



Black Women against the Land Grab: The Fight for Racial Justice in Brazil

Keisha-Khan Y. Perry

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In Brazil and throughout the African diaspora, black women, especially poor black women, are rarely considered leaders of social movements let alone political theorists. But in the northeastern city of Salvador, Brazil, it is these very women who determine how urban policies are established. Focusing on the Gamboa de Baixo neighborhood in Salvador's city center, *Black Women against the Land Grab* explores how black women's views on development have radicalized local communities to demand justice and social change.

In *Black Women against the Land Grab*, Keisha-Khan Y. Perry describes the key role of local women activists in the citywide movement for land and housing rights. She reveals the importance of geographic location for understanding the gendered aspects of urban renewal and the formation of black women-led social movements. How have black women shaped the politics of urban redevelopment, Perry asks, and what does this kind of political intervention tell us about black women's agency? Her work uncovers the ways in which political labor at the neighborhood level is central to the mass mobilization of black people against institutional racism and for citizenship rights and resources in Brazil.

Highlighting the political life of black communities, specifically those in urban contexts often represented as socially pathological and politically bankrupt, *Black Women against the Land Grab* offers a valuable corrective to how we think about politics and about black women, particularly poor black women, as a political force.

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