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Alecia D. Hoffman
Clark Atlanta University

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Editorial Remarks
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Riots and Rebirth: The Role of Policy Sciences in Addressing Disparities in Health Care

Samuel L. Brown and RaJade Berry-James

In the past 40 years, there has been considerable progress in approaching social equity in civil rights, housing, education, and income, but health care inequalities persist. In this paper we take the position that policy sciences, as developed by Harold D. Lasswell and his colleagues, offers both hope and promise of achieving social equity in health for African Americans. A broader approach, incorporating multiple disciplines, is needed to bridge the gap over the original vision of this discipline and the actual practice over the past 50 years. Policies designed to address health care disparities would benefit from both rational and less-rational approaches to describe and motivate provider behavior.

A Dream Deferred: The Politics of Race in America

Dewey Clayton

In 1968, the Kerner Commission concluded that “our nation is moving toward two societies: one black, one white, separate and unequal. Subsequent efforts to improve race relations in this country have had mixed results. Opposition to busing has caused the re-segregation of our public schools. There is a growing economic rift that exists today not just among blacks and whites but also between upwardly mobile blacks and indigent blacks.

East Asian Discrimination in Supreme Court Cases: How Yesterday’s Biases Affect Race Relations Today

Frank Fuller

The Supreme Court often combats racial discrimination, with shifting groups being targeted as the scapegoat. East Asians have encountered discrimination during the 19th and 20th century, especially with the passage of the 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act. A Japanese American by the name of Ozawa challenged the “whiteness” notion, while another, Yasui, fought involuntary detainment. Present parallels exist towards the treatment of African Americans; discrimination poisons America’s psyche.
Statement of Purpose

In decades characterized by the complete atrophy of all struggle from the sixties and the defection of most of the former participants, the principal questions must be why? What has happened consistently to denature and distort incipiently progressive impulses that appear among black people?

Endarch, as its name would suggest, identifies with motion. Not any haphazard or desultory movement, but movement that is conscious of its origins and destinations. As an embodiment of aggregate but mutually consistent perspectives, this journal seeks to reflect, analyze, and generate activity, which will ultimately lead toward the expansion, clarification, and solidification of black political thought.

The conscious nature of movement is derived from a clear social and analytic methodology. An approach, which views the world as a totality, but also diaphanously understands that the components comprising this world are not of equal importance. With this in mind, and given black people’s historical grounding in oppression and exploitation, Endarch sees of paramount importance those phenomena and groups of phenomena which operate in a system of oppression and exploitation. Recognition of such phenomena must lead to a discernment of those vital elements, the crucial essences of which define and condition the world. Our purpose is to expose those essences and through this explication illuminate the totality from the vantage point of a specific oppressed people. Such is the task of a conscious and critical black political thought imbued with the task of defining the black experience in politics. It is toward this goal that we aim.
The Fall 2008 issue of *Endarch: Journal of Black Political Research* is the continuation of a long tradition of the scholarly publication, which began with the commencement of the doctoral program in the Department of Political Science at Atlanta University, now, Clark Atlanta University.

This publication is a vehicle that was created and has been maintained by the faculty and students of the Department of Political Science. Its goal is to examine, critique, and analyze issues that affect individuals of the African Diaspora. Moreover, *Endarch* provides a space for the intellectual assessment of pertinent questions, which have been overlooked, though not intentionally, in the traditional mainstream scholarly publications.

The Fall 2008 edition of *Endarch* contains articles that reflect on the theme of the 40th anniversary of the 1968 Kerner Commission Report. The Kerner Report was a document released after a seven month long investigation, conducted by the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders, which was appointed under the administration of President Lyndon Baines Johnson. The commission was charged with the responsibility of investigating the rash of urban riots, which plagued America’s urban centers, beginning in 1965. Furthermore, the committee analyzed the instigating factors that led to the disturbances and the deteriorating racial climate of that decade. Of important note, were the locales in which these disturbances took place; predominantly African-American sectors of Los Angeles, California; Chicago, Illinois; and Newark, New Jersey. The findings of the report indicated that there were indeed underlying racial divisions in the country that warranted correction through the implementation of federal initiatives that would improve the areas of education, employment and public services, and housing for African Americans in urban areas throughout the United States. One of the famous statements of the report was, the country “was moving towards two societies, one black one white—separate and unequal.”

