

Black Scholarly Activism between the Academy and Grassroots

Ornette D. Clennon

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A Bridge for Identities
and Social Justice

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*I would like to dedicate this book to my Mum, Grandma
and Michael for their unending support.*

Preface

What an era we are living through! Both at home (in the UK) and abroad (especially in the US and the Global South but increasingly in Europe), we seem to be experiencing the chaos of an unravelling of systemic global white supremacy. In fact, this very unravelling is creating the rise of a populist white supremacy in many of the Anglophone (and European) countries, globally and appears to be fuelled by the equally dangerous and catastrophic rise in (extremist) Islamism and its material effects seen in mass migration. Now that the historically invisible 'whiteness' of (post/neo)colonial expansion and dominance is being questioned and made visible, and furthermore, its progeny, advanced capitalism is beginning to fold into itself and self-cannibalise, as activists on the cold front of the historical fight for social justice, we had better be prepared for a deepening of the chaos that we are already struggling with! This book was written as a provocation to my fellow activists on the ground to urgently continue to debate what our ideological alternatives *need* to be, as the present system has never worked for the marginalised and dispossessed and is now increasingly failing the privileged.

We need to hold the line and fight the good fight but with knowledge and wisdom. So let's keep thinking, let's keep sharing ideas and let's keep striving to apply our shared knowledge to the material challenges at hand!

Manchester, UK

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