

CONTENTS

Preface	xi
Acknowledgments	xvii

Part One

THE SOCIAL CONSTRUCTION OF BLACK FEMINIST THOUGHT

Chapter 1	
THE POLITICS OF BLACK FEMINIST THOUGHT	3
Chapter 2	
DEFINING BLACK FEMINIST THOUGHT	19

Part Two

CORE THEMES IN BLACK FEMINIST THOUGHT

Chapter 3	
WORK, FAMILY, AND BLACK WOMEN'S OPPRESSION	43
Chapter 4	
MAMMIES, MATRIARCHS, AND OTHER CONTROLLING IMAGES	67
Chapter 5	
THE POWER OF SELF-DEFINITION	91
Chapter 6	
BLACK WOMEN AND MOTHERHOOD	115
Chapter 7	
RETHINKING BLACK WOMEN'S ACTIVISM	139
Chapter 8	
THE SEXUAL POLITICS OF BLACK WOMANHOOD	163
Chapter 9	
SEXUAL POLITICS AND BLACK WOMEN'S RELATIONSHIPS	181

Part Three

BLACK FEMINISM AND EPISTEMOLOGY

Chapter 10	
TOWARD AN AFROCENTRIC FEMINIST EPISTEMOLOGY	201

Chapter II**KNOWLEDGE, CONSCIOUSNESS, AND THE POLITICS OF EMPOWERMENT**

221

References

239

About the Author

257

Index

259

INDEX

- Abuse 186–9, 231
- Adams, Annie 28
- Affirmative action 76
- African-American community 59, 65, 228
- African-American culture 12, 16, 212–13
 - dance 88
 - music 88, 99, 100, 103, 113, 202, 215
 - spirituality 40
- African-American institutions 85, 95, 118
 - church 86–7, 95–6, 114, 133, 146, 151–3, 211, 216, 217, 219, 223
 - colleges 87
 - education 147
- African-Americans, social class 24, 59, 160
 - middle-class 24, 59–62, 65, 92, 153, 160
 - working-class 24, 59–65
- Africans 49, 121, 144, 168, 172, 206, 212, 220
- Afrocentric aesthetics
 - and resistance 88, 99, 113
 - feminist aesthetic 88, 113
- Afrocentric feminist worldview 13, 107, 111, 222–3
 - consciousness 5, 19, 24–6, 30–2, 34–5, 96, 104, 110–11, 118, 144, 207
 - epistemology 5, 17, 113, 201, 206–8, 217, 219, 230–3
 - womanist ethics 107, 197
- Afrocentric worldview 8, 10, 26, 27, 47, 144, 146, 206, 209–10, 212, 231
- Age 22, 225–8
- Agents of knowledge, Black women 230
- Agricultural work 45, 53, 55, 110
- AIDS 135
- Aid to Families with Dependent Children 59, 63, 76
- Ain't I a Woman* 29
- A Measure of Time* 85, 176
- Angelou, Maya 80, 96, 109, 176
- Animals 69, 76, 167, 170–2, 177–8, 225
- A Raisin in the Sun* 74
- Asante, Molefi 212
- Autonomy 145, 159, 214
- A Voice from the South* 147
- Baker, Ella 8, 120–1, 157–8
- Bambara, Toni Cade 84, 97, 183, 229
- Bartmann, Sarah 168–9, 171–2, 175
- Bates, Daisy 103
- Beale, Frances 185
- Beauty, standards of 78–80, 88, 126, 189, 192, 228
- Beloved* 97, 181
- Bethune, Mary McLeod 5, 147, 150
- Biological determinism 20, 170–1, 173, 178, 195
- Biology and race 26, 50
- Birth control 163
- Black adolescents 64–5, 82, 120, 126, 134, 163, 231
- Black children 51, 74, 82, 121–2, 129–31, 135, 137, 223
- Black English 88, 213, 232
- Black female spheres of influence 141–3, 146–7, 223
- Black feminism 13, 20–1, 32, 36–7, 108, 195, 218
- Black feminist literary criticism 18, 31, 102, 118
- Black feminist thought 5, 117, 158, 202
 - as specialized knowledge 30, 201–2
 - definition of 15–16, 19, 22
 - suppression of 5, 9, 11, 25, 203
- Black grandmothers 64–5, 119, 122, 125, 129, 132
- Black lesbians 24, 61, 74, 84–5, 102, 128, 192–4

