

# INTERSECTIONALITY 101

(a primer...)

*Intersectionality does not simply signal identity or overlapping identities/concerns. Intersectionality does not mean working together. Intersectionality does not mean supporting one another from various positions, merely advocating for one another. Intersectionality does not mean a lot of things. Intersectionality has become a buzzword that has obscured its actual meaning and intellectual history. Intersectionality is a theoretical framework. Intersectionality is about critiquing and dismantling power. Intersectionality is a way to see the world. Intersectionality is a specifically Black feminist creation and centers Black women. Intersectionality has grown to include more than just the intersections of race, gender, and class but its origins must be named and honored...*

*Here are some readings to (re)acquaint you with intersectionality's origins and history, all written by Black women themselves because they are the blueprint:*

- Alexander-Floyd, Nikol. "Disappearing Acts: Reclaiming Intersectionality in the in the Social Science is a Post-Black Feminist Era." *Feminist Formations* 1 (2012): 1-25.
- Angelou, Maya. *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*. New York: Random House, 1969.
- Bambara, Toni Cade, ed. *The Black Woman: An Anthology*. New York: Washington Square Press, 1970.
- Collins, Patricia Hill. *Black Feminist Thought: Knowledge, Consciousness, and the Politics of Empowerment*. New York: Routledge, 2000.
- Collins, Patricia Hill, and Sirma Bilge. *Intersectionality (Key Concepts)*. Cambridge, UK: Polity Press, 2016.
- Combahee River Collective. "A Black Feminist Statement," in *This Bridge Called My Back: Writings by Radical Women of Color*, edited by Cherríe L. Moraga and Gloria E. Anzaldúa. New York: Kitchen Table: Women of Color Press: 210-218.
- Cooper, Anna Julia. *A Voice from the South*. Xenia, OH: Aldine Printing House, 1892.
- Cooper, Brittney. "On bell, Beyoncé, and Bullshit," in *The Crunk Feminist Collection*, edited by Brittney Cooper, Susana Morris, and Robin Boylorn. New York: Feminist Press at CUNY, 2017: 230-235.
- Crenshaw, Kimberlé. "Demarginalizing the Intersection of Race and Sex: A Black Feminist Critique of Antidiscrimination Doctrine, Feminist Theory and Antiracist Politics." *University of Chicago Legal Forum* 1 (1989): 139-167.**
- . "Mapping the Margins: Intersectionality, Identity Politics, and Violence Against Women of Color." *Stanford Law Review* 43 (1991): 1241-99.
- . *On Intersectionality: Essential Writings*. New York: The New Press, 2019.
- Davis, Angela Y. *Women, Race & Class*. New York: Random House, 1981.
- Guy-Sheftall, Beverly, ed. *Words of Fire: An Anthology of African-American Feminist Thought*. New York: W.W. Norton, 1995.
- Hancock, Ange-Marie. *Solidarity Politics for Millennials: A Guide to Ending the Oppression Olympics*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2011.
- . *Intersectionality: An Intellectual History*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2016.
- hooks, bell. *Ain't I A Woman?: Black Women and Feminism*. Boston: South End Press, 1981.
- . *Feminist Theory: From Margin to Center*. Boston: South End Press, 1984.
- . *Talking Back: Thinking Feminist, Thinking Black*. Boston: South End Press, 1989.
- Hull, Akasha, Patricia Bell-Scott and Barbara Smith, eds. *But Some of Us are Brave: All the Women are White, All the Blacks are Men: Black Women's Studies*. New York: Feminist Press at CUNY, 1982.
- Hurston, Zora Neale. *Dust Tracks on a Road*. Philadelphia: J.B. Lipincott, Inc., 1942.
- Jordan, June. *Some of Us Did Not Die: New and Selected Essays*. New York: Basic Books, 2002.
- Lorde, Audre. *Sister Outsider: Essays and Speeches*. Berkeley, CA: The Crossing Press, 1984.
- Mock, Janet. *Redefining Realness: My Path to Womanhood, Identity, Love & So Much More*. New York: Atria, 2014.
- Morrison, Toni. *The Bluest Eye*. New York: Random House, 1970.
- Nash, Jennifer. *Black Feminism Reimagined: After Intersectionality*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2019.
- Naylor, Gloria. *The Women of Brewster Place*. New York: Penguin, 1982.
- Painter, Nell Irvin. *Sojourner Truth: A Life, A Symbol*. New York: W.W. Norton, 1996.
- Rankine, Claudia. *Citizen: An American Lyric*. Minneapolis: Graywolf Press, 2014.
- Smith, Barbara. *The Truth that Never Hurts: Writings on Race, Gender, and Freedom*. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 1998.
- Taylor, Keeanga-Yamahtta, ed.. *How We Get Free: Black Feminism and the Combahee River Collective*. Chicago: Haymarket Books, 2017.
- Truth, Sojourner. *Narrative of Sojourner Truth*. New York: Penguin, 1998.
- Walker, Alice. *In Search of Our Mothers' Gardens: Womanist Prose*. New York: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1983.