



Sexuality and the Black Church: A Womanist Perspective

By Kelly Brown Douglas

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This book tackles the "taboo" subject of sexuality that has long been avoided by the Black church and community. Douglas argues that this view of Black sexuality has interfered with constructive responses to the AIDS crisis and teenage pregnancies, fostered intolerance of sexual diversity, frustrated healthy male/female relationships, and rendered Black and womanist theologians silent on sexual issues.

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Editorial Review

From Library Journal

This book probes the conundrum of black sexuality, especially as it relates to black theological silence about sexuality. Douglas aims to understand why sexuality in general has been a "taboo" subject for the black church and community, attempts to advance "womanist" discourse on black sexuality, and seeks to promote theological discourse that might nurture healthier attitudes and behaviors toward sexually related concerns, especially homophobia/ heterosexism. Douglas, an Episcopal minister and associate professor of theology at Howard University Divinity School, is also the author of *The Black Christ* (Orbis, 1994). Her discussion offers food for thought. While readers may not concur with some of her broad conclusions, they will likely appreciate the deepened discourse. Recommended for collections seeking to cover issues affecting the black church and community. ALeroy Hommerding, Citrus Cty. Lib. Sys., Inverness, FL
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From the Back Cover

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About the Author

Rev. Dr. Kelly Brown Douglas is Canon Theologian at the Washington National Cathedral and Director of the Religion Program at Goucher College, Baltimore, MD, where she holds the Susan D. Morgan Professorship of Religion. Prior to coming to Goucher College she was Associate Professor of Theology at Howard University School of Divinity, Washington, DC, and served as Assistant Professor of Religion at Edward Waters College, Jacksonville, FL.

A native of Dayton, OH, Dr. Douglas was ordained in 1985 at Saint Margaret's Episcopal Church --the first black woman to be ordained an Episcopal priest in the Southern Ohio Diocese, and one of only five nationwide at the time. In 2012 she was the first to receive the Anna Julia Cooper Award by the Union of Black Episcopalians for her "literary boldness and leadership in the development of a womanist theology and discussing the complexities of Christian faith in African-American contexts." *Essence* magazine counts her "among this country's most distinguished religious thinkers, teachers, ministers, and counselors."

She is widely published in national and international journals. Her other books include *The Black Christ*, *What's Faith Got to Do with It?* (both from Orbis Books) as well as *Black Bodies/Christian Souls*, and *Black Bodies and the Black Church: A Blues Slant*. She is also co-editor of *Sexuality and the Sacred: Sources for Theological Reflection*.

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