Black Macho and the Myth of the Superwoman 9

Black men 33, 35, 50, 53, 55, 61–2, 78–9, 98, 108, 116, 121, 170, 173, 183, 217, 223

Black women, roles

- blues singers 100–1, 108–9, 183, 231
- filmmakers 114
- intellectuals 3–4, 12, 15, 30–1, 33–5, 44, 55, 71, 74, 92, 103, 113, 184, 187–8, 202–4, 209, 213, 222, 227–9, 231, 233, 235–6
- professionals 24, 60–1, 65, 71, 153
- writers 31, 83, 94, 98, 102–4, 112, 127, 130, 176, 193, 213, 216, 228

Black women's activities

- activism 31, 131, 139–42, 156, 224, 230
- blues tradition 102, 112, 216, 228
- bodies 51, 72, 164, 168, 171–2, 175
- community 143, 218
- creativity 127, 136
- diversity among 23, 65, 211
- the economy 5, 44, 56, 63
- education 4–5, 92, 130–1, 147–9, 151
- feminism 29, 156
- friendships 97, 193
- history 18, 31, 209
- lack of protection 54, 124, 126, 135
- leadership 34, 71, 153, 156, 159
- legacy of struggle 22
- literature 97, 108, 111, 183, 202, 232
- organizations 23, 29–31, 96, 130, 152, 153, 155
- power 5, 86, 118
- religion 208
- self-definitions 79–80, 94, 100, 107, 152
- sisterhood 97–8, 131, 152, 211–12
- socialization 123

Black women's standpoint 5, 11, 15, 21, 26, 33, 94, 143, 147, 157, 159, 186, 202, 219, 231, 233

- core themes 22
- definition of 22, 32

Black women's studies 31, 140, 152, 229

Blaming the victim 178

Bloodmothers 119–22, 128, 146, 222

Blues 99, 104, 126, 185

The Bluest Eye 81, 83–5, 97–8, 176, 186

Bonner, Marita 92–3, 108

Both/and conceptual orientation 29, 31, 113, 143, 161, 166, 184, 186, 207, 221, 225–6, 230, 232

Breeding 51, 167, 178

Brewer, Rose 47

Brooks, Evelyn 87

Brooks, Gwendolyn 14, 80, 82, 111, 137

Brooks, Sara 54, 108, 120, 124, 133–4, 139–40, 145–6, 160, 187

Brown, Elsa Barkley 29, 55, 124, 209, 236

Brown Girl, Brownstones 74, 126

Burnham, Linda 64, 66

Burroughs, Nannie 147

Butler, Johnella 226

Call-and-response tradition 213, 216, 236–7

Campbell, Bebe Moore 96, 119, 122, 125

Cannon, Corine 43

Cannon, Katie 22, 107, 152, 197, 201

Capitalism 20, 44, 50–2, 59, 62, 64, 122, 171, 175

Carby, Hazel 14, 18, 68

Centerwomen 158

Chenzira, Ayoka 114

Child abuse 122

Childbearing 51

Child care 50, 53, 64, 73, 119–22, 125

Childs, John 40

Chisholm, Shirley 38, 109

Chodorow, Nancy 8

The Chosen Place, the Timeless People 84–5

Christian, Barbara 18, 68, 72–3, 89, 94, 111, 116, 193–4

Civil Rights Act of 1964 224

Clarke, Cheryl 19, 36, 165, 193, 198

Clark-Lewis, Elizabeth 56, 70, 176

Clark, Septima 8, 157, 158

Clerical work 61, 62, 158

Coalitions 33, 35–6, 145, 155, 159, 179, 222

Cole, Johnetta 147

Coleman, Willi 125

Collins, Kathleen 114

The Color Purple 98, 112, 163, 176, 186–7, 193

Combahee River Collective 20–1

Commodification 51, 173, 175, 188–9

Community, Afrocentric definitions 52–3, 146, 221, 223–4

Community othermothers 129–31, 136, 147, 157–8, 176, 222

Concrete experience, significance of 93, 208–9, 219, 227

Connected knowers 210, 217

Connectedness 105–6, 111, 131

- and autonomy 214
- and community 223
- and motherhood 211
- as way of knowing 212
- knowledge validation process 212–13
- self with others 112