The findings of the Kerner Report are now forty years old and the articles contained in this issue of *Endarch* reflect on the major questions raised by the original conclusions of the Kerner Report of 1968. As the name *Endarch* identifies with motion, so too did the analyses and findings of the Kerner Commission in its investigation of the disturbances in urban centers of America. The investigative analysis offered by the committee was one that traced the movement of the riots from the provenience to the prescriptions. Just as the name *Endarch* describes movement that is conscious of its originations and destinations, the articles contained herein seek to analyze the implications of the Kerner Commission Report at its 40th anniversary.

“Riots and Rebirth: The Role of Policy Sciences in Addressing Disparities in Health Care,” authored by Samuel L. Brown and RaJade M. Berry-James, examines areas that were overlooked by the initial report issued by the Kerner Commission. Although the Kerner Commission Report provided prescriptions for inequalities in housing, public services and education, the dissimilitude in the provision of adequate healthcare is still pervasive in American society. The authors critique the writings of well-known scholars in the field of policy sciences and a variety of other disciplines and offer prescriptions to address the health care crisis in the United States.

“A Dream Deferred: The Politics of Race in America,” penned by Dewey Clayton, offers insight into how the race divide is not just between blacks and whites as once seen in decades past but, now between lower income blacks and upwardly mobile blacks. He also examines the shift from
Frank Fuller offers a timely and interesting examination of Supreme Court cases and their relative impact on race relations in America. In his article, “East Asian Discrimination in Supreme Court Cases: How Yesterday’s Biases Affect Race Relations Today,” an analysis is given of United States legislation and decisions handed down from cases heard by the United States Supreme Court throughout the 19th and 20th centuries. In his article, Mr. Fuller offers interesting parallels between African Americans and Asian Americans in their struggle for equal rights in the United States. Moreover, he examines the cyclical patterns in American history relative to discrimination and how various ethnic groups have been targeted during different epochs.

The authors’ contributions to this issue are greatly appreciated and we would like to thank you, the reader, for taking the time to enjoy and gain insight from this publication. In addition we would like to thank the staff of the Robert Woodruff Library at the Atlanta University Center for all of their hard work and assistance in making this revival of Endarch possible and bringing us into the 21st century digital communications. Special thanks are in order to Ms. Elizabeth Gail McClenney, Deputy Director of the Robert Woodruff Library, for her time, vision and suggestions of making this project a digital one; Ms. Trashida Wright and Ms. Suteera Apichatabutra of the Robert Woodruff Library for their time, suggestions, and scanning of the final document and preparing it for upload to the World Wide Web; Berkley Electronic Press; Mr. Kwasi Obeng for offering and providing assistance with the reading of manuscripts; various professors and department chairs around the country who advertised the Call for Papers for Endarch at their respective institutions; previous editors and staff of Endarch, who provided the vision and perpetuity for this publication; and the and graduate students within the department of political science who answered queries about the journal from interested callers.

Alecia D. Hoffman

Endarch: Journal of Black Political Research
About the Authors

Riots and Rebirth: The Role of Policy Sciences in Addressing Disparities in Health Care

**Samuel L. Brown**
Samuel L. Brown, Ph.D. currently serves as the Director of the Masters of Public Administration Program in the School of Public Affairs at the University of Baltimore. In addition, he is a tenured associate professor and senior fellow to the William Donald Schafer Center for Public Policy in the School of Public Affairs, Yale Gordon College of Liberal Arts at the University of Baltimore.

**RaJade Berry-James**
RaJade M. Berry-James, Ph.D. is a tenured associate professor and a research associate at the Institute for Health and Social Policy at the University of Akron.

A Dream Deferred: The Politics of Race in America

**Dewey Clayton**
Dewey M. Clayton, Ph.D., is a Professor of Political Science at the University of Louisville. He is the author of one book, *African Americans and the Politics of Congressional Redistricting*, and numerous articles. His primary research interests are congressional politics, civil rights, and the politics of race. He received his Ph.D. in political science from the University of Missouri-Columbia in 1995.

East Asian Discrimination in Supreme Court Cases: How Yesterday’s Biases Affect Race Relations Today

**Frank Fuller**
Frank Fuller is currently a Ph.D. student in Political Science at Clark Atlanta University, specializing in International Relations and Comparative Politics in East Asia.