, Van Jones discusses the responsibility of individuals in building a stronger, more equal society for African Americans against the backdrop of the financial crisis.

7. A Quiet Victory for Emotional Justice:

The First Family and the African American Psyche with Esther Armah

While President Obama's election is historic, the presence of First Lady Michelle Obama along with daughters Malia and Sasha offer the world another perspective of the African American family. Author and playwright, Esther Armah examines the emotional impact of the Obama family and the changing face of black womanhood.

Going Forward

By Joanne Griffith

The first conversations for the Redefining Black Power project began in April 2009, just months after President Obama's inauguration. In this final chapter, editor Joanne Griffith outlines the fresh questions sparked by discussions with the book's contributors and how the Occupy movement and global uprisings in 2011 mark the beginning of a new wave of activism.