Consciousness 26, 35, 40, 91, 106, 143, 165, 173, 182, 221, 227

articulation of 26

- Consciousness *contd.*
 defined 39
 importance of changed 88
 sphere of freedom 103, 227
 Constructed knowledge 94, 112–13
 Controlling images 3, 7, 67, 70, 104, 107, 177, 180
 Cooper, Anna Julia 5, 22, 29, 37, 39, 52, 146–7, 149
 Coppin, Fanny Jackson 147–50
 Corregidora 176
 Criminal justice system 5, 62, 178
 Cross-cultural research 224–5
 Cruse, Harold 40
 Cult of true womanhood 50, 54, 71–2, 75, 87, 95, 124, 150, 176, 184
 Cultural workers 143, 147, 149, 223
 Culture, Afrocentric 10, 11–13, 16, 27, 144, 212–13
 Black women's 11–12
 Culture of resistance 12, 18, 44, 51, 87, 95, 142, 147, 182, 226
 Black women's 10, 12, 40, 144, 228
 Daniels, Bonnie 183–4
 Dash, Julie 114
 Davis, Angela 39, 99, 103, 158, 160, 164, 186
 Deconstruction 14–15, 17, 23, 47–8, 71, 93, 140, 156, 188, 205, 210, 224
 Decontextualization in positivism 205
 Deference behavior 56–7, 62, 69, 72–3, 110, 142
 Dessa Rose 85, 190, 216
 DeVeaux, Alexis 104
 Dialectic of oppression and activism 5, 12–13, 46, 95, 118, 237
 Dialogues 36, 213–14, 218, 232, 235–7
 among Black women 102, 117
 and epistemology 218–19
 and knowledge claims 212, 214
 reason and emotion 215–16
 Dickerson, Patrice L. 28, 35
 Difference 35, 69–70
 Dill, Bonnie Thornton 70, 73, 91, 125, 143, 207, 211
 Discrimination 76, 81, 102, 224
 Divorce 59, 115
 Dodson, Jualyne 141
 Domestic violence 164, 177, 187–9, 198, 227, 228, 232
 Domestic work 11, 25, 44–5, 48, 54–5, 63, 69–72, 91, 97, 123–4, 139, 143, 146
 Domination 222, 226–8
 Douglass, Frederick 19
 DuBois, William E. B. 19, 73
 Dumas, Rhetaugh 71
 Dunbar-Nelson, Alice 13
 Dynamic autonomy 114
 Economic exploitation 5, 59, 77, 167
 Economic self-reliance 110, 124, 130, 140, 144, 152
 Edelman, Marian Wright 156
 Education and empowerment 150, 157–8, 214
 Either/or dichotomies
 beautiful/ugly 88
 black/white 68
 culture/nature 68–9, 72, 89, 170, 205
 fact/opinion 68
 good woman/bad woman 176, 195
 male/female 68
 mind/body 69, 72, 170
 public/private 46, 49, 53, 58
 reason/emotion 68, 215, 216
 subject/object 69, 205, 212
 thought/action 35
 Either/or dichotomous thinking 28, 113, 161, 207, 212, 225
 Elaw, Zilpha 208, 218
 Emotions 205, 215–16, 219
 Empathy 210, 215–17, 235
 Empowerment 37, 110, 154, 230
 Epistemological criteria 204, 230
 Epistemology 15, 34
 and dialogue 230
 defined 202
 empathy 230
 Eurocentric masculinist 204–5, 209, 217, 231
 of subordinate groups 207
 Epistemology, choices for volume 202
 Ethic of caring 125, 129, 132, 215
 Ethic of personal accountability 125, 129, 132, 217, 218
 Ethnicity 225, 227
 Eurocentric masculinist worldview 26, 89, 180, 203, 219, 221, 223
 Eva's Man 84
 Everyday knowledge 103, 235, 236
 Everyday resistance 44, 51, 70, 146
 Factory work 57, 61, 144
 Families, African-American 49, 61–3, 87, 95, 119, 129, 146, 165, 211
 fictive kin 120
 income 59
 parenting styles 127–8
 Families, white 46, 48, 72, 75, 87, 212
 Family language 129–31
 Fatherhood 119, 121

