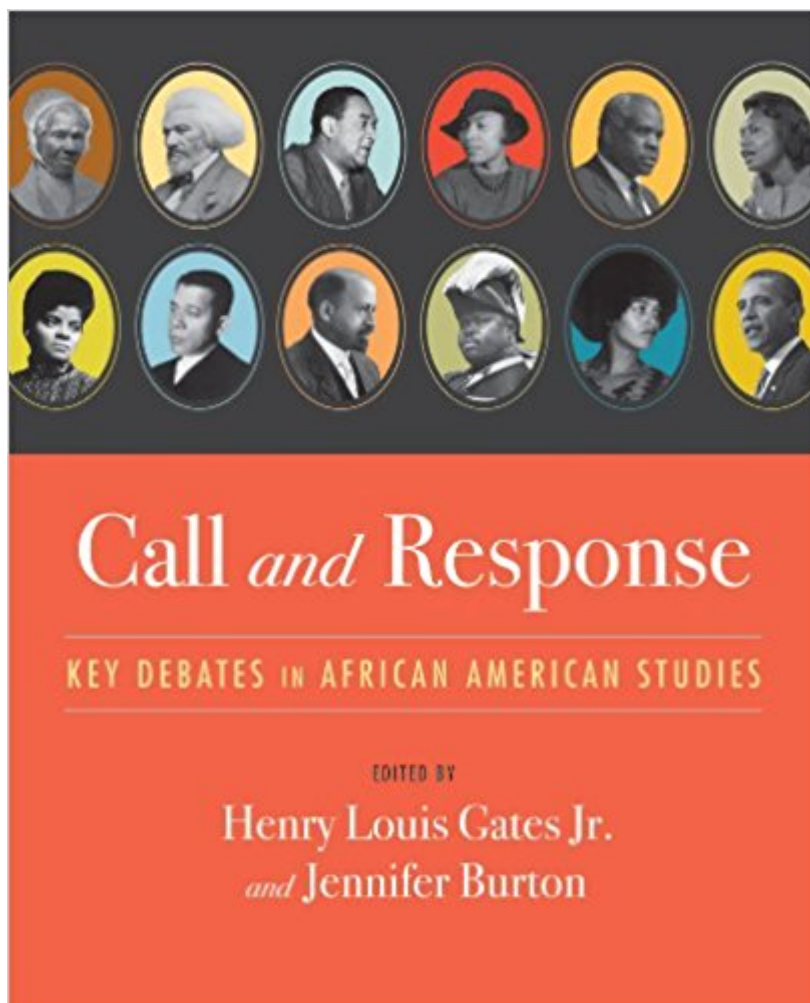


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Call And Response: Key Debates In African American Studies



Synopsis

Class-tested by Henry Louis Gates Jr. in his groundbreaking course, *Call and Response* is an innovative core reader for African American Studies. Unprecedented in scope and approach, this primary-text reader offers a fresh and flexible framework for exploring signal issues of the black experience in the United States. With voices ranging from Phillis Wheatley in the late eighteenth century to Barack Obama in the twenty-first, *Call and Response* presents multiple perspectives on key controversies that probe the fundamental relationship between race and democracy.

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Customer Reviews

This collection is one of the best collections of African American discourse that have probably ever been collected, but I have one complaint. It does not include enough aspects of the debate within the African community on Africa, especially during Part V, the section on the Civil Rights Movement. In Part III, on the Great Migration and Black Renaissance, it mentions Garvey's Back to Africa movement and the emergence of the Pan-African movement with WEB Du Bois' conferences. In Part IV, it also doesn't mention the incredible response, both for and against, of the African American community to the 1935 Italian invasion of Ethiopia, which at that time was the last remaining independent African nation. If anything, African American interest in Africa increased during the civil rights movement as African nations gained their independence from colonialism during the 1950s and 1960s. In 1957, Ghana achieved its independence and Kwame Nkrumah invited African Americans to emigrate to his new nation and many took him up on his offer. African

Americans reacted to the assassination of Patrice Lumumba in the Congo in 1961. Here is one of the famous lines from Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s, 1963 "Letter from Birmingham Jail," "The nations of Asia and Africa are moving with jetlike speed toward gaining political independence, but we still creep at horse-and-buggy pace toward gaining a cup of coffee at a lunch counter." While the letter is included, it is not placed within the context of King's anti-colonialism and transnational connections to Africa. King was also very active in the anti-apartheid movement.

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