



Am I Black Enough for You?: Popular Culture from the Hood and Beyond

By Todd Edward Boyd

Indiana University Press. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 176 pages. Dimensions: 9.0in. x 6.0in. x 0.5in. The most creative moments of African American culture have always emanated from a lower class or ghetto perspective. In contemporary society, this ghetto aesthetic has informed a large segment of the popular marketplace from the incendiary nature of gangsta rap, through the choreographed violence of films like Menace II Society, to recurrent debates around the use of the word nigga, and even the assertion of this perspective in professional basketball. In each case, most of the discussion around these cultural circumstances tends to be dismissive, if not completely uninformed. In analyzing the ranges of images from the O. J. Simpson trial to Snoop Doggy Dogg, Am I Black Enough for You looks at the way in which the nuances of ghetto life get translated into the politics of popular culture, and especially the way these politics have become such a profitable venture, for both the entertainment industry and the actual producers of these topical narratives. The book follows the widening generation gap represented by Bill Cosbys pristine race man image in the mid-80s, culminating in the proliferation of the hard-core sentiments associated with the nigga...



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