- Federal welfare policies 63–4, 76–7
 Feminist theory 7, 9, 34–5, 38, 64, 116, 210, 222
 Feminization of poverty 64, 66
 Fertility 50–1, 72, 75, 77
 Fields, Johnny Mae 92
 Fields, Karen 97, 129, 132
 Fields, Mamie Garvin 97, 129, 136
 Focused education 153–4, 159–60, 230
 Forced sterilization 163
For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide 9, 112, 187
 Franklin, Aretha 108, 110, 112, 216
 Frazier, E. Franklin 73
 Functional beauty 89, 113
- Gender ideology 27, 46, 49, 71, 77
 masculinity 75, 86, 164, 180, 197, 217
 Eurocentric 184–6, 189, 191, 228
 femininity 74–5, 107, 109, 164, 217
 Gender oppression 226, 229
 Gender relations African-Americans 75
 Gilkes, Cheryl 67, 70, 75, 131, 140–1, 152–3, 159
 Gilligan, Carol 8, 219
 Gilman, Sander 169, 194
 Giovanni, Nikki 89, 104, 110, 157, 233
 Golden, Marita 81, 97, 137
 Gomez, Jewelle 77
 Grant, Jacquelyn 87
 Group autonomy versus separatism 35, 38
 Guy, Rosa 85, 176
 Guy-Sheftall, Beverly 19–21
- Hair texture 78, 80, 90, 192, 228
 Hamer, Fannie Lou 39, 183, 189–91, 229
 Hammond, Evelyn 36, 97
 Hansberry, Lorraine 74, 88, 173, 209, 233–4
 Harley, Sharon 18, 149
 Harper, Frances Ellen Watkins 29, 33, 51, 130
 Harris, Trudier 67, 71, 102
 Hegemony 93, 95, 229, 232
 Hernton, Calvin 8–9, 197
 Heterosexuality 164, 193
 Higginbotham, Evelyn Brooks 14
 Hine, Darlene Clark 96
 Holiday, Billie 100–1, 109, 183, 216, 231
 Holliday, Jennifer 183
Home Girls: A Black Feminist Anthology 35
 Homophobia 24, 74, 164, 192–3, 195, 198
 Hooks, Bell 29, 34–5, 38–9, 68–9, 88, 122, 131, 148–9, 212, 226, 233
 “Hottentot Venus” 168, 175
How Capitalism Underdeveloped Black America 9
- Hull, Gloria 13
 Humanism 37, 40, 151, 156, 160, 215, 221, 224
 Hunter, Alberta 99, 183
 Hurston, Zora Neale 5, 13, 25, 43, 85, 174, 188, 214, 229, 231
- Idealist analysis 21, 33
 Ideology and political activism 20, 160
 Ideology of domination 7, 38, 67, 70, 78, 88–9, 93, 95, 107, 139, 144, 171, 223
I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings 96, 109, 176
 Images, Black women and animals 83, 175
 Images of Black womanhood 3, 7, 67, 70
 breeder women 76
 Jezebel 77–8, 81, 93, 105, 146, 170–1, 174, 176, 184, 186, 194
 mammy 76–8, 92–3, 116, 118, 142, 146, 184, 186
 matriarch 76, 78, 92–3, 107, 116–18, 146, 184, 186
 mules 43, 48, 65, 69, 77, 93, 105, 142, 146, 174
 myth of Black rapist 177
 superstrong Black woman 65, 107, 116–17, 128, 132, 188, 232
 welfare mother 76–8, 93, 116, 118, 184
- Incest 177
Incidents in the Life of a Slave Woman 176
 Infertility 51
 Informal adoption 120, 122
 Internalized oppression 12, 81, 83, 104, 144, 165, 167, 179, 186, 227
 International issues 39
 Invisibility 57, 70, 94, 96, 98
Iola Leroy 33, 130
- Jackson, Bessie 100
 Jackson, Mahalia 99
 Jacobs, Harriet 81, 135, 136, 176
 Jim Crow 155
 Johnson, Bonnie 34
 Johnson, Charles 132
 Jones, Gayl 84, 98, 176, 183, 186, 213
 Jordan, June 39, 108, 115, 129, 136, 195, 197, 210, 213, 232–3
 Joseph, Gloria 109
Journal of Negro History 8, 150
 Journey, Black women's 104–6, 112
Jubilee 85
 Justice in Afrocentric thought 197
- King, Amanda 211
 King, Deborah K. 34
 King, Martin Luther Jr. 197

