2014

Ghosts of Jim Crow: Ending Racism in Post-Racial America

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Ghosts of Jim Crow: Ending Racism in Post-Racial America

Introduction

About Professor F. Michael Higginbotham

F. Michael Higginbotham is the Wilson H. Elkins Professor of Law at the University of Baltimore School of Law, where he teaches courses on constitutional law and race. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree magna cum laude from Brown University in 1979, a Juris Doctor degree from Yale University in 1982, and a Master of Laws degree with honors from Cambridge University in 1985. Professor Higginbotham recently served as a guest on CNN and MSNBC discussing race and the law. For additional information on him, including his CV, click here.

9/17/13 Constitution Day Lecture

Tuesday, September 17, 2013, 5pm-6pm
Cleveland-Marshall College of Law, Moot Court Room, 1801 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115 [map]

Civil rights author F. Michael Higginbotham will discuss his recent book, Ghosts of Jim Crow: Ending Racism In Post-Racial America. In the book, Higginbotham argues that America remains far from the imagined utopia hoped for when Barack Obama was elected as the first African-American president. During his lecture, Higginbotham will discuss how America has maintained notions of white superiority and black inferiority and how the United States remains separate and unequal, while offering a practical prescription to improve the race problem.

The one-hour dialogue, co-sponsored by The City Club of Cleveland, includes a 30-minute lecture, 15 minutes of conversation with a moderator, and a 15-minute question and answer session. This lecture is part of daylong festivities throughout Cleveland State University, honoring the nation’s heritage and celebrating the adoption of the United States Constitution.

The event is free and open to the public, and offers attendees one hour of free CLE. Preregistration is not required.

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Books

Selected Materials in the C|M|LAW and CSU Michael Schwartz Libraries

- Ghosts of Jim Crow: Ending Racism in Post-Racial America

- Before Brown: Heman Marion Sweatt, Thurgood Marshall, and the Long Road to Justice

- The Condemnation of Blackness: Race, Crime, and the Making of Modern Urban America

- Courage to Dissent: Atlanta and the Long History of the Civil Rights Movement
Web Sites

Government Sites

- African American Odyssey: A Quest for Full Citizenship
  http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/aohtml/exhibit/aointro.html
  A searchable exhibit of materials from the Library of Congress African American collections that "explores black America's quest for equality from the early national period through the twentieth century." Exhibit sections: Slavery - The Peculiar Institution; Free Blacks in the Antebellum Period; Abolition; The Civil War; Reconstruction; Booker T. Washington Era; World War I and Postwar Society; Depression, New Deal, and World War II; Civil Rights.

- Brown v. Board at Fifty: "With an Even Hand"
  http://www.ltc.gov/exhibits/brown/index.html
  "Examines precedent-setting court cases that laid the ground work for the Brown v. Board decision, explores the Supreme Court argument and the public's response to it, and closes with an overview of this profound decision's aftermath." Exhibit sections: A Century of Racial Segregation; Brown v. Board of Education; The Aftermath. The physical Library of Congress Exhibition was on view 5/13/04-11/13/04.

- Civil Rights
  http://www.archives.gov/research/topics/civil-rights.html
  Collection of materials in the National Archives and Records Administration, includes materials on school desegregation, civil rights act, voting rights act, and much more.

- Civil Rights History Project
  http://www.loc.gov/folklife/civilrights/

- National Museum of African American History and Culture
  http://nmaahc.si.edu/
  A Smithsonian museum that "seeks to help Americans remember, and by remembering, ... stimulate a dialogue about race and help to foster a spirit of reconciliation and healing."

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- US Commission on Civil Rights
  http://www.usccr.gov/
  An "independent, bipartisan, fact-finding federal agency" whose "mission is to inform the development of national civil rights policy and enhance enforcement of federal civil rights laws." Includes links to Publications and a Clearinghouse of information.

- US Department of Education - Office for Civil Rights
  http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/index.html
  Its mission "is to ensure equal access to education and to promote educational excellence throughout the nation through vigorous enforcement of civil rights." Includes links to Reports and Resources, Prevention, and a Reading Room.

- US Department of Health & Human Services - Office for Civil Rights - Civil Rights Division
  http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/civilrights/index.html
  "Promotes and ensures that people have equal access to and opportunity to participate in certain health care and human services programs without facing unlawful discrimination." Includes links to Resources, Enforcement Activities and Results, and How to File a Complaint.

- US Department of Justice - Civil Rights Division
  "Enforces federal statutes prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, disability, religion, familial status and national origin." Includes links to Cases, Publications, and How to File a Complaint.

- US Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
  http://www.eeoc.gov/
  "Responsible for enforcing federal laws that make it illegal to discriminate against a job applicant or employee because of the person's race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy), national origin, age (40 or older), disability or genetic information." Includes links to Law & Guidance, Publications, and Statistics.

- We Shall Overcome: Historic Places of the Civil Rights Movement
  http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/travel/civilrights/
  "Tells the powerful story of how and where the centuries-long struggle of African Americans to achieve the bright promise of America culminated in the mid-20th century in a heroic campaign we call the modern civil rights movement." A cooperative project of the US Department of the Interior, National Park Service, and the US Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration.

Advocacy & Educational Sites

- Historical Publications of the United States Commission on Civil Rights
  "A nonpartisan, nonprofit organization" whose mission is "to secure equal justice for all through the rule of law, targeting in particular the inequities confronting African Americans..." Includes information on 1963, which runs through September 7, 2014.

- National Museum of African American History and Culture
  http://nmaahc.si.edu/
  "Responsible for enforcing federal laws that make it illegal to discriminate against a job applicant or employee because of the person's race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy), national origin, age (40 or older), disability or genetic information." Includes links to Law & Guidance, Publications, and Statistics.

- Thurgood Marshall Law Library at the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law
  http://www.marshall.usc.edu/library/index.html
  "A nonpartisan, nonprofit organization" whose mission is "to secure equal justice for all through the rule of law, targeting in particular the inequities confronting African Americans..." Includes information on 1963, which runs through September 7, 2014.
and other racial and ethnic minorities.” Includes links to Projects, such as Community Development, Education, Fair Housing & Fair Lending, and Voting Rights.

- **Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights**
  http://www.civilrights.org/
  A 501(c)(4) coalition organization that seeks “to promote and protect the civil and human rights of all persons in the United States.” Includes links to Issues & Campaigns, Publications, and a Civil Rights History.

- **Petition to Decision**
  http://www1.law.umkc.edu/justicepapers/
  "A comprehensive digital archive of all the available papers of the Supreme Court Justices dealing with selected civil rights cases. ... Focuses on cases dealing with civil rights litigation under 42 USC 1983." Maintained by David Achtenberg, Law Foundation Scholar and Professor Law, University of Missouri-Kansas City.

- **Racial Justice**
  https://www.aclu.org/racial-justice
  American Civil Liberties Division that "aims to preserve and extend constitutionally guaranteed rights to people who have historically been denied their rights on the basis of race.” Includes cases, reports, infographics, vodcasts, podcasts, and the Blog of Rights.