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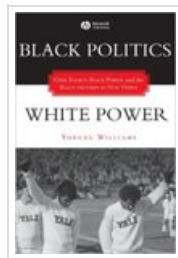
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Black Politics White Power, Civil Rights, Black Power, and the Black Panthers in New Haven

Yohuru Williams, *Fairfield University*

Document Type

Book

Description/Summary

The popular media have portrayed the Black Panthers mainly for the rhetoric of violence some members employed and for the associations between the Panthers and a black militancy drawing on racial hostility to whites in general. Overlooked have been the efforts that branches of the organization undertook for practical economic and social progress within African-American neighborhoods, frequently in alliance with whites. Yohuru Williams' study of black politics in New Haven culminating in the arrival of the Panthers argues that the increasing militancy in the black community there was motivated not by abstractions of black cultural integrity but by the continuing frustrations the leadership suffered in its dealings with the city's white liberal establishment. Black Politics/White Power is an important contribution to a discovery of the complexities of racial politics during the angry late sixties and early seventies. -- Publisher description

ISBN

9781881089605

Publication Date

2008

Publication Information

Yohuru Williams. *Black Politics White Power, Civil Rights, Black Power, and the Black Panthers in New Haven*. Blackwell Press, 2008. (originally published by Brandywine Press, 2000) 9781881089605

Comments

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Recommended Citation

Williams, Yohuru, "Black Politics White Power, Civil Rights, Black Power, and the Black Panthers in New Haven" (2008). *History Faculty Book Gallery*. 46. <https://digitalcommons.fairfield.edu/history-books/46>

New Haven being filled with hippies, university students and intellectuals. "It was a demo and it was also Woodstock, I have photos of hippies with long hair smoking pot, rubbing each other's backs on the grass, playing guitar – it was celebratory," he said. "Young white people were really supportive of the Black Panthers." But nothing compared to the power of the party rallies as he remembers them. "There was a lot of chanting, singing, it was unifying," he says, "it was hopeful." *Revolution On Trial: May Day and The People's Art*, New Haven's B... The Black Power movement was a social movement motivated by a desire for safety and self-sufficiency that was not available inside redlined African American neighborhoods, Black Power activists founded Black-owned bookstores, food cooperatives, farms, media, printing presses, schools, clinics and ambulance services. The international impact of the movement includes the Black Power Revolution in Trinidad and Tobago.