- Knowledge
 and resistance 221
 everyday versus specialized 30
 levels of 30, 227-9
 power 4, 111, 221
 Knowledge claims 203
 Knowledge production, alternative sites 14-15, 202
 Knowledge production, materialist versus idealist 21
 Knowledge validation process 18, 201-4, 218-19

 Labor market segmentation 46, 55, 58, 63, 66, 224
 Ladner, Joyce 25, 64, 134, 209
 Lee, Andrea 191
 Legacy of struggle 12, 23, 27, 38, 141-2, 145, 154, 237
Lemon Swamp and Other Places 97
 "Lift As We Climb" 149, 158, 160
 Literacy 5, 70, 100, 102, 204, 228
The Living Is Easy 84, 111

 Lorde, Audre 26, 71, 91, 93-4, 98, 110, 164-5, 184, 188, 193-4, 196, 229-30
 Love 115, 181-2, 196-7
 "Love and trouble" tradition 183, 188
Loving Her 74, 84, 193
 Lynching 25, 101, 157, 177, 216

 Malveaux, Julianne 39
 Mandela, Winnie 39
 Marable, Manning 9
 Marginalization 11-13, 36, 59, 62, 103, 219, 229, 232-3
 Marriage 51, 54, 61, 77, 84, 130, 133
 Marshall, Paule 74, 84-5, 105, 126-7
 Martin, Sara 101
 Marxist social thought 69, 207, 235
 Maternal desertion 128
 Maternal love 127
 Matriarchy thesis 52, 73-4, 86, 106
 Matrix of domination 222, 225-7, 229-30, 234, 236-7
Maud Martha 14, 82, 111, 137
 McClain, Leanita 61, 65
 McDowell, Deborah 21
 McIntosh, Peggy 190
 Mentoring 131
Meridian 84-5, 87, 130, 134
 Migration 55
 Mills, C. Wright 230
 Moody, Ann 123-4, 127, 133-4, 136

 Morrison, Toni 5, 31, 81, 83, 85, 97-8, 127, 176, 181, 186, 197
 Motherhood 4, 10, 14, 49, 51, 53, 72, 78, 96, 118, 124-5, 176, 227
 and political activism 148
 personal costs to Black women 133
 relationship to racism 50
 symbol of power 132, 137
 Mothering the mind 131, 137
 Mother/daughter relationship 96, 98, 109, 126-7, 131
 Moynihan Report 75
Mules and Men 214
 Murray, Katie 144
 Murray, Pauli 8, 38-9, 86, 93-4, 102, 174
 Myers, Lena Wright 109
 Mythical norm 75, 165, 194, 222

 NAACP 123
 Nationalism 145, 161
 National Association of Colored Women 149, 152
 Naylor, Gloria 31, 176, 193

 Objectification 57, 68-9, 76, 79, 83-5, 93-5, 98, 100, 105-6, 140, 167, 189, 208, 221, 230
 O'Neale, Sondra 95, 102
 Oppositional difference 69
 Oppression, definitions 5, 7, 222, 226
 additive approaches 207, 222, 225-6
 interlocking nature 16, 44, 225, 230
 Oral culture 99, 100, 113, 212
 the Other 68-9, 72, 78-9, 83, 85, 93, 95, 144, 194-5, 208, 225
 Othermothers 10, 119-22, 128, 146, 222
 Outsider-within perspective 11-13, 16, 36, 68, 94, 113, 194, 204, 232-3
 Out-of-wedlock births 59, 64, 115, 134, 231

 Parkerson, Michelle 114
 Partial perspectives 233-6
 Paterson, Mary Jane 149
 Patterson, Orlando 90
 People of color 33, 35, 47, 225, 236
 Perkins, Linda 150
 Personal expressiveness 215-17
 Petry, Ann 111
 Phillips, Esther 100
 Physical appearance, African 78-9
 Political activism 4, 32, 40, 102, 124, 131, 139, 141, 143, 150, 157, 161, 197
 Population control 178
 Pornography 164, 166, 167, 170, 173, 175-7, 179, 182, 195, 196

- Positivism 205, 212, 217–18, 235
 Poverty 5, 62, 73–4, 77
 Black children 64, 116
 Black women 64, 66
 federal policies 62
 Powell, Ruth 155
 Power 32, 68, 75, 132, 170, 223–4
 and erotic 189, 226
 as domination 174, 224, 227
 as energy 228
 feminist theories 223
 of self-definition 118, 227
 Powerlessness 135, 147
 Pregnancy 51, 133–5
 Progressive art 111
 Promiscuity 78, 81, 174
 Prostitution 105, 164, 166, 173, 175–9, 182,
 190–1, 194, 196, 198

 Quiltmaking 88, 215

 Race 20, 27, 50, 116, 169, 171, 175, 228
 and masculinity 180
 as socially constructed 26–7
 biological notions of 27
 Blacks 86
 Blacks as animals 178
 Black women as embodiment of 194
 Race uplift 65, 132, 147–51, 153
 Racial division of labor 50
 Racial integration, philosophy of 161
 Racialization 73
 Racial oppression 55, 58–9, 155, 226
 Radford-Hill, Sheila 32, 34, 86, 147
 Rainey Ma 100–1, 183
 Rape 23, 85, 105, 120, 163, 166–8, 176–9, 182,
 196
 Rationality 52, 205, 219
 Reagan, Bernice Johnson 145
 Rearticulation 31–2, 100, 103, 111–12, 188,
 202–3, 206, 223, 225, 228
 Black heterosexual relationships 186
 Black women's standpoint 204, 232–3
 Rejection and seduction 189
 Relationships, Black women's
 among Black women 4, 80–1, 96, 98, 112,
 131, 163, 196, 212, 218, 228
 with Black men 80, 82, 94, 183, 227
 with white men 102, 189–91
 with white women 167, 189, 191, 216
 Relativism 235
 Religion 225–7
 Reproduction 50, 76, 133, 137, 163
 Resistance 32, 44, 79, 83, 85, 91, 95, 99, 102,
 104, 110, 141, 145, 148, 229

 Respect 107, 197
 Richards, Dona 69, 89
 Richardson, Marilyn 13
Roe vs. Wade 134
 Rollins, Judith 56–7, 62, 70, 91, 144
 Russell, Karen 79
 Russell, Michele 100

 Safe spaces 95–6, 142, 144–5
The Salt Eaters 84
 Sanchez, Sonia 35, 81, 105
Sarah Phillips 191
Sassafrass, Cypress, and Indigo 193
 Science 205–6, 235
 Scott, Gloria 156
 Scott, Patricia Bell 19, 21, 34
 Segregation 5, 55, 58, 131, 155
 Self 105, 110, 114, 147, 154, 184, 229
 Self and individual uniqueness 215, 217
 Self-defined standpoint 91, 96, 201
 Self-definition, importance of 3, 11, 83–4, 91,
 117, 123, 137, 140, 142, 202, 224, 230
 Self-reliance and independence 3, 22, 109,
 126, 187
 Self-valuation 107, 123, 140, 142, 202
 Separatism 145, 159
 Sex/gender hierarchy 164–6, 182, 184, 192,
 194, 206
 Sexism and Blacks 8–9, 38, 85, 110, 185, 195
 Sex objects 167
 Sex ratio imbalance 61
 Sexual exploitation 4, 70, 77, 112, 163, 191
 Sexual harassment 54–6, 81, 123, 125
 Sexuality 50–1, 72, 78–9, 164, 182
 and power 164
 and violence 167
 animalistic 192, 195–6
 Black women's 77, 166
 commodification of 77
 deviant 195
 Sexual orientation 22, 24, 225–8
 Sexual politics 163–4, 181–2, 191
 Sexual violence 22–3, 163–4, 166–7, 176–7,
 186–9
 Shange, Ntozake 9, 98, 112, 117, 187–8, 193,
 215
 Shockley, Ann Allen 74, 84, 193, 195
 Silence 92, 117, 187, 194–5
 Simms, Margaret 39
 Simone, Nina 100, 105, 183
 Single-parent households 59, 61–6, 73–4, 77,
 115, 127, 224–5, 231
 Situated knowledge 17, 233–6
 Skin color 78, 80–1, 84, 90, 189, 228
Slipping through the Cracks 39

- Smith, Barbara 5, 35–6, 164, 192–5, 222
 Smith, Bessie 100–1, 183, 231
 Smith, Beverly 24
 Smitherman, Geneva 208
 Social change 8, 35, 145, 154, 173, 197, 221, 229
 Social class 22, 45, 66, 73, 84, 141, 153, 160, 211, 228
 Socialization, women's 210
 Sovial movement 161
 Social Security 63, 76
 "Sociological imagination" 230
 Sociology of knowledge 222
 Specialized thought 22, 203, 233, 235–6
 Black women's 103, 201, 228, 231
 Standpoint theories 26, 28, 39, 116, 207
 Staples, Robert 9
 Status attainment model 45
 Stereotypes 68, 79, 106
 Stewart, Maria 3, 5, 13, 18, 23, 31, 44, 50, 93, 101, 109, 183, 229, 237
The Street 111
 Subjugated knowledge 5, 10, 11, 13, 18, 202, 228, 233–7
 Substance abuse 120, 122, 128, 135
Sula 97, 127
 Surrey, Ella 93
 Survival as resistance 140, 187
Sweet Honey in the Rock 112, 145
Sweet Summer 97

 Tate, Claudia 107, 111, 187
 Teaching as political activism 150–1, 160
 Terborg-Penn, Rosalyn 18, 141, 146, 161
 Terrell, Mary Church 29
 Terrelonge, Pauline 86
The Eyes Were Watching God 25, 43, 82, 85, 112, 188
 Theory 15, 32, 40, 229, 234–5
 Thiam, Awa 143
The Third Life of Grange Copeland 187
 Thompson-Cager, Chezia 111
 Thurman, Howard 197
To Be Young, Gifted and Black 173
Tomorrow's Tomorrow 25, 64
 Translation of knowledge claims 232–3
 Troester, Rosalie 126

 Truth, Sojourner 5, 14–15, 18, 23, 93, 209, 229
 Tuan, Yi-Fu 171, 174, 178
 Types of knowing, knowledge versus wisdom 208–10

Unbought and Unbossed 109
 Unemployment 59, 76
 Unionization 44, 58, 139, 141, 145, 158, 211
 Urbanization 55

 Victim/pet metaphor 106, 174, 178, 180
 Violence 53, 155, 177, 188
 Voice, significance of 14, 98, 99, 112–13, 137, 154, 163, 202, 214, 217, 236–7
 Voting 76
 Voyeurism 168, 172

 Wade-Gayles, Gloria 125 127
 Walker, Alice 5, 9, 12–13, 17, 31, 36–7, 39, 62, 85, 87, 89, 97–8, 107, 112, 117, 127, 130, 134, 136–7, 151, 163–4, 167–8, 170, 173–4, 176, 186–8, 193, 214–15, 231, 236
 Walker, Margaret 40, 85
 Wallace, Michele 9, 116–17, 123, 126, 135
 Washington, Mary Helen 13–14, 83–4, 98, 106, 127
 Wattleton, Faye 156
 Weems, Renita 117, 128
 Wells, Ida B. 5, 25, 29, 101, 103
 West, Cheryl 128
 West, Dorothy 84, 111, 127
 White, Deborah Gray 51
 White women 7, 33, 35, 40, 66, 71–2, 75–6, 79, 81, 83, 106, 170, 172, 194
 White women and racism 190
 White women, ties to white men 189
 Williams, Fannie Barrier 5, 92–3
 Williams, Sherley Anne 85, 99, 104, 108, 216
 Womanist 37–8
 Women-centered networks 119–22, 143, 146, 211, 214
The Women of Brewster Place 176, 193
 Women of color 7, 32, 125, 134, 169, 189, 205
 Woodson, Carter G. 50

Zami 98, 193