About the Contributors

Bob Barber is a long-time community and political activist and a retired community college instructor now residing in Albany, California. He worked in and around the United Farmworkers Union in the early 1970s, and elsewhere, as a journalist/activist, spent time in Washington D.C. on a lobbying effort against military aid to dictatorships, and organized get-out-of-the vote campaigns for progressive initiatives and candidates in the San Francisco Bay Area, before becoming a community college computer literacy instructor at three colleges in California and Oregon. He worked with Rod Bush on various campaigns in the Bay Area in the late 1970s and early 1980s.

Matthew Birkbold takes seriously the idea that all people have a responsibility for the world around them and believes deeply in the capacity of human beings to make the world more humane. Based in Washington, DC, he is a trainer, facilitator, educator, researcher, and writer who specializes in creating space for people to develop a holistic approach to social change and personal growth. In contrast to issue-based approaches for social change, Matt’s work focuses on the relationships between issues, people, and processes, the way those relationships shape individual people, and the way they constitute a larger system. He has published widely on the relationship of race to

Rose M. Brewer is a scholar activist and public intellectual. She is a sociologist and the Morse Alumni Distinguished Teaching Professor of African American & African Studies, and a graduate faculty member in American Studies and Gender Women and Feminist Studies at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities. She writes extensively on gender, race, class, social movements and social change, and has also published numerous refereed articles, book chapters and essays. She co-authored the award-winning book, *The Color of Wealth* and is the co-editor of several other volumes. She is a founding board member of Project South: Institute for the Elimination of Poverty and Genocide, was a founding member of the Black Radical Congress and a past board member of United for a Fair Economy. She is a member of the Academy of Distinguished Teachers at the University of Minnesota, a recipient of the Josie R. Johnson Social Justice Award, the American Sociological Association’s Distinguished Teaching Award and was the 2014 College of Liberal Arts Dean’s Medalist, University of Minnesota. Rose M. Brewer is committed to the struggle for radical social transformation and was a core organizer of the 2007, 2010 and 2015 US Social Forums.

Angelo Taiwo Bush is a professional photographer (of Angelo Bush Photography) and artist currently completing his high school course work in St. Paul, MN. He also studies the Bass and aspires to play Trumpet. He is a global traveler and has come to appreciate all that he can learn from the friends he has yet to meet all over the world including perhaps, you. In his brief time on the planet he has come to learn many things including the joy of Traditional African Culture, Skateboarding, Kendama, Fingerboarding, and Urban Exploring.
Melanie E. L. Bush and Rod Bush were partners in their life journey as husband and wife, parents, children, grassroots movement activists, students, teachers, and learners for over 30 years. Their lives individually and together were dedicated to love, family, community, justice and building the better world every day. She is an Associate Professor of Sociology at Adelphi University and a Research Fellow in the Department of Anthropology and Archaeology at the University of South Africa. Her publications include: *Tensions in the American Dream* (with Rod Bush), *Everyday Forms of Whiteness: Understanding Race in a “Post-Racial” World* as well as many articles and book chapters. Her current research flows from the work she and Rod did together and focuses on solidarity economy projects and resistance to coloniality, white supremacy, capitalism and all forms of domination, oppression and exploitation through the development of a “decolonial” text for the social sciences, with an international team of scholars. She has long been active in movements for justice and is currently on the Leadership Committee and Strategy Team of May First People Link. At Adelphi she is the founder of the Collaboration Project and the Racial Justice Alliance and continues to be actively involved in raising awareness and engaged action. It is in the everyday struggle for social and racial justice and a more loving world that she finds home. Until Freedom, Always ... and Forever.

Roderick (Rod) Douglas Bush (1945–2013) was a Professor in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at St. John’s University. He earned his doctoral degree in sociology from Binghamton University in 1992; his dissertation was titled “Social Movements Among the Urban Poor: The U.S. in the Twentieth Century.” Bush is notable for his many publications (journal articles, book chapters, reviews, essays, etc.) including his editorship in 1984 of *The New Black Vote: Politics and Power in Four American Cities* and authorship of *We Are Not What We Seem: Black Nationalism and Class Struggle in the American Century* (1999), and *The End of White World Supremacy: Black Internationalism and the Problem of the Color Line* (2009) which won the Paul Sweezy Marxist Sociology Book Award from the American Sociological
Association in 2010. In 2014, his and Melanie Bush’s coauthored book *Tensions in the American Dream: Rhetoric, Reverie or Reality* was published by Temple University Press. A lifelong activist, during the last decade of his life Rod Bush was a member of the national council of the Black Radical Congress and of the Executive Board of the Left Forum. In these capacities, he built bridges among the Black Left and Black Nationalist communities and with progressive and radical movements at large. Bush firmly upheld that the Black nationalism as expressed by the oppressed has been broad in vision and historically provided leadership to the struggle for human rights overall. He believed in the interconnectedness of the fate of all humanity and had unwavering faith in the power of the people to overcome all challenges. A devoted father, grandfather, partner, friend, teacher, and mentor, in his early 20s he dedicated his life to the liberation of Black people, and all humankind.

**Natalie P. Byfield**, Ph.D., is the author of *Savage Portrayals: Race, Media, and the Central Park Jogger Story* (2014). She is a cultural sociologist, who has taught in the fields of sociology and media studies. She is an associate professor at St. John’s University in Queens, NY, where her research centers on the sociology of knowledge. Dr. Byfield examines how language, media systems, methodologies, and their technologies, such as social media platforms, big data analytics, and artificial intelligence, are used in institutions such as policing, journalism, media, the social sciences, and higher education to create and reproduce inequalities of race, class, and gender. She has worked as a journalist at the *New York Daily News* and *The American Lawyer*. She served as a consultant in the documentary, “The Central Park Five.” In 1989 she was a member of a reporting team nominated by the *Daily News* for a Pulitzer Prize. Dr. Byfield is also the recipient of a Charles H. Revson Fellowship at Columbia University and a National Science Foundation Fellowship. Her current book project is titled *Minority Report: Place, Race, and Surveillance of Blacks in New York City*. 
Tatiana Chichester graduated from St. John’s University with a BA in Sociology and a MA in Criminal Justice. She currently works in the community providing services and resources to those in need.

Loretta Chin is an independent journalist, editor, researcher, and writer who has worked in the field of public higher education for over two decades. She worked closely with Dr. Melanie Bush on a Community Building Initiative as a special projects coordinator in the Division of Student Life at Brooklyn College. Together with Dr. Bush, she collaborated on the development of the Community Building Initiative, Arts of Democracy Project, where she coordinated a series of facilitated “BC Circles” dialogues involving the training of student facilitators and the participation of hundreds of students, staff, and faculty. She also coordinated an Asian Outreach Project to increase the participation of the Asian American/Asian community at Brooklyn College and The City University of New York (CUNY). These efforts helped to establish an Asian Studies minor at Brooklyn College and an Asian American and Asian Research Institute (AAARI) at CUNY. Loretta Chin has presented on numerous panels at the Association of American Colleges and Universities, AAARI, Brooklyn College, and other CUNY campuses. She has worked as a research/conference coordinator, writer, editor, and social media manager for many years in the Children and Youth Studies Program and Center at Brooklyn College/CUNY, which operates under a framework of a human rights perspective for children. Her written and editorial work is published in the Canarsie Courier Newspaper, the Brooklyn College Children and Youth Studies Program and Center, and AAARI/CUNY. Articles she has helped research for award winning journalist, Wayne Barrett, have appeared in major national publications.

Rodney D. Coates is a professor in the Department of Global and Intercultural Studies at Miami University. He was born in East St. Louis, Ill., received his B.A. from Southern Illinois University, a M.A. in sociology and anthropology from the University of Illinois, a second
M.A. and Ph.D. in sociology from the University of Chicago. Dr. Coates specializes in the study of race and ethnic relations, inequality, critical race theory, and social justice. He has a well-developed and highly productive research agenda oriented toward utilizing sociological insights to identify, research and pose solutions to real life problems. This focus has produced an important and significant body of scholarship, which informs and attempts to transform our social universe and has frequently garnered national recognition. His 2004 edited book *Race and Ethnicity: Across time, space and discipline* (Brill) won the Choice award from the American Library Association. Dr. Coates has been recognized both nationally and locally—e.g., in 2007 Coates received the Joseph Himes Career Award in Scholarship and Activism from the Association of Black Sociologists. In 2010, he received the Edward Said Award for Public Sociology from Sociologists without Borders. This past year he received the Founders Award for Scholarship and Service from the American Sociological Association. As a professor at Miami University, he has won the Global Teaching and Learning Award (2013) and Distinguished Teaching Award (2014). Dr. Coates is an associate editor for *Critical Sociology*. Most recently, he co-authored *The Matrix of Race: Social Construction, Intersectionality, and Inequality* (Sage, 2018).

**Daniel Douglas** is a Senior Researcher at Rutgers University’s School of Management and Labor Relations. He earned his BA and MA in Sociology at St. Johns University in 2005 and 2008, respectively. He earned his Ph.D. in Sociology from the Graduate Center of the City University of New York in 2017. His dissertation critically examines K-12 teacher evaluation systems. His current research examines the role of mathematics in postsecondary education; the connections between higher education and employment; and college students’ trajectories in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields.

**James V. Fenelon** is Professor of Sociology and Director of the Center for Indigenous Peoples Studies at California State University, San
Bernardino, having published three books: *Culturicide, Resistance, and Survival of the Lakota (Sioux Nation)*; *Indigenous Peoples and Globalization: Resistance and Revitalization* (with Thomas D Hall); and most recently, *Redskins? Sports Mascots, Indian Nations, and White Racism*. His critical academic work includes numerous book chapters, many articles, and special journal issues. He is Lakota/Dakota descent from Standing Rock (Sioux tribal Nation), and Gaelic Irish, having worked internationally with indigenous peoples globally and with urban groups. James teaches race/ethnic relations, urban sociology, social movements, indigenous issues, political sociology, sovereignty, and dedicates his professional life to assisting social justice struggles around the world.

**Walda Katz-Fishman**, a scholar activist, popular educator and author, and professor of sociology at Howard University since 1970, was a founding member and former board chair of Project South: Institute for the Elimination of Poverty & Genocide. She served on the National Planning Committee of the U.S. Social Forum and is active in many social justice movement organizations, including the League of Revolutionaries for a New America. She was co-recipient of the American Sociological Association 2004 Award for the Public Understanding of Sociology. She is a contributing author and editor of popular education toolkits and books including *The United States Social Forum: Perspectives of a Movement, The Roots of Terror, Today’s Globalization*, and *The Critical Classroom*; and is author/co-author of numerous chapters and articles on the global capitalist crisis, race, class and gender, and transformative social movements toward socialism.

**Robin D. G. Kelley** is the Gary B. Nash Professor of U.S. History at UCLA. His books include *Thelonious Monk: The Life and Times of an American Original* (2009); *Africa Speaks, America Answers: Modern Jazz in Revolutionary Times* (2012); *Freedom Dreams: The Black Radical Imagination* (2002); *Hammer and Hoe: Alabama Communists During the Great Depression* (1990); *Race Rebels: Culture Politics and the Black
Working Class (1994); and Yo’ Mama’s DisFunktional!: Fighting the Culture Wars in Urban America (1997).

Latoya A. Lee graduated from St. John’s University with her BA and MA in Sociology. She received her doctorate from Binghamton University, Sociology department. Currently, she is an Assistant Professor in Sociology at SUNY Oswego. Her research explores the ways in which women and men of color use social media for political organizing and social transformation.

Robert Newby is professor emeritus at Central Michigan University. He joined the Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Social Work at CMU in 1988 after being on the faculty at Wayne State University for 14 years. He received his Ph.D. from Stanford University. Prior to attending Stanford University for graduate school, Newby received his undergraduate degree in music education at Wichita State University. Newby taught public school in Pontiac, MI. Newby grew up in Wichita, Kansas, and received his undergraduate degree at what is now Wichita State University. While a student at the university, along with Ron Walters, he participated in the 1958 Dockum Drug Store sit-ins in downtown Wichita, this action preceded the 1960 sit-in Greensboro, North Carolina. As a scholar his research and teaching have focused on racism and inequality. His publications include “The Making of a Class Conscious ‘Race Man:’ Reflections on Thirty Years of Struggle,” in The Sociology Liberation Movement by Martin Murray and Martin Oppenheimer. Newby is also the co-editor, along with Robert Smith and Cedric Johnson, of “What Has This Got to Do with the Liberation of Black People?: The Impact of Ronald W. Walters on African American Thought and Leadership.” For the 2008 presidential campaign, Newby edited the blog “Black and Progressive Sociologists for Obama.” Lastly, his honors include having been president of the Association of Black Sociologists (ABS), the Association of Social and Behavioral Scientists (ASBS), and the North Central Sociological Association (NCSA).

Charles “Cappy” Pinderhughes, Jr., as a veteran Black community and labor activist for over thirty years, organized with many community organizations of the Civil Rights and Black Power Movements. He worked with the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee and was Lieutenant of Information for the New Haven Chapter of the Black
Panther Party. Pinderhughes earned a Ph.D. in Sociology from Boston College as well as a Masters in Political Science from Goddard College. His fields of specialization focus on racial & ethnic relations, social movements, historical sociology, Black Power Studies and Anticolonial Marxism. His main sociological research is a re-assessment of internal colonialism theory—the analysis that ghettos, barrios and reservations are 21st century internal colonies—which echoes that claim by two centuries of Black activists. He is author of “Toward a New Theory of Internal Colonialism.” Pinderhughes is currently Assistant Professor of Sociology at Essex County College.

**Jerome Scott**, a former auto worker, labor organizer in the auto plants of Detroit in the 1960s-70s, and member of the League of Revolutionary Black Workers, was the founding director of Project South: Institute for the Elimination of Poverty & Genocide. He serves on the board of the General Baker Institute, the National Planning Committee of the United States Social Forum, the leadership team of Move to Amend and May First, and is active in social justice movement organizations, including the League of Revolutionaries for a New America. Scott facilitates political and popular education in diverse social movement spaces and organizations in the U.S. South and nationally. He is a contributing author and editor of popular education toolkits and books including *The United States Social Forum: Perspectives of a Movement, The Roots of Terror, Today’s Globalization,* and *The Critical Classroom*; and is co-author of numerous chapters and articles on the global capitalist crisis, race, class, and gender, the revolutionary process, and transformative social movements toward socialism. Jerome Scott was co-recipient of the American Sociological Association’s 2004 Award for the Public Understanding of Sociology.

**A. Kia Sinclair** graduated from St. John’s University with her BA and MA in Sociology. She also has a BS in Nursing and currently works at New York Presbyterian Brooklyn Methodist Hospital and various healthcare agencies in the community serving the sick.
Chriss Sneed is a Sociology Ph.D. student at the University of Connecticut and the 2017-2018/2018-2019 Student Representative on Council of Sociologists for Women in Society. At UConn, Chriss has served as President of the Graduate Student Senate and a student representative for the University Senate’s Executive Committee, Diversity Committee, and the Task Force on Free Speech and Civility. As a young scholar working at the intersections of race, gender, and sexuality, Chriss relies on queer of color critique and critical feminist analytics to examine inequality within our social world. Much of their recent work grapples with social inequality, intersectionality, and identity. This focus is evident in a forthcoming book chapter entitled “Ga(y)tekeeping Identity, Citizenship, & Claims to Justice,” and in “Sociology as a Discipline and an Obligation,” a piece co-authored with Dr. David Embrick recently published within a Contexts symposium on racism and Charlottesville. Chriss Sneed is the founder and lead organizer of the interdisciplinary conference “Borderlands: A Critical Graduate Symposium” held each year at the University of Connecticut.

Godfrey Vincent is an Associate Professor of History in the Department of History and Political Science at Tuskegee University. Additionally, he is co-director of the Integrative Public Policy and Development Ph.D. Program. He earned his doctorate at Morgan State University; his Masters from New School University (New School for Social Research) and his Bachelors’ degree from St. John’s University. His research focuses on neo-liberal globalization and new forms of Labor.

Komozi Woodard is a professor of history at Sarah Lawrence College. He is the author of A Nation Within a Nation; a co-editor, with Sylviane A. Diouf, of Black Power 50 (The New Press); and the editor of The Black Power Movement, Part I; Freedom North; Groundwork; and Want to Start a Revolution? Komozi Woodard holds a BA from Dickinson College and an MA, and Ph.D. from University of Pennsylvania. His special interests are in African American history, politics, and culture, emphasizing the Black Freedom Movement,
women in the Black Revolt, US urban and ethnic history, public policy and persistent poverty, oral history, and the experience of anticolonial movements. He is the author of *A Nation Within a Nation: Amiri Baraka and Black Power Politics* and numerous reviews, chapters, and essays in journals, anthologies, and encyclopedia. He has edited *The Black Power Movement, Part I: Amiri Baraka, From Black Arts to Black Radicalism; Freedom North; Groundwork; Want to Start a Revolution?* and *Women in the Black Freedom Struggle*. He has been a reviewer for American Council of Learned Societies; adviser to the Algebra Project and the PBS documentaries, *Eyes on the Prize II* and *America's War on Poverty*. He is a member of board of directors, Urban History Association.