



Too Heavy a Load: Black Women in Defense of Themselves, 1894-1994

By Deborah Gray White

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"Meticulously researched. . . . *Too Heavy a Load* reads like a wonderful historical novel."--Akilah Monifa, *Emerge*

Too Heavy a Load celebrates this century's rich history of black women defending themselves, from Ida B. Wells to Anita Hill. Although most prominently a history of the century-long struggle against racism and male chauvinism, Deborah Gray White also movingly illuminates black women's painful struggle to hold their racial and gender identities intact while feeling the inexorable pull of the agendas of white women and black men. Finally, it tells the larger and lamentable story of how Americans began this century measuring racial progress by the status of black women but gradually came to focus on the status of black men—the masculinization of America's racial consciousness. Writing with the same magisterial eye for historical detail as in her best-selling *Ar'n't I a Woman*, Deborah Gray White has given us a moving and definitive history of struggle and freedom. "Splendid . . . a broad and sweeping history that becomes an intensely personal experience for the reader. . . . An inspiring showcase of scholarship and sistership." - Nell Irvin Painter, *Raleigh News & Observer Illustrated*

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Editorial Review

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In the last decade of the 1800s, lynching, mob violence, and segregation were well-entrenched responses to the American "race problem." Rising up in spirited defense, black women launched several regional organizations designed to defend and improve the rights of their race and their place within it. Yet the creed of betterment espoused by many black club women overlay sometimes-bitter commentary on black men for their failures as supporters and protectors. It also castigated lower-class "sisters" whose oft-caricatured mores cast a shadow on their own. And it had a rocky relationship with the broader American feminist movement: "Since they could not control white men, the source of most of their woes," historian Deborah Gray White says, "and since they believed that a race could rise no higher than its women, they had to begin that elevation with the women themselves." *Too Heavy a Load* swings on through the maelstrom of the civil rights movement, welfare advocacy, black nationalism, and feminism to more recent rifts, such as the Anita Hill-Clarence Thomas hearings. While doing so, it pieces together the engaging story of the backstage struggles in such early firebrand organizations as the National Association of Colored Women and the National Council of Negro Women. By including the clashes that strong personalities and different aims beget, White brings dimension to her story and provides strong illustration for her contention that "gender and race sameness [are] no guarantee of a beloved sisterhood." --*Francesca Coltrera*

Review

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About the Author

Deborah Gray White is professor of history and co-director of the Rutgers Center for Historical Analysis at Rutgers University. She is also the author of *Too Heavy a Load*.

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This Too Heavy a Load: Black Women in Defense of Themselves, 1894-1994 is great guide for you because the content and that is full of information for you who always deal with world and still have to make decision every minute. This book reveal it info accurately using great coordinate word or we can state no rambling sentences inside. So if you are read the idea hurriedly you can have whole information in it. Doesn't mean it only provides straight forward sentences but challenging core information with splendid delivering sentences. Having Too Heavy a Load: Black Women in Defense of Themselves, 1894-1994 in your hand like having the world in your arm, data in it is not ridiculous one particular. We can say that no reserve that offer you world inside ten or fifteen minute right but this e-book already do that. So , this really is good reading book. Hey Mr. and Mrs. active do you still doubt